

BOARD MINUTES



Date: 2/9/26

Location: Administration Building

Attendance: Megan Zaborowsky (Vice President, presiding), Amy Jones (Secretary), Peter Goerner (Treasurer), Erin Biggs, David Dean, Mark Wallischeck, Angie Glynn, Dawn Arnold, Michelle Maslowski, Tracie Rhyneanson, Mike Zafiroff, Phil Strack, Chloe Moton, Jen Whitson, Julia Reynolds, Tiffany Woods (Executive Director), Dr. Terhune (ex-officio); **not present** Amanda Smith

**Annual Board picture taken prior to the start of the general meeting

1. Call to order 7:02 p.m.
2. Treasurer's Report
 - a. **Motion to Approve financial report by Julia R.; Second by Jen W.; Board approved.**
3. Approval of Minutes - review of the amended Minutes by Dawn from the January meeting,
 - i. No additional changes; **Motion to Approve September Minutes by Tracie R., Second by Chloe M., Board approved.**
4. Monthly Ice Breaker – Board Nomination and Discussion
 - a. TW hands out envelopes to board members with the names of their nominees for board/GEF consideration; on the wall are 6 categories, and everyone puts their nominees into one of the categories:
 - i. Leadership
 - ii. Events & Operations (MC, Cares, Grants, Special Events)
 - iii. Community Partnerships
 - iv. Specialty Areas
 - v. Action Takers
 - vi. Need more info
 - b. Small group discussions about the people whose names are posted and what we know/don't know, what is exciting; larger group discussion about what was shared
 - c. Goal will be to refine the list of people by March and identify those who will be invited to apply for board membership; those not invited will still be invited to get involved with GEF in other ways
 - d. TW inquires about any known conflicts with the people nominated and advises that 6 additional board members roll off at the end of this term – looking to add 8 new board members with varying skills
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Special Events - Chloe
 - i. Bags and Bourbon Bingo – emails have been sent to previous sponsors; 9 tables sold so far; advertising is open to public via social media on 2/11/26; will plan to use small bourbon bottles, wristlets and raffle tickets for tie breaker this year;

Dawn advises Shawn will get the small bourbon bottles in March; Chloe advises that people should pass along anything they have for raffle items for this event

- ii. Rock the Block – Mike gives update; event date is 4/25; Chloe attended the required meeting; we must have 5 volunteers signed up and 20 runners (includes sleep ins); Mike sent out a registration link by email today to board members; hardest task seems to be getting the 5 volunteers, which includes an early morning; HS intern Landon Barlow is helping

b. GEF Cares:

- i. School Supply 2nd Drive – Julia and Tracie give update and share that supply distribution was a success; Tiffany handled distribution for 5/6 of the schools and Julia/Tracie handled the 6th school; HS intern Landon Barlow helping with tallying final data from this event
- ii. Highlight Mental Health for 2026 will be 9/11/26 – Julia has confirmed the date with Mike Campbell

- c. Monte Carlo – Megan gives an update on the event; sold out event; MC team will meet at Dawn’s house 2/11 to finalize baskets etc.; reminder that all board members are required to help with set up on the day of the event at Crane Bay @ 11a.m. (small group meeting at Dawn’s at 10 to load); everyone expected to attend event in the evening and work; sign up sheet passed around at meeting

- d. Scholarships – deadline is March 6th

e. Grants

- i. General update - Amy reports SG deadline 2/28, spring grant deadline 3/15; Mark has access to the drive and has taken over Brad’s role for spring cycle; brief update to board about unspent grant monies at all of the schools – Amy, Tiffany and Peter met with school treasurer to try and resolve the amount owed back to GEF from unspent dollars

6. Old Business

- a. Endowment Committee – TW reports that we will start forming an Endowment Committee to handle endowment conversations and to get policies developed; will be quick work at first and limited meetings, hoping to start getting group together this spring; committee will include board and non-board members

7. New Business

- a. Bank Accounts – Peter reports that he has not yet closed out 5/3 accounts bc they are a sponsor for Monte Carlo; he thinks we should close out the 5/3 gaming account and move to Everwise then put the balance of funds at 5/3 in a CD; TW suggests that we wait to get a CD bc there are additional banks who have also sponsored MC (including IMCU) and we may want to shop products
- b. Tracy McCarty @Everwise told Peter that we have a lot of cash sitting in checking and may want to consider a money market account to invest some of the cash so it can earn interest; we typically keep 150K-220K in checking; **Peter G. makes a motion to approve GEF moving \$100,000 from our Everwise account to a money market account at Everwise; Second by Mike Z., board approved.**
- c. Peter shares the desire to approach any of our donors (even those who have given restricted dollars) whose donations are at least \$10,000 to move those funds to our

larger endowment fund, while keeping those restrictions in place. These funds include Kite, Wiperman, Whitson, and Hamernick donations. Beau has shared that Modern Woodmen can handle managing the restrictions within the larger endowment fund; **Peter makes a motion that GEF be permitted to approach donors who have given or are giving at least \$10,000 to GEF for permission to house those funds in the endowment fund, while keeping any restrictions on the funds in place; Second by Angie G.; board approved.**

- d. Mo’s Steakhouse – we have been invited to be the beneficiary charity for a special wine or bourbon dinner event at Mo’s; high end vendor brings the alcohol and 25% of the ticket price (\$125-\$225 each) and 10% of all bottle sales goes to GEF; all GEF has to do is spread the word and if we choose we can have a silent auction item there; **Motion to Approve GEF agreeing to be the beneficiary for the Mo’s event by David D., Second by Dawn A., Board approved.**

- i. Reminder that we don’t need a gaming license for a silent auction event (not a game of chance)
- ii. Event date will be this spring, likely in May, details TBA

8. Adjourned 8:20 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: March 9, 2026, 7 p.m.

Addendum to Cares Report – data from school supply drive

SCHOOL SUPPLIES									
Item	Cost	NE	IC	SW	WW	GMS	GHS	Total Cost/Item	
# shoppers		18	17	32	10	21	20		
Backpacks	\$ 20.00	3	6	7		0	1	\$ 340.00	
Binders	\$ 3.33	21	14	33	3	9	16	\$ 319.68	
Colored Pencils	\$ 2.07	14	14	29	6	28	18	\$ 225.63	
Composition Notebooks	\$ 1.56	30	5	2	2	12	4	\$ 85.80	
Crayons	\$ 1.66	47	31	55	12	12	11	\$ 278.88	
Disinfectant Wipes	\$ 3.17	9	11	13	2	12	15	\$ 196.54	
Dry Erase Markers	\$ 0.58	56	48	71	22	40	53	\$ 168.20	
Earbuds	\$ 0.56	33	39	26	10	77	16	\$ 112.56	
Erasers	\$ 0.42	45	146	334	80	215	76	\$ 376.32	
Folders	\$ 0.30	33	45	50	20	75	50	\$ 81.90	
Glue Bottles	\$ 1.42		3	8		4	5	\$ 28.40	
Glue Sticks	\$ 0.28	55	45	80	8	50	34	\$ 76.16	
Headphones	\$ 6.70	24	24	35	18	26	7	\$ 897.80	
Highlighter	\$ 0.37	32	46	53	4	32	47	\$ 79.18	
Index Cards	\$ 0.90	9	9	10	2	11	13	\$ 48.60	
Loose Leaf Paper	\$ 2.77	6	12	16		24	12	\$ 193.90	
Markers	\$ 3.00	18	32	76	20	39	13	\$ 594.00	
Mechanical Pencils	\$ 0.18	120	78	95	20	160	140	\$ 110.34	
Pencils (10 pack)	\$ 0.08	300	320	42	16	610	170	\$ 116.64	
Pencil Cases	\$ 1.00	19	26	32	4	9	12	\$ 102.00	
Pencil Sharpeners	\$ 0.50	3	2	6		3	3	\$ 8.50	
Pens	\$ 0.50	890	70	94	10	40	70	\$ 587.00	
Post-its	\$ 0.48	20	19	22		32	28	\$ 58.08	
Rulers	\$ 0.50	7	3	18	13	30	24	\$ 47.50	
Sanitizer	\$ 2.09	8	8	13	5	6	13	\$ 110.77	
Scissors	\$ 1.25	39	39	46	13	24	30	\$ 238.75	
Spiral-Bound Notebook	\$ 1.21	7	13	36	3	31	38	\$ 154.88	
Tissues	\$ 1.73	8	10	13	2	16	18	\$ 115.91	
Bingo Tissues	\$ 1.73	375 boxes passed out to all 6 schools in August							\$ 648.75
TOTAL		1856	1118	1315	295	1627	937	\$ 6,402.67	

7148 items total