



USPS EDUCATIONAL FUND

EDUCATIONAL FUND TRUSTEES' MEETING

30 January 2014

Jacksonville Hyatt Riverfront

Ballroom 8

Chairman Fred Mangelsdorf called the meeting to order at 0855. The following trustees and guests were present and were introduced by the Chair:

Fred Mangelsdorf – Trustee, Chairman

Kenneth Griffing – Trustee, Secretary

Tom Brincka – Trustee

Barbara Spraggins – Administrative Assistant

GUESTS

Robert Brandenstein – NEO

Robert Palmer – ANEO

Donald Fiander – ANEO

Wayne Spraggins

Mary Catherine Berube

Peter Mitchelson

The Chairman indicated that he had received proxies from Richard Kyle, Joanna Webster, and David Drummond which he provided the Secretary.

Minutes of the 5 September 2013 San Antonio, TX meeting were approved as distributed.

Joanna Webster – Treasurer had previously distributed a Treasurers Report in three parts to the Trustees. The report was reviewed and it was commented that it seemed both complete and easy to comprehend.

Tom reported that the web site is up to date with the exception of the Honor Roll.

Barbara reported that all was going well with the exception of the Honor Roll report which again for unknown reasons had inconsistencies in final data.

Mary Catherine reported on some history of the Headquarters accounting software which was custom written for USPS in the mid 1980's. Many add-on packages have similarly been written for us for added capabilities but the net result is a package of software that is not very flexible and especially with respect to inventory issues. In late 2011 Mary Catherine and Robert Baldrige researched available commercial packages and selected NetSuite ERP as the most desirable for our needs. A PO was issued to NetSuite following BOD approval in April 2013 and we then learned that USPS met the required criteria for an 80 % Grant for charitable organizations from NetSuite. It is planned to go live on 1 March 2014 following which reports should be much easier to produce and the package easier and more flexible to use.

We also discussed possibilities for HQ depositing checks received for Ed Fund accounts. Mary Catherine indicated that they could do this provided they were given our account information and that they could send us the information we need for reporting and accounting purposes.

Bob Brandenstein and his team reported that the on-line courses (Grant 213) were moving forward and that two seminars are now available on-line. The seminars are *Partner in Command* and *Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes*. Revenue is not what they would like but is building. A second implementer has been added and Boat US is doing a good job and has learned much and the conversion process is working well. Things are moving forward more smoothly than the initial efforts. Adding video to the seminars has caused a slow-down. The first print ad has been taken out and a second is in process. Both were reasonably priced. Expenditures have been less than forecast since the process has moved slower than hoped. Possible time extension for the conversion project vs. addition of more seminars / courses was discussed. Fred pointed out that the Ed Fund looks forward to continuing to help with the project.

Peter Mitchelson reported on the Website Redevelopment project (Grant 211) and indicated that there have been some disagreements with the developer but that most relate to issues that came from the move of our server to Headquarters. There have seemed to be a few personnel related issues but it was Peter's belief that the redevelopment will work and be under budget. Sample pages look good but we have not yet provided them with data related to our new server. We are awaiting resolution of issues with the server before providing data regarding the new web site. We pointed out the requirement for a final report on the Website Redevelopment project and also discussed the issue of an emergency generator to support the website and the server in general. We again outlined our stand on the Grant being closed so it was not appropriate to now extend the expiration, but also our willingness to consider a new request for the Emergency Generator.

A request from Dick Pfenniger for a grant for ABC books to instruct groups of high school students was received and discussed.

The three grant requests were reviewed and voted upon. These include support for acquisition of software by HQ from NetSuite (Grant 214), ABC books for instructing high school students (Grant 215), and support for the acquisition and installation of an emergency generator at headquarters (Grant 216). All were approved.

There were no new or old business items not previously discussed and the meeting was adjourned at 1113.

Kenneth Griffing
Secretary

Subsequent to the regular Thursday meeting the Trustees met and elected officers for 2014. All of the existing officers were re-elected which include Fred Mangelsdorf - Chairman, Richard Kyle – Vice Chairman, Joanna Webster - Treasurer, and Kenneth Griffing - Secretary.

Kenneth Griffing