

Energy Capital Child Care Cooperative Board Meeting

10.12.17

MINUTES:

Board Members Present: Brad Zimmerman, Erin Huntimer, Kent Neustel, Darrold Bertsch, Ken Miller, Alice Grinsteinner in the stead of Keith Gendreau, Kayla Olson, Christie Obenauer.

Guest: Dana Santini

8:04am – Meeting called to order by Erin Huntimer.

Christie taking minutes.

Kayla motioned to approve minutes. Second by Brad. OK'd.

Added maintenance (snow removal, and eventual cleaning service); and financial reporting to the agenda.

Christie moved to approve the agenda. Second from Kayla. OK'd.

Sign: Getting bids for signage. Signage to go in the brick holder in the parking lot. Basin is gathering bids for us. Kent said he has staff that may be in a position to help print the sign.

501c3 filing: The package has been sent in, and the IRS has acknowledged the receipt of that package. Waiting on IRS to respond. Expecting that could take several months.

Noted that it has been 1 year since we officially became an organization. ☺

Reviewed the financial report:

- Reviewed mortgage payment with, and without the buydown.
- Reviewed wages, etc.
- Propane tank – Dana to call Cenex to replace gauge, which isn't working, and make sure it is full. Erin also recommended that we potentially get a second tank, as the tank lease is usually quite inexpensive.
- Taxes to be paid for \$12,000+ (this past quarter).
- Furnace \$6,000 plus. All installed and addressed.
- Reviewed the meeting with Stacy Cahoon from Widmer Roel.
- Staffing: Dana needs staff. Made an offer to someone, but hasn't accepted because there is no discount for childcare.
- Discussion about staffing: 35% discount for full-time employees, for their children attending. Christie motioned; Brad seconded. Further discussion. OK'd. This would equate to a taxable benefit to our employees, per Stacey at Widmer Roel.
- 51 enrollment. Mostly full-time.

Parent Board: Discussion about when we would be transitioning to a parent board. Discussion about how that looks, with executive-level oversight. Discussion about what roles and responsibilities each of these boards would have. Discussion about board policies. This item will remain on the agenda and part of our discussion into the future.

Inquiries about new enrollments have slowed down.

Basin did some media work. Took photos and some video. Basin staff is putting together a video series of vignettes. They will plan to use for their annual meeting. THANK YOU BASIN!

Governor's Office and Department of Commerce is also very interested in what we are doing.

Other articles have been written – Electric Coop publications have written about us. Erin is trying to route. North Dakota Living has a very good article about us. Featured twice in that magazine. Erin will continue to share those with us. South Dakota Farmer's Union picked up on us. Erin did an interview – about collaboration within a small community. Erin has pulled together talking points, and a narrative to share. Discussion.

Leaking dishwasher – Obenauer Plumbing to follow.

Water under the front door? Brad is going to check it out.

Award recognition – Williston – Thursday of next week. Darrold, Dale and Dana potentially(?) to attend. They will work out those details.

Further Beulah facility: Just want to leave this up on the agenda for future discussion. There is still need for daycare in Beulah. After school program at Wellness Center, potentially. Children's room specifically for kids. That is supposed to be used for after school, and/or potentially for parents to leave their kids while they are utilizing the gym.

Meeting adjourned.