

**SPSFNWA Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 14, 2015 - First Presbyterian Church, Springdale**

**Board Members Present:** Doris Cordes, Beth Tiller, Jim Crouch, Chris Smith, Natalie Bartholomew, Matt Shelnut, Ric Cooper, LaDeana Duncan, Karen Hodges, Matt Hicks, Diane McCready, Scott Poole, Autumn Hudgins, Kami Shrum

**Board Members Absent:** Jennifer Cain, John Threet, Marcia McCain, Gus Orellanos, Ruth Collier, Kathy O'Kelley, Kristen Stout, Glenn Williams

**Staff Attending:** Jody Dilday, Joy Morris, Carrie DeVore, Christina Meeks, Kayla Milner

**Special Guest:** Sonia Brooks, Scholarship recipient

Meeting called to order by Board Chair Ric Cooper at 11:45 AM

Mission Moment featured Sonia Brooks. Sonia shared how receiving the scholarship has helped her gain confidence and influenced her son to pursue college as well. Sonia's 18 year old son begins classes in 2 weeks at NWACC.

**Motion by Kami Shrum, Seconded by Jim Crouch to approve Minutes from May 2015. APPROVED.**

In light of Carolyn Rehbock's resignation from the board, Matt Hicks was appointed by Chairman Ric Cooper to fill the unexpired term of vice-chair. **Decision ratified by the Board.**

Treasurer's and Finance Committee Report was presented by Chris Smith. Key points included:

- Committee met with Garrison. Quarterly reports re: our investments will now be included in board packets.
- Anticipated and budgeted for a \$70K shortfall in 2015, now projecting \$57,000 shortfall. As a result, no merit scholarships will be awarded this year.
- It is time to renew the lease on our office space. Jim Crouch and Chris Smith will be working to renegotiate.
- 2016 Budget will be ready for board to review and approve at the November meeting.

Jody provided an update on progress re: Pathway to Prosperity campaign.

- To date, 108 gifts and pledges totaling \$1,531,358 have been made. (\$668,642 remaining to reach goal)
- 98 of those gifts came from individuals, 6 from corporations/businesses, 4 from foundations.
- 3 additional foundation proposals pending. (Windgate \$100k, Walker, \$250k, Walton \$1 Million)
- New subcommittee created to make introductions to local businesses. Kickoff scheduled for 8/25/15.

Executive Director's Report – Jody Dilday

- "More and More" Strategic Plan/Staff Goals was updated (see handout in agenda/board packet)

The Financial Development Committee Report was presented by chair Diane McCready

- Spark of Hope results - We were down \$33,500 with lost or decreased corporate sponsorships.
- 12 new SOH sponsors were secured.
- Committee is discussing separating Spark of Hope Awards Ceremony from the Endowment Awards and holding 2 separate events beginning in 2016. Suggestions/feedback is welcomed.
- Golftoberfest sponsorship solicitation is underway. Due to changes at the U of A re: Make a Difference Day, we will need additional volunteer support. Potential sponsors/contact info should be sent to Joy or Kayla.
- The Arkansas Missouri Railroad has offered to hold another excursion as a fundraiser for SPSF NWA. Our "Scholarship Express" was a huge hit with students, but not well attended by the public, likely due to very high temperatures.

Board Development/Nominating Committee Report was presented by Scott Poole, Chair:

- Three nominations for the Community Leadership Council were approved: Terah Vail, Liz Ralston, Heather Fry-Kelly.
- Now seeking board nominations and officer nominations. Committee will have a slate of ready for board vote at the November board meeting.

Scholarship Policy Committee Report was presented by Karen Hodges, Chair.

- Motion from the committee: **Scholarship policy criteria on eligibility be broadened to allow DACA individuals to apply for scholarships, with the understanding that this broadened policy be reviewed in one year.** Discussion among board members. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Personnel Committee report by committee chair, Matt Hicks

- Committee will be conducting Executive Director's annual performance review prior to November board meeting.

Board member Autumn Hudgins gave a report on a Poverty Simulation Training session she attended with SPSF NWA staff Christina Meeks and Kayla Milner.

Outreach report – Christina Meeks

- Pocket card has been created and were distributed to board members.
- Christina has been selected to participate in Leadership Springdale

Scholarship Program report – Carrie DeVore

- Fall Scholarships are down, despite great outreach
- Reviewing and editing resumes as a service to students as they near graduation and are job seeking
- PRO Program and Panel Discussion on Career Opportunities in STEM fields planned for 9/20/15

**Motion to Adjourn by Jim Crouch, seconded by Scott Poole. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted, Jody Dilday for Jennifer Cain