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Nevada DECA, Inc. Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

DATES: September 5, 2019

PLACE: Nevada Department of Education, Bighorn Room

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Board of Trustees acting chair Melissa Scott at 3:07 p.m.

Roll Call:

Roll Call indicated that the following board members were present:

Patrick Connolly, Chair

Melissa Scott, NDE CTSO Liaison

Mike Oechsner, Executive Director

Collin Ermi, Collegiate DECA Representative

Raj Patel, State Officer Representative

Brock Taylor

Vince Merrell

Laura Nowlan

Aakash Krishnan, State Officer Representative

The following staff members were present:

Curtis Haley, Outgoing State Director

Angela Stone, Incoming State Director

Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2019:

Discussion:

Laura Nowlan asked that the minutes be updated to reflect CS Now Staffing as her employer.

Melissa Scott noted that the Executive Director should be changed to be Mike Oechsner.

Decision:

Laura Nowlan moved and it was seconded to approve the minutes from June 24, 2019 as presented. The motion was adopted unanimously.



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Election of Board Officers:

Decision:

Melissa Scott nominated Brock Taylor to serve as the Chair Elect. The nomination was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mike Oechsner nominated Laura Nowlan to serve as the Treasurer. The nomination was seconded and passed unanimously.

Nevada DECA Management Transition Update:

Discussion:

Curtis Haley shared that he is transitioning away from his full time role with TRI Leadership Resources, and as a result, he will be stepping down from his role with Nevada DECA. He will also be stepping down from his role on the National DECA Board of Directors. Nevada DECA has been one of his favorite ways to serve for the last seven years and he's very proud of the accomplishments that we have made together.

Mike Oechsner shared that Nevada DECA will continue to be in great hands and that there will be no disruption of service. Angela Stone joined TEAMTRI on July 1, and will be assuming the role of State Director starting next Monday. Angela is a former DECA advisor, former CTSO state officer, and she has several years in industry both with Microsoft and the hospitality industry. She will be able to meet the advisors on Saturday and was able to join this meeting virtually.

State Officer Team Update:

Discussion:

Raj Patel shared the state officer team update. Each year, the team creates a program of work. Part of their program of work was a video series this year. The main point of the videos is related to competition preparation.

The team attended the Emerging Leader Summit in July. They concentrated training on presentation skills and how to best support local chapters, especially on chapter visits.

Aakash shared that they have also been working on the leadership academy opportunities and the application processes for that. The opportunity will be working on goals and leadership skills with students that are selected. We will finalize the decision for how many students to involve at the officer retreat this weekend. He hopes to involve the board members in the process so that students can hear from industry representatives. UNLV is also willing to support this academy.



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The state theme for the year will be “Shine”. The national theme is “Here We Go” and the team aligned the vision for their theme with the national theme to blend and carry forward some elements that blend together.

Collegiate DECA Update:

Discussion:

Collin Ermi shared the Collegiate DECA update. Nevada had great success including three students in the top three for collegiate competition. We had one first place winner. We also had an international collegiate officer elected, which was a great success for Nevada.

With the school year having just started, they have elected a new officer team at UNLV. Colin serves as the Administrative Vice President. Their concentration this year will be member engagement – they have successfully maintained their membership, but engagement has been an opportunity for growth. They also hope to help begin a collegiate chapter in Reno.

We are looking at merging the former UNLV competition academy with the winter competition conference. We have not finalized what this will look like yet. They are still exploring date options and event specifics.

ACDC will be holding a boot camp this year, and the flyer has been distributed.

Nevada Department of Education Update:

Discussion:

The LifeWorks Initiative, a collaborative effort with NDE, Economic Development, Innovation, DETER, and several others, is to bring all of these individuals together to promote high skill, high wage occupations and skills. This initiative is continuing, and Melissa is now the point person for this initiative.

In the spring we talked about futuring panels. MBA Research conducted focus groups for three days. They talked about trends in business, finance, and marketing. Melissa has a full report (that is in excess of 90 pages). She will share the executive summary with the board via email. This group will continue meeting semi-annually to talk about trends in industry and education to support the need for partnership and alignment.

The state plan for Perkins funding is currently being written. It is concentrated on high skill, high wage, and in demand occupations. The data from GoEd did not identify business and marketing in this list – however, data made an argument that with these positions in the top 30, the case was made for continued growth and funding for business and marketing programs.



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Management Team Update:

Discussion:

Mike Oechsner shared the management team update. The management dashboard was reviewed.

At the conclusion of the legislative session, there were some funding changes made by the legislature for the upcoming year. Nevada DECA is very strongly positioned to enter the upcoming biennium without worries for the funding shortage because deferred revenue was accrued.

The 2019-20 events and locations are all set. The calendar is published.

SCDC is confirmed at the Rio for 2020 and 2021. We have begun exploring 2022 and 2023, and noted that if we want to stay at the Rio, we would need to shift the day pattern and no longer arrive on Sunday. Mike asked if we should move forward with a day later. The board shared a full consensus that we should move forward with the Rio for 2022 and 2023.

Conflict of Interest and Harassment Policy Affirmation:

Discussion:

Mike Oechsner noted that our conflict of interest and sexual harassment policies require annual signatures by board members. Please sign, scan, and return them to Angela.

Finance Update:

Discussion:

At the conclusion of the 2018-19 fiscal year, the financial statements showed the following:

- Total Revenue: \$518,777.75
- Total Expenses: \$467,540.29
- Checking Balance: \$181,942.47
- Money Market Balance: \$6,702.88
- Operating Reserve: \$140,000
- Accounts Receivable: \$25,963.58

The Board discussed whether or not we should have a cash reserves policy. We will need to review a statement of cashflow for the next meeting. Will need to identify what our goal is for cash flow.

Decision:

Vince Merrill moved and it was seconded that we transfer the \$60,000 reserve to the foundation, as well as all additional allowances for future expenses (the total transfer would be \$142,000) account rather than maintaining it in our operating bank account. The motion was adopted unanimously.



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Calendar of Events:

Decision:

Mike Oechsner moved and it was seconded that the calendar be approved as presented. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Fall Conference Experience:

Discussion:

The board discussed the fall conference/competition training. It was noted that the historical process for the UNLV experience has been primarily training. The hope in the new experience was that it is more concentrated on competition.

The consensus is that we need training and a younger experience for competition. The returning students want to go straight to competition.

Direction:

Angela will work closely with Vince, Brock, and Patrick to develop the final plan.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be January 15 at 3 p.m. at Melissa's office.

Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.