



Alamance Citizens for Education

www.alamanceforeducation.org

Mission: To promote and coordinate community involvement for the support, enrichment and success of public education in Alamance County

Approved minutes of the:
Alamance Citizens for Education (ACE)
Board of Directors' Meeting
First Baptist Church of Mebane
301 S. Third St.
Mebane, NC 27302

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Directors:

Chris Davis
Gerald Dillashaw
Jeff Ellington
Allison Gant
LaRosa Pinnix-Bailey

Jeff Andrews
Becky Loy
Terry Farmer
Mary Erwin
Angela Thompson-Clark

Joe Barbour
Stephanie Huffstetler
Sylvester Lewis
Ed Woodall
T. Stacy Wood

The Board of Directors' meeting of the Alamance Citizens for Education (ACE) was called to order at by President Chris Davis. Rev. Terry Farmer provided an invocation and welcome. A motion to accept the minutes of the September joint meeting was made by Allison Gant and seconded by Terry Farmer. Davis noted a clarification in the minutes to delineate the three subcommittees of the Program of Work Committee: Minigrant development, Community Forum Presentations, and Focus Group Presentation. The minutes with the change were approved.

A treasury report was distributed by Becky Loy. A written financial statement was distributed to the membership. As of October 20, 2005, a total of \$37,324.26 is on deposit plus \$8,100 in pledges for the organization. The report was accepted without questions.

Under **Old Business**, reports were given by the three standing committees:

Organizational Development – Terry McNeill & Terry Farmer, co-chairs
Farmer and Davis talked about work we have done on a preliminary budget (see attached). It includes approximations if Mary Erwin's position remains part-time through 2006 or if the position would be full-time. There was emphasis placed on the need to fund-raise well in excess of the dollar figures given with much of the excess placed in endowed funds to allow for an increasing amount of principal, and thus interest, to help fund and sustain A.C.E. and its programs. The preliminary budget as presented was unanimously approved by the board. After it is finalized it can be included in a follow-up fund raising letter to the directors and trustees.

The website information was presented at the organizational development meeting. The board was asked to allow Patrick Harman to proceed to make the website functional. This was approved. It was noted that Patrick will work with Mary to keep the website updated on a

regular, probably weekly, basis. A suggestion was made that Elon University may have students who can help in this process as part of their community participation requirements.

See below for the next Organizational Development meeting date, time and location.

Program of Work – Allison Gant, chair

The committee met on Wednesday, October 11, 2005 at the United Way Building. Gant noted that much of this report is included in the subcommittee reports which follow. General discussion of people and ideas which might promote the program of work included: Gail Stuckey to help with A.C.E. updates and help get the word out, Ann Powell as a potential supporter, some information given at PTA/PTO open houses, and even something along the lines of a “fact point” at football and basketball games. Farmer reported on Gary Anders at the Department of Social Services and efforts he is making to involve community members in coordinating services to individual students so as not to duplicate efforts throughout the community. It was felt a presentation by Mr. Anders and Mary Ann Allison to the board might be helpful.

Sub-committees of Program of Work reported:

Grant Development – Dillashaw reported on the A.C.E. mini grant request information previously attached to emails to the board members. The proposed grant materials were adopted by the board and Mary Erwin will email them to the principals of the ABSS schools in the upcoming week. Dillashaw noted that there will be a need for volunteers from the board to review the grant proposals early in December. The board unanimously approved that the subcommittee can accept or reject proposals and disperse the funds, up to \$500 per school, to increase parental involvement.

Community Forum – Woodall noted that three preliminary topics were planned: gang activity in Alamance County, school safety, and childhood nutrition and obesity. Each topic would be presented twice – once in a location to broadly include Cummings, Eastern and Graham zones; and a second to include Southern, Western and Williams zones. The proposed dates were Mondays and Wednesdays (January 23, 25; February 20, 22; March 20, 22). After discussion it was felt better to use Mondays only (January 23, 30; February 20, 27; March 20, 27). The presentations would be given at non-school, “neutral,” sites. A question was raised about the purpose of the non-school locations. Feedback from parents and principals seem to point to this as the best way to reach many parents who might not attend presentations on school campuses.

Focus Group Presentation – Gant reported that on Tuesday, October 18, a final report was given to community participants in the original focus groups and the original organizing task force of A.C.E. Although the attendance was small, there was great interest in the findings. Board members discussed the potential of keeping the type of information presented updated and potentially presented periodically in the future.

See below for the next Program of Work meeting date, time and location.

Resource and Sustainability – Jeff Ellington, chair

Ellington noted many ideas have been proposed for the kickoff event and fundraising efforts and asked the sub-committee chairs to report.

Sub-committees of the Resource and Sustainability reported:

Kick-off Event – Gant and Massey are co-chairs and Gant reported that the proposed date for this event is April 2, 2006. She reminded the board that this is a celebration of schools and children

and not a fund raising event. The likely site will be the Burlington Indians stadium but Elon University is also being considered as a possible host.

Fund Raising – Discussion revolved around the budget, then obtaining commitments from all directors and trustees, and then proceeding to the community at large and to potential grant requests from established foundations. Mary will contact Alice Shelton at ABSS as Alice has agreed to help with grant writing since many grants which would help ABSS are not available for to the school system but are available for non-profit foundations.

See below for the next Resource and Sustainability meeting date, time and location (note: to be determined and emailed to board members).

Additional Old Business

None

New Business

Davis pointed out that the accounting firm of Cobb, Ezekiel, Brown and Company has graciously agreed to an in-kind donation for payroll services.

There being no other business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved. The meeting was thus adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Loy

Treasurer (substituting for Tony Foriest [absent for a funeral])

Meeting Reminders

Board of Directors meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2005 at noon at the Graham Public Library (meetings are on 3rd Thursdays of every month).

Program of Work Committee: Tuesday, November 8, 2005, at 12:30 PM at the United Way Building (meetings are on 2nd Tuesdays of every month).

Resource Sustainability Committee: To be determined

Organizational Development Committee: Wednesday, November 9, 2005, 12:15 PM at ACC, Rm 341 (meetings are on 3rd Wednesday of every month).

Subcommittees and Chairs to Contact if interested in serving:

Kick-off Event—Allison Gant and Barbara Massey

Fund Raising—Jeff Ellington and Mary Erwin

Mini-grant Development—LaRosa Pinnix-Bailey, Jerry Dillashaw, Chris Davis

Community Forum Development—Ed Woodall

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