



**Mason County Promise Zone Authority Board**  
**Meeting Minutes: Monday, September 12, 2022, 3PM**  
**Location: Lakeshore Resource Network Conference Room, E. Tinkham, Ludington, MI**

Present: Fabian Knizacky, Roger Nash, Amy Pepper, Annette Quillan, Chad Riffle, Monica Schuyler, Kathy Surd, Dena Thurston, Joan Vidak

Absent: Vic Burwell, Andrea Large

Staff present: Jody Maloney

1. **Call to Order:** Schuyler called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.
2. **Limited Public Comment:** None
3. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion to approve by Knizacky with support from Nash; Motion carried 9-0-2.
4. **Approval of Minutes** from 8-8-2022: Motion to approve by Vidak, with support from Knizacky; Motion to approve minutes carried 9-0-2.
5. **Treasurer's Report**
  - a. Trial Balance: \$1,202,769.85:
  - b. Invoices
    - i. *Approval of Invoices: None new:* Knizacky reported that the only invoices paid were the two regular monthly invoices to Kennari Consulting and the Chamber of Commerce (neither require approval for payment).
  - c. *Approval of Treasurer's Report: Motion by Nash to approve the Treasurer's report with support from Vidak; motion carried 9-0-2.*
6. **Director's Report** (REF #3)
  - a. *Approval of Director's Report:* Maloney shared that WSCC and the Promise are piloting a 9<sup>th</sup> grade program at MCE to dispel myths about college and help students understand that they're college material. *Motion by Thurston to approve the Director's report, supported by Pepper; motion carried 9-0-2.*
7. **New Business**
  - a. Welcome to our Newest Board Member, Chad Riffle: Chair Schuyler extended a welcome on behalf of the board.
  - b. Committee Reports: See minutes at <https://www.masoncountypromise.org/minutes>
    - i. Appeals Committee: Met 8-29-22@11AM; Next meeting 12-5-22@11AM
      1. *All appeals recommended for approval (Nash/Quillan or Quillan/Nash) with a vote of 3-0-1: Motion by Vidak to approve recommended appeals, with support from Riffle; Motion carried 9-0-2.*
    - ii. Community Engagement Committee: Met 9-1-22@4PM; Next meeting 10-27-22@4PM
      1. Plans to coordinate an Adaptive Systems training for Board and will provide more information when dates can be confirmed: Maloney will connect with Jen Orton; the ESD was willing to fund the training; the board generally agreed to a two-day, four-hour training format.
      2. Reviewed the Points of Promise document for Board members to share highlights with community groups: Surd thanked the committee for developing



this document and including the note about tax funding staying in Lansing or being distributed across the state if not captured by the Promise Zone.

3. Will canvas members in October related to Officer & Committee roles
  - iii. Student Success Committee: Met 8-22-22@10AM; 9-26-22@10AM
    1. *Recommendation on Plan language change for greater inclusion of graduates who reside in Mason County: Surd motioned to approve the development plan language as recommended by the Student Success Committee, with support from Nash; Motion carried 9-0-2.*
    2. *Recommendation to include Books & Technology Awards in the development plan as a part of participation in defined Student Success Initiatives as approved by the Board: Riffle inquired if the recommendation would allow for equipment required for courses; Maloney responded that the legislation supports educational supplies. Thurston wondered why the committee discussed \$500 a year specifically; Schuyler responded that this was a general amount shared by other zones, and that plan language would be vague to include an award for which all students could be eligible but must qualify through participation, noting that the SSC would develop the process to qualify and submit that to the Board. Motion by Knizacky to refer this item back to the Student Success Committee to come up with Plan language for the Board that includes a maximum annual award amount per student to support books and educational supplies, with support from Nash; Motion carried 9-0-2.*
      - a. Maloney & Schuyler will draft language for the Student Success Committee to review at the September SSC meeting.
    3. Recommendation to amend the development plan to allow for up to 6 years of utilization: Motion by Knizacky to refer this item to the SSC to come up with language to offer 6 years of Promise availability to student, including a retroactive option if it can be legally done, with support from Quillan; Maloney mentioned that this will be the first amendment to the plan that will be retroactive, and that the Board should be prepared to address why; Motion carried 9-0-2.
  - iv. Executive Committee: Did not meet; Next meeting 10-19-22@3PM:
- 8. Old Business:**
- a. Board Member Terms: *Knizacky's & Large's terms are up for renewal until the October 2022 meeting: No action taken.*
- 9. Any Other Business:** Quillan noted that she mentioned at the August meeting that she wanted to add an agenda item to amend the Plan language to include "affiliated institutions." Schuyler responded that she recalled Quillan inquiring about changing the plan to 6 years, and responding that the 6-year item had already been added as a Student Success Committee agenda item. Schuyler then asked for clarification on whether Quillan made a motion to add the topic to the Board agenda. Quillan indicated there was. Knizacky explained that if the motion was made and not supported, it would have died for lack of support,



which would not be recorded in the minutes. Knizacky also explained that if Quillan shared her motion in the Limited Public Comment section, it should be included there. Nothing was recorded in either section. Maloney will ask the recording secretary to check her records and amend the minutes to include any motion that was made but lacked support.

**10. Limited Public Comment: None**

**11. Adjourn: Schuyler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:58 PM.**