



Mission: To rally independent community support for the successful education of all Alamance County children.

Minutes of the:
Alamance Citizens for Education (ACE)
Board of Directors Meeting
Graham Public Library
Graham, NC

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Directors Present:

Lane Anderson
Kate Crawford
Tony Foriest
Becky Loy
Ed Woodall

Jeff Andrews
Gerald Dillashaw
Allison Gant
Tina Manning

Joe Barbour
Terry Farmer
Chad Laws
Terry McNeill

Director Proxies:

Angela Thompson-Clark

Chris Davis

Nancy Whitfield

Executive Director:

Mary Erwin

Visitors:

Farrell Hanzaker

Rhonda Shuler

The **Board of Directors meeting** of the Alamance Citizens for Education (ACE) was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by President Allison Gant. The invocation was provided by Terry Farmer.

Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of the April Directors meeting was made by Terry Farmer and seconded by Tony Foriest. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Becky Loy distributed and discussed the report. She reported that as of June 15, 2006, cash assets on deposit equaled \$32,654.92. She also acknowledged the pledge of a \$25,000.00 contribution from LabCorp. Terry McNeill moved that the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Jeff Andrews seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Special Report: Teacher Recruitment and Retention: Farrell Hanzaker, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Personnel, Alamance-Burlington School System, provided an overview and update on the recent ABSS teacher recruitment and retention report. He discussed

current teacher turnover rates, the reasons behind the turnover numbers, where the teachers are going, and various strategies and resources that may improve the ABSS teacher retention efforts.

Organizational Development: Allison Gant recognized Jeff Andrews as the new co-chair of this committee, joining Terry Farmer and replacing Terry McNeill.

Terry Farmer made a motion to accept John Currin, Alamance Regional Medical Center, as a Trustee for four years. Allison Gant seconded the motion. The motion passed.

A revised Director Job Description was distributed and discussed. Terry Farmer made a motion to accept the new Description. Jeff Andrews seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Program of Work: Allison Gant advised that this committee is still in search of a chairperson.

Mary Erwin discussed highlights from the May 16 Board of Directors' Retreat, with extra emphasis on the Program of Work's ideas to complement the Chamber's "Thanks for Teaching" campaign that promotes teacher retention. Ideas included "duty-free" lunches for teachers and "Wonderful Wednesdays," where various groups bring in food or snacks for teachers.

Mary Erwin also confirmed plans for an Educational Summit to be sponsored by ACE. The date is set for Tuesday, September 12, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, at Elon University's McKinnon Hall. A planning committee is being formed to coordinate this event.

Resource Sustainability / Fundraising: Kate Crawford advised that this committee is in need of additional members. The committee is in the process of raising an initial \$250,000. Toward those efforts, LabCorp has committed \$25,000 for 2006, and an anonymous donor has agreed to match their pledge. LabCorp has also agreed to help ACE approach Alamance Regional Medical Center for a commitment.

Kate Crawford also discussed two potential fundraising events for ACE, including a Festival of Christmas Trees, and a student art competition. Additionally, the committee is exploring grant opportunities.

Mary Erwin reported that the recent mass mailing effort yielded a return response rate of 6%, with an average donation of \$100.

Executive Director's Report: Mary Erwin advised the Board that the United Way is in the process of selling excess office space on Hermitage Road, including the facility ACE currently occupies. The existing ACE office space can be utilized through June 30, 2007.

Mary Erwin acknowledged an op-ed article in today's (June 15) edition of the Burlington Times-News by Phil Beaman that spoke to the educational environment in Alamance County. Allison Gant further encouraged the Board membership to respond to the Times-News.

Mary Erwin also recognized a great moment for ACE and VOICE as their combined efforts were instrumental in bringing over 600 people to the recent Alamance County Commissioners budget

meeting where the allocation to the ABSS was decided. She was also encouraged by the corporate sponsorship in the full-page newspaper ad, including Elon University, ARMC, LabCorp, Industrial Paper Products, and Brain Train.

With no other business raised, the Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Woodall
Secretary

Meeting Reminders:

Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, July 20, 12:00 noon - First Presbyterian Church, Burlington, NC (regular meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of every month)

Program of Work Committee: Tuesday, July 11, 12:00 noon (meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the ACE office, 719 Hermitage Road)

Resource Sustainability Committee: Wednesday, July 19, 12:00 noon (meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the ACE office)

Organizational Development Committee: Wednesday, July 12, 12:15 p.m. (meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the ACE office)