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4 Colorado ● Montana ● North Dakota ● South Dakota ● Utah ● Wyoming

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6 ASPIRE Board Meeting
7 Little America Hotel
8 October 9, 2010
9 Submitted by: Brandon McLean
10 Approved on December 3, 2010
11

12
13 **Present**

14 Ryan Ross, Derek Sporbert, John Shafer, Mike McLean, Lori Brown-Wirth, Dan Benge,
15 Derek Grubb, Yvette Rosenberg, Dawn Eckhardt, Cody McMichael, and Brandon
16 McLean.

17
18 **Guests**

19 Tina Hartley, Lori Larson, Zach Hawkins, Lindsay Beddes, and Heath Alexander
20

21 **Call to Order**

22 Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Ryan Ross
23

24 **Parliamentarian**

25 Dan Benge was appointed Parliamentarian
26

27 **Motion to Approve Minutes**

28 The minutes from the board meeting held May 3 were reviewed. Cody McMichael made
29 a motion to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Yvette
30 Rosenberg. The motion passed with all in favor.
31

32 **President's Report**

33 Ryan Ross reported to the board that Leadership Development Institute is well attended,
34 and has a very full agenda. Ryan stated that the ASPIRE Regional Conference here in
35 Cheyenne looks like it will be a huge success.
36

37 Ryan urged each state president to get their data compiled for the regional fact book. The
38 region achieved Fair Share at a 114%, the highest region in the nation, for the second
39 year in a row. He thanked Carol Gritts for her hard work. Dawn Eckhardt encouraged the
40 board and challenged each member in the region to again be number one in Fair Share
41 next year. Cody McMichael mentioned that Carol Gritts is not feeling well and will not
42 be in attendance at this conference.
43

44 Currently, there are 240 participants registered for the conference with only two
45 cancelations. This number is far above what we, as a board, anticipated. Ryan thanked
46 Lori Brown-Wirth and the great state of Wyoming for all of their hard work. With this

47 being his last meeting as president, he thanked each board member for their hard work
48 this past year.

49

50 **Finance Committee Report**

51 John Shafer reported to the board that the regional account has about \$95,000. This
52 amount will go down as the bills for this conference will be submitted. Conference
53 income is approximately \$73,500. John Shafer went over the budget line item by line
54 item. He then had a comparison of ASPIRE revenues from the years 2007 through
55 2010. He also presented the board conference revenue comparisons from the years 2001
56 through 2009.

57

58 Our current credit card is with American Express. John Shafer checked with Wells Fargo
59 to see about obtaining a Visa credit card with them. Wells Fargo said they would consider
60 it if we move all accounts to Wells Fargo.

61

62 **Motions**

63 **Motion 1**

64 It comes moved and seconded from the finance committee to move all financial accounts
65 from US Bank to Wells Fargo Bank, in order to move our credit card accounts from
66 American Express to Visa.

67

68 The motion passed with the majority of the Board voting in favor. Brandon McLean
69 voted Nay.

70

71 **Motion 2**

72 It comes moved and seconded by the Finance Committee to purchase a theft coverage
73 insurance policy with a cost of \$313 a year. The coverage will be in addition to the
74 current \$50,000 policy the board already has.

75

76 The motion passed with the majority voting in favor. Cody McMichael voted Nay, and
77 Lori Brown-Wirth abstained.

78

79 **Motion 3**

80 It comes moved and seconded by the Finance Committee to amend the annual budget line
81 item for the cost for the 501 (c) (3) filing fee which is in the amount of \$3,000.

82

83 The motion passed with all in favor.

84

85 **Development**

86 Carol Gritts was not present to give her report, but did submit a written report for the
87 ASPIRE annual report. Ryan Ross highlighted from the Development report that
88 ASPIRE reached Fair Share at 114%.

89

90 **Membership**

91 Dawn Eckhardt reported to the board that membership is up 58 members from the
92 previous year. Dawn has stepped down from being the Membership chair, and our new

93 chair is Lori Larson. Both Dawn and Lori urge all of us to continue to help encourage
94 those that are not members to join ASPIRE.

95

96 **Elections**

97 Elaine Metcalfe reported to the board that Tammy Ward has been nominated for
98 President elect; and Lori Brown-Wirth has been nominated for Secretary. Nominations
99 from the floor will be accepted during the Business Meeting on Sunday, October 10.

100

101 The board recessed at 10:39 a.m.

102 The board reconvened at 10:57 am

103

104 **Present**

105 Ryan Ross, Derek Sporbert, John Shafer, Mike McLean, Lori Brown- Wirth, Dan Bengel,
106 Derek Grubb, Yvette Rosenberg, Dawn Eckhardt, Brandon McLean, and Cody
107 McMichael

108 Guests: Tina Hartley, Lori Larson, Zach Hawkins, Lindsay Beddes, and Heath
109 Alexander

110

111 **State Initiatives**

112 Heath Alexander from COE spoke to board in regards to State Initiatives. COE really
113 works for us, the ASPIRE region, and he thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak
114 to the group. The ASPIRE region is solid and it is because of the strong leaders we have
115 within our region. He spoke of our regional fact book and our regional fact sheet that
116 some of the leaders of the ASPIRE region have developed. It is frequently used as an
117 example as other states and regions develop theirs.

118

119 State initiatives grants are coming out again. The application deadline is December 1,
120 2010.

121

122 The State Leadership summit will be held prior to Policy Seminar in Washington, DC.
123 There are tracks for various levels from new professionals to seasoned leaders. Also, a
124 Leadership Caucus is designed for State Presidents and President Elects to join before
125 each national meeting in September. The Board thanked Heath for coming to our meeting
126 and our regional conference. He will speak more on governmental issues and updates on
127 Wednesday morning and during a concurrent session.

128

129 **Governmental Relations**

130 The update will be given at a plenary session. Rachel Martinez will meet with the new
131 Board on Wednesday.

132

133 **2010 Conference Committee**

134 Rachel Martinez passed out packets for head table assignments. We currently have 240
135 individuals registered for the conference. There are 29 people signed up for the
136 Leadership Development Institute and 29 in pre-conference sessions.

137

138

139 **2011 Conference in Utah**

140 Ryan Ross reported to the board that hotel location is awesome. Jami Bayles, conference
141 chair, is currently working on identifying the last few sub-committee chairs, conference
142 ads, and getting a good buzz out at this conference about next year's conference. Work
143 needs to be done on pre-conference workshops, and also LDI. Board members were
144 asked if they are interested in serving or helping with next year's conference.

145

146

147 **State Reports**

148

149 **Colorado**

150 Derek Grubb reported that Colorado is doing well. New officers will be elected at this
151 conference. A conference was held with 40 people in attendance. All 16 SSS programs
152 were renewed and some new projects were added in Colorado. (See state report)

153

154 **North Dakota**

155 Derek Sporbert reported that Lori Larson is new president of North Dakota and they have
156 two new SSS programs. In regards to State Initiatives they have worked hard on their
157 proposal and also have one person on the adult learners panel for state college access.
158 North Dakota received a College Access grant, and TRIO may have a large part in it.
159 (See State report)

160

161 **South Dakota**

162 Cody McMichael reported that they also are changing leadership. At their state meeting
163 time during this conference they will have elections for a president-elect-elect, and
164 maybe go on the two year term for the president. South Dakota did lose two SSS
165 programs. (See state report)

166

167 **Utah**

168 Yvette Rosenberg reported that Utah has a full board for the first time in the last few
169 years. The board has also updated their by-laws. (See State report). Their state conference
170 will be in March in Zion National Park

171

172 **Wyoming**

173 Lori Brown-Wirth told the board that hopefully this conference is the best we have ever
174 had! Wyoming only has 25 members of ASPIRE, and thanked us, as a board, for our
175 help. An election will need to take place for a president-elect if Lori is elected to the
176 office of regional secretary. Tefeny Fegler is willing to serve as past president for
177 another year if Lori is elected. (See State report)

178

179 **Montana**

180 Mike Mclean spoke about the Best Practices conference that was held in Kalispell,
181 Montana. Governmental committee met with Dan Villa, the Governors Educational
182 Policy Advisor we have an agreement with TRIO in the communication loop for College
183 Access Issues.
184 (See State Report)

185

186 **2012 Conference Selection**

187 Mike McLean reported to the board the results from HPN, the vendor the board currently
188 uses to help choose a hotel for regional conferences. HPN identified three locations for
189 the board to consider, Great Falls, Big Sky (near Bozeman), and Billings, Montana for
190 the 2012 regional conference. Dialogue ensued and it was determined the best spot for the
191 region to go would be Billings with the airport and the hotels that were being considered.
192 It was agreed that additional information and negotiations were needed before a final
193 decision on the conference venue could be made. This matter will be taken up by the
194 2010-2011 Board.

195

196 **Motion to Adjourn**

197 Motion to adjourn was made by Mike McLean, seconded Lori Brown-Wirth; all voted in
198 favor.

199

200 The board adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

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