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

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6 ASPIRE Business Meeting
7 Ft. Collins, Colorado
8 October 6 & 8, 2013
9 Submitted by Lori Brown-Wirth, ASPIRE Secretary
10 Minutes approved on October 12, 2014
11

12
13 **Board Members Present**

14 President, Derek Sporbert
15 President-Elect, Craig Harter
16 Past President, Rachel Martinez
17 Treasurer, Cody McMichael
18 Secretary, Lori Brown-Wirth
19 Colorado State President, Henry Ornelas
20 Montana State President, Russ Lamson
21 North Dakota State President, Lori Larson
22 South Dakota State President, Rocky Burkett
23 Utah State President, Tami Shugart
24 Wyoming State President, Jayne Pearce

25
26 **Call to Order**

27 The business meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m. by President Derek Sporbert.
28

29 **Parliamentarian**

30 Craig Harter was appointed Parliamentarian.
31

32 **Quorum**

33 A quorum was established.
34

35 **President Report**

36 Derek Sporbert gave an update on what the Region has been doing for the past year, highlighting the
37 continued growth of ASPIRE and advocacy. Derek Sporbert reported that he attended all six state
38 meetings this year and was impressed by the attendance and presentations.
39

40 Derek Sporbert summarized his travels with the COE Board as well as Policy Seminar, State Initiative
41 Grants, and Government Relations. Updated ASPIRE strategic plans can be found on the Aspire
42 website.
43

44 ASPIRE met and exceeded Fair Share at 128%. ASPIRE is the only region that reached 100% from
45 each state. Thanks were given to the ASPIRE Development Committee – Carol Gritts, Dan Bengé,
46 and Rachel Martinez.
47

48 ASPIRE is proud to have Amy Verlanic as the first ASPIRE COE Board Chair, with Oscar Felix as
49 Chair-Elect.

50
51 With no questions, the President's Report was accepted by acclamation. The full report may be found
52 on the ASPIRE website.

53
54 **Approval of Minutes**

55 The minutes from the October 2012 business meeting in Billings, Montana were distributed and
56 reviewed by the membership. Changes were suggested for line 65 – change spelling of name to
57 “Banuelas”, and line 61 – capitalize “Lake”.

58
59 **Motion to Approve Minutes**

60 Paul Hesco made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Mike Wade. The
61 minutes for the October 2012 ASPIRE Business Meeting were approved as amended and the motion
62 carried.

63
64 **Treasurer Report**

65 Cody McMichael presented the membership with the Treasurer's Report. He went through the
66 ASPIRE financial statements as of October 5, 2013. This report was presented on the overhead, and
67 may be found on the ASPIRE website.

68
69 Credit card transaction fees have been reduced significantly using the new ASPIRE Store system.
70 Board travel expenses were higher than budgeted due to the unexpected HEP meeting and remote
71 locations for state conferences. The Board was well represented. Cody gave a line by line overview
72 of income, assets and expenses to date.

73
74 The bottom line shows that the 2013 conference budget was well planned. ASPIRE shows a projected
75 net gain of approximately \$9,000. Derek Sporbert noted that the ASPIRE Board has worked hard to
76 improve their finances over the last six years.

77
78 With no questions or amendments, the Treasurer's Report was accepted by acclamation.

79
80 **Development Report**

81 Dan Benge and Rachel Martinez gave the Development Committee report that was prepared by Carol
82 Gritts, who was unable to attend the conference. The Development Report was shown on the overhead
83 projector.

84
85 Dan Benge and Rachel Martinez reiterated the importance of encouraging growth and developing
86 leadership in our region, stating “not equal amounts, but equal sacrifice.” ASPIRE is small, but we
87 get big support.

88
89 Rachel Martinez summarized Fair Share commenting on Institutional Memberships and personal
90 donations. She summarized the 10 for 10 campaign and reminded members that reaching this goal
91 means free fee waivers for State Presidents to attend Policy Seminar. The three member development
92 committee has been making personal calls regarding memberships. Rachel Martinez covers Wyoming
93 and Colorado. Dan Benge covers Montana and Utah. Carol Gritts covers North Dakota and South
94 Dakota.

95

96 Dan Benge discussed efforts to support ASPIRE development at the regional level. He defined the
97 different types of memberships and levels of giving. He reported that individual memberships
98 increased slightly from last year, but personal donations went down.
99

100 **Elections**

101 Positions are opening for ASPIRE President-Elect and Treasurer.
102

103 **Motion to Postpone Elections**

104 Rachel Martinez made a motion to postpone Elections for President-Elect and Treasurer until the
105 Tuesday Business meeting. Cody McMichael seconded the motion and it carried.
106

107 **State Reports**

108 **Colorado**

109 Colorado State President Henry Ornelas gave a report on Colorado ASPIRE highlighting advocacy,
110 their updated Fact Book and efforts toward the success of the 2013 Regional Conference. The
111 complete Colorado report is available in the Annual Report on the ASPIRE website.
112
113

114 **Montana**

115 Russ Lamson reported on Montana ASPIRE and highlighted Montana's government relations, strategic
116 plans and alumni relations. He congratulated Amy Verlanic as COE Board Chair on behalf of
117 Montana. A full report may be found on the ASPIRE website.
118

119 **North Dakota**

120 North Dakota State President Lori Larson reported on highlights of North Dakota activities for the last
121 year, including public relations, advocacy and alumni updates. She gave thanks to Cara Davis, the
122 2014 Conference Chair for her efforts. A full North Dakota report is available on the ASPIRE website.
123

124 ***Recess:***

125 Derek Sporbert called for a motion to recess until Tuesday, October 8th. Deborah Zuniga so moved,
126 Paul Hesco seconded, and the ASPIRE Business meeting recessed at 4:32 p.m.
127

128 ***Reconvene:***

129 The Regional ASPIRE Business Meeting reconvened at 1:32 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2013.
130

131 **Parliamentarian**

132 Craig Harter was reappointed parliamentarian.
133

134 **Quorum**

135 A quorum was established.
136

137 **State Reports Continued**

138 **South Dakota**

139 Rocky Burkett gave an overview of South Dakota activities, which included government relations and
140 memberships. He gave a brief update on the 2015 Regional ASPIRE Conference which will be held in
141 Rapid City, South Dakota at the Ramkota Best Western. The complete South Dakota report is
142 available on the ASPIRE website.
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Utah

Tami Shugart gave the Utah State Report. Utah has updated their website thanks to Jami Bayles, Utah President-Elect. Tami summarized their State Leadership Conference and Utah goals. The complete Utah report can be found on the ASPIRE website.

Wyoming

Wyoming State President Jayne Pearce gave updates on Wyoming ASPIRE. Wyoming had a TRIO Achiever at the COE conference in September. Jayne reported on legislative activities and a successful state conference. A full report may be found on the ASPIRE website.

Elections

Dr. Cheryl Kingsbury stepped in for Elections Chair Elaine Metcalfe, who was unable to attend. Nominations were opened for President-Elect and Treasurer.

For President-Elect

Dan Bengé nominated Jamie Manzanares for President-Elect and Jamie Manzanares accepted the nomination. With no further nominations, Mike Wade moved to cease nominations for President-Elect. Dawn Eckhardt seconded the motion. Call was made for a motion to accept Jamie Manzanares as President-Elect by acclamation. Paulette McIntosh so moved, Joseph Aguirre seconded, and the motion carried.

For Treasurer

Cody McMichael nominated John Shafer for Treasurer and John Shafer accepted the nomination. With no further nominations, Dan Bengé moved to cease nominations for Treasurer. Lynne Brown seconded the motion. Call was made for a motion to accept John Shafer as Treasurer by acclamation. Brandy Scott so moved, Krisan Crow seconded, and the motion carried.

Candidate Forum

President-Elect

Jamie Manzanares gave a few words on the honor of the position along with a brief history of his experience in TRIO. He thanked everyone for their support.

Treasurer

John Shafer gave a brief history of his experience with ASPIRE and finances, attributing their recovery to good leadership. He swore to treat donations to ASPIRE as sacred funds and pledged to safeguard them and ensure that they are spent wisely.

Membership Report

Membership Chair Cara Davis gave the 2012-2013 Membership Report for ASPIRE. With 332 paid memberships, the number has increased by 1 from last year. Cara gave a breakdown on the number of memberships within each state and encouraged everyone to become members and support our region.

Rachel Martinez also encouraged memberships and pointed out the membership and donation forms on tables in the room. It was noted that colleagues may pool funds to help reach the 10 for 10 goal.

Government Relations

192 Michael Wade and Rachel Martinez summarized the Government Relations Report which was
193 projected on the overhead screen.

194
195 Michael Wade gave a brief update on the government shut-down and debt ceiling deadline. He
196 commented on the importance of continuing advocacy efforts and encouraged State Presidents to look
197 for alerts on actions to be taken.

198
199 **Unfinished Business**

200 No unfinished business at this time.

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202 **New Business**

203 No new business at this time.

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205 **Announcements/Good of the order**

206 Derek Sporbert made announcements for the conference, and asked that everyone follow up on
207 requests from COE. With no further announcements, call was made for adjournment.

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209 **Motion to Adjourn**

210 Lori Larson made a motion to adjourn the 2013 ASPIRE Business meeting and Cheryl Kingsbury
211 seconded the motion. The 2013 ASPIRE Business meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

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