



Colorado • Montana • North Dakota • South Dakota • Utah • Wyoming

ASPIRE BOARD MEETING
May 1, 2017
Denver, Colorado
Submitted by Jami Bayles
OFFICIAL MINUTES – APPROVED 10/12/17

IN ATTENDANCE OFFICERS

Kyle Ethelbah, President
Darlene Samson, President-Elect
Joseph Aguirre, Past-President
John Shafer, Treasurer

STATE PRESIDENTS

Lucia Delgado, Colorado State President
Theresa Rader, Montana State President
Dennis Stangl, North Dakota State President
Peggy Madrid, South Dakota President
Paul Hesco, Wyoming State President

ABSENT

Acacia Fike-Nelson, Secretary
Rebecca Tierney, Utah State President

GUEST

Jami Bayles, Acting as Proxy Secretary and Utah State President

1 **CALL TO ORDER**

2 Meeting was called to order by Kyle Ethelbah at 9:01am. Roll call was made and Paul Hesco was
3 appointed Parliamentarian.

4
5 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

6 Minutes from the January 27, 2017 ASPIRE Board meeting were reviewed. With no corrections, the
7 minutes were accepted as written.

8
9 Maureen Hoyler, President of Council for Opportunity in Education called in at 9:16am to give an
10 update on the TRIO funding status for FY17 which will fund TRIO programs during the 2017-18
11 program year. She reported that congress had come to an agreement of an Omnibus Bill which will
12 include a \$50 million increase to TRIO programs, equivalent to a 5.6% increase. This will allow for
13 TRIO grants that were denied because of formatting issues to resubmit their proposal. She reported
14 that the bill still needs to be approved by both houses. Maureen congratulated the Board on their
15 hard work.

16
17 **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

18 Kyle gave a summary of his President's report to the Board. The full report is attached.

19
20 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

21 John Shafer gave a brief explanation to the Board on the procedures for filling out state and region
22 reimbursement forms, and reminded the State Presidents need to have their State Treasurers sign the
23 appropriate forms. John also discussed the procedures for requesting reimbursements for state and
24 committee conference calls.

25
26 John reported that in the Executive Finance Committee meeting held April 30th, 2017, and a motion
27 was moved and seconded to increase region conference registration fees. John explained the
28 rationale behind the motion, and discussion ensued.

29
30 **ACTION ITEM**

31 Dennis Stangl made a motion to increase the registration fees from \$385 for ASPIRE members early
32 registration to \$399; from \$435 for ASPIRE members late registration to \$449; from \$485 for Non-
33 ASPIRE members to \$499; and from \$535 to \$549 for Non-ASPIRE members late registration.
34 Theresa seconded the motion and motion carried.

35
36 Government Relations Committee

37 Ally Garcia called in with a Government Relations update. She reported that the committee has been
38 formed and they have meet several times throughout the year via online. Ally briefly reported that
39 there has been consistent attendance from Colorado and Wyoming, but still need members from the
40 other four states to participate. The committee has been able to share ideas about involvement on the
41 state level, as well as, how to prepare for the Policy Seminar in Washington DC. They have also
42 created videos and emails to engage ASPIRE members to become more comfortable with the
43 process of attending Policy. During Policy in March, the committee planned and executed a pep-
44 rally, and built a collaboration relationship with COE and their policy team. The committee plans to
45 continue their meetings through the summer and hope to offer webinars and other projects to the
46 membership. Lastly, the committee would like to send out a survey to the states to see what they
47 need help with in regards to governmental relations.

48 Social Justice Committee

49 Brandi Scott called in with a Social Justice update. After presenting with Heather Webb-Springer
50 and Peni Mouna at the 2016 ASPIRE Conference, the committee decided to continue the
51 presentations at state meetings. Peni lead a social justice focused conversation at the North/South
52 Dakota meeting in April; Kelly Buck lead a discussion at the Montana meeting in April; and Brandi,
53 Herman Shelton and Yesenia Arreola presented at the Colorado meeting in April. Brandi also
54 reported that an email was sent to the committee at the end of April requesting times to meet to
55 develop a proposal for the 2017 region conference.

56 Emerging Leaders Institute Committee

57 Marilyn Thayer called with an ELI update. She discussed an ASPIRE ELI Proposal. Theresa asked
58 for clarification on the different points that the committee plans to address. Darlene inquired to the
59 budget needed for the proposal. Kyle reported that with the exception of this year, the budget for ELI
60 will be \$5,000 for 2017-18. Discussion ensued.

61 Alumni Committee

62 Morgen Patrick called in with an Alumni update. She reported that social media links have been
63 established on the ASPIRE website, but the committee was still working on content. She stated that
64 Fernando Cardenas from COE has started an Alumni Ambassadors Initiative in five locations
65 outside of the ASPIRE region that will host monthly events, and she would eventually like to
66 collaborate with them. She then ask the state presidents to send her names from their respective
67 states that would be willing to serve as representatives on this committee.

68 Awards Committee

69 Jami Bayles gave an update on Awards. The number of service years for ASPIRE members has been
70 updated and awards will be presented at the 2017 region conference. She reported that requests were
71 sent to the state presidents to identify individuals retiring in their states. Nominations forms for the
72 Friend of ASPIRE, Rising Star, Champion of TRIO, and TRIO Achievers have been sent to all

73 ASPIRE members. After June 1st, the committee will determine recipients for all awards, purchase
74 appropriate awards and ass the conference chair with travel arrangements for TRIO Achievers.

75
76 Development

77 Jami gave an updated on ASPIRE Development. She distributed reports to the state presidents and
78 briefly went over project membership and personal donation status. She continues to coordinate with
79 the COE Fair Share committee and sends updates to the Development committee. She is in the
80 process of determining Development award recipients and will coordinate with the Awards
81 Committee to purchase appropriate awards to present at the region conference.

82
83 *The Board recessed at 12:02pm for lunch, reconvened at 1:36pm*

84
85 Technology Committee

86 Dennis Stangl gave a Technology update. Dennis gave a brief description of the ASPIRE mailing list
87 and explained the difference between it and the Listserv. The mailing list is a resource for ASPIRE
88 members to use to communicate with each other. He reported that the membership system has been
89 changed to Woocommerce and is now entirely online. An alumni database has been added and a new
90 theme has been selected and will be implemented on all state sites, with the conference website
91 having a different theme. He then discussed “SLACK”, which is a communication portal that is
92 available to all members and described the features of it.

93 Archive Committee

94 Paul gave an update on ASPIRE Archive. He informed the Board that he would like to dispose of
95 old training materials and financial documents, but retain programs and photos for historical
96 purposes. Paul also wanted to add language into the ASPIRE Operating Guidelines that pertains to
97 the process of maintaining records in the future. Discussion ensued and Theresa asked the Board if
98 they could table the discussion to a later time.

99 Conference Updates

100 **2017 Conference:** Jami gave the Board a conference update on behalf of Rebecca. She reported that
101 there have been 2 conference calls to date, and they are working with a live Good doc sheet to keep
102 up to date on subcommittee progress. Currently there have been minimal costs for the conference.
103 There will be a PERSIST training offered as a pre-conference workshop on Sunday, October 15
104 from 9am-2:30pm. It will be free to TRIO staff with a paid ASPIRE 2017-18 project membership.
105 The committee is also working with COE to offer an “On Board” training either as a pre- or post-
106 conference workshop. A brief update by each subcommittee was given to the Board.

107 **2018 Conference:** Theresa Rader gave an update on the 2018 conference. She reported that Peter
108 Donaldson is the proposed Conference Chair, and discussed ideas on how to bring in more support
109 and attendance. A theme and more details will be proposed to the Board at the region conference in
110 October.

111
112 Strategic Plan

113 Darlene Samson gave an update on her upcoming Strategic Plan as incoming ASPIRE President.
114 Discussion ensued on different ideas on how to give back to the membership. Darlene will create a
115 more in-depth proposal and present it at the October Board meeting. Darlene commended Joseph
116 and Kyle for initiating the strategic plan working document.

117
118 Native American Committee

119 Kyle referred to his President’s report that included a brief explanation of the plans for the Native
120 American Committee.

121

122 **ART QUINN MEMORIAL AWARD**

123 *Executive Session*

124 The ASPIRE Board went into Executive Session at 3:38pm to discuss Art Quinn Memorial Award
125 nominations. The ASPIRE Board left Executive Session at 3:57pm.

126

127 **STATE REPORTS**

128 Each state president gave a brief summary of their state report. Full state reports are attached and
129 will be uploaded to the ASPIRE website.

130

131 **OCTOBER BOARD MEETING**

132 The October Board meeting will be held via Skype on Thursday, October 12th from 1-4pm.

133

134 **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

135 In regards to region conference duties, Kyle discussed distributing duties to other state presidents in
136 order to save costs. Kyle also reminded the Board to start vetting ASPIRE members for the
137 Treasurer and President-Elect positions.

138

139 **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

140 Kyle called for a motion to adjourn. John so moved, Lucia seconded and motion carried. The 2017
141 May ASPIRE Board meeting adjourned at 4:37pm.

142