

### STEM Action Center Board Meeting Minutes

August 31, 2016 • 2:00pm

STEM Action Center: 60 East South Temple, Suite 850, Salt Lake City

<b>Members Present:</b>	Bert VanderHeiden, Jared Haines, Blair Carruth, Sydnee Dickson, Gene Levinzon, Tami Pyfer, Val Hale, Jon Pierpont
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Reza Jalili, Stan Lockhart, Rich Nelson, Norm LeClair, Jeffery Nelson
<b>Staff:</b>	Tami Goetz, Sue Redington, Kaitlin Felsted, Jackie Moynihan, Kellie Yates, Lynn Purdin, Clarence Ames, Allison Spencer, Lola Beatlebrox, Brad Hunsaker
<b>Visitors:</b>	Brent Peterson, Alison Sturgeon, David Smith

#### I. Welcome and Related Business

Val Hale, STEM Action Center Board Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order, and welcomed the group. He turned the time over to STEM Action Center Executive Director, Dr. Tamara Goetz, who introduced new staff members. She introduced Clarence Ames, the math software program coordinator, Yeganeh Lari, the intern helping with the STEM for Life Program, and Lola Beatlebrox and Brad Hunsaker, the STEM bus team. Val Hale then entertained a motion to approve the April minutes.

#### APPROVE APRIL MINUTES

**MOTION: SYDNEE DICKSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES, SECONDED BY JON PIERPONT. THE MOTION WAS UNANAMOUSLY APPROVED.**

#### II. Board Discussion

Dr. Tamara Goetz started the board discussion off with the Computer Science program. She asked Gene Levinzon to give the Board an explanation the importance of computer science education from an industry perspective. Gene described the high need for computer proficient employees in Utah. Dr. Goetz then introduced Alison Sturgeon from Hill Airforce Base (HAFB), and informed the Board about the STEM Action Center's new partnership with HAFB. She explained how HAFB would be funneling \$200,000 through the STEM Action Center to support the most successful computer science initiatives in the state.

The Board was interested to know how computer science would be addressed by the STEM Action Center in the 2017 Legislative Session. Sydnee Dickson offered that she thought professional development might not be the best way to go about engaging students. Tami Pyfer wanted to know more about existing programs, and how the STEM Action Center could support those. Blair Carruth said he thought the TIAB engineering initiative is doing good things and that it might be beneficial to supplement programs like that. The Board agreed that it will be very important to have a unified, state-wide messaging of the computer science initiative.

Dr. Goetz then turned the time over to Sue Redington to address the STEM Action Center's FY 17 budget. Sue briefly went through the budget sheet with the Board members, and explained that the document only covered the STEM Action Center's operational budget. Val Hale then welcomed a motion to approve the FY17 budget.

**APPROVE FY17 BUDGET**

**MOTION: BERT VANDERHEIDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FY17 BUDGET, SECONDED BY BLAIR CARRUTH. THE MOTION WAS UNANAMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Dr. Goetz then handed the time over to Allison Spencer, Utah STEM Foundation Director. Allison said the Utah STEM Foundation had been officially approved as a C013P, and that she was still in the process of getting the tax exemption. She introduced the STEM Bus team again, and asked the Board Members to suggest companies that might be interested in donating to the foundation.

Dr. Goetz then addressed status of the STEM Action Center Board. She explained that Stan Lockhart, Jeff Nelson, and now Norm LeClair (because of HAFB's contribution to the STEM Action Center) all have left vacant seats on the board. Val Hale suggested having a math teacher fill one of the seats. Bert VanderHeiden thought a software developer might also be a good option as a replacement.

Clarence Ames spoke briefly about the status of the K-12 Math Initiative, explaining that most of the licenses had been distributed out among school districts. Kellie Yates then addressed the Professional Learning Program. She said that she is very optimistic about the way the program is coming together for the upcoming year, especially because our method of data collection will be considerably better than the past year.

Dr. Goetz then shifted conversation to the future of the Student Fairs, Camps and Competitions Grant. She reminded the Board that we had put the program on hold because of issues on the administration side of the grant. Bert VanderHeiden said that he would like to see the grant continue in some form because of the excitement it evokes. Many Board Members agreed that there should still be funding options for students.

**III. Adjournment**

**MOTION: TAMI PYFER MOVED TO CLOSE THE MEETING, SECONDED BY BERT VANDERHEIDEN. THE MOTION WAS UNANAMOUSLY APPROVED.**