

*High Desert “Partnership in Academic Excellence” Foundation, Inc.
Standing Fundraising Committee Minutes
October 16, 2013*

1.0 Call to Order

Donna Siegel, Fundraising Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2.0 Roll Call

Members Regina Bell and Donna Siegel were present.

Members David Bains, Bud Biggs, Andrew Jaramillo and Jose Palafox were absent.

Staff member Teresa Dowd was also present.

3.0 Public Comments: None.

4.0 Discussion Items

.01 The Art Show and Bear Sale fundraisers have raised \$49,536.85 over the last 3 years. Within that amount are 2 \$5,000 donations that are specifically directed toward scholarships (San Manuel and Edison). The Fundraising Committee would like to designate \$10K towards scholarships, \$10K towards 10 Educational Activity Grants and \$5K towards 2 Opportunity Grants – 1 for a teacher and 1 for a student (\$2,500 each). The Opportunity Grants are for a hardship or emergency type opportunity that is time sensitive and unbudgeted, but would allow the recipient to enhance their education. The Committee will work on fundraisers to sustain the general fund to be able to provide at least \$25K in scholarship and educational opportunities annually. We will track how these funds are spent which should attract more donors to donate to our fundraisers for these needs.

.02 As discussed, the Fundraising Committee would like to reinstate the Educational Activity Grant program and designate \$10K annually. The program can grant up to 10 \$1K grants and about \$2,500 would be given out on a quarterly basis. A screening committee of LCER staff will vet out the applications and bring applications forward to a selection committee of Board members.

.03 Criteria for the San Manuel and Edison scholarships will be developed in accordance to AAE’s scholarship committee procedures and will include a Board member in the selection process. As these scholarships are open to High Desert students, we will need to get the word out to area schools.

We will schedule another Fundraising Committee meeting after the first of the year. Members are to be thinking of additional fundraising ideas to bring forward at this meeting.

It was noted that we need to establish the Distinguished Advisors Group and be sure our Board Members are engaged. We want Board members to promote the Lewis Center to their contacts and prepare them for “the ask”, whether it be financially, a time commitment, or promotion within the community.

The Art Show was briefly discussed. We have been talking about changing the date to spring to coordinate timing with the Town’s teen art show and allow teachers and students time to prepare entries.

5.0 Recommendations to Foundation Board: The Fundraising Committee will present these decisions at the next Foundation Board meeting.

6.0 Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.