



## Laptops to Lesotho Board Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Via Free Conference Call

**Date:** September 14, 2019

**Board Members in Attendance:** Janissa Balcomb (President), Vicki Panhuse (Secretary/Treasurer), Kathy Plath, Fortunate Gunzo, Sarah Gardner

**Not in Attendance:** Henk Boshoff, Sherrie Howey

- I. Janissa asked Kathy to chair the meeting today. Kathy called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM Mountain Daylight Time. Janissa made a brief statement concerning our current efforts in Lesotho. She reminded us all that we must consider the relevant pace of change in Lesotho. We must be patient and focused on the coordinated goals. It is important to include the Lesotho people in our decision-making. Kathy thanked Janissa and expressed our commitment to the mission.
- II. Board Meeting Minutes – Vicki reported that the Board members received the meeting minutes from 08.10.19 Boarding Meeting. No additions or revisions identified. Janissa moved to approve the meeting minutes as submitted and Fortunate seconded. Meeting minutes approved.
- III. Financial Report as of 08.31.19 – Vicki sent the financial report to all Board members. As of 08.31.19, L2L has \$13,942.28 in the bank. Since our last meeting, we collected \$15,275.60 in private donations, Friends to Lesotho Grant and Panhuse Family Foundation Grant. L2L spent \$156 for Project Coordinator support (as approved on 07.13.19) and sent the grant to ASU SolarSPELL to support two interns. Janissa moved to approve the financial report as submitted and Fortunate seconded. Financial report approved

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Grant Request Status

Kathy reported on the current efforts to secure funds for our project in Kokobe.

1. FIPE Grant Request – A request submitted to FIPE to support the Classroom Electrical system. The grant request is

\$3,727.41. As of this meeting, no response from FIPE. Kathy will follow-up.

2. Kathy is considering other grant proposals to provide funds for the Kindle Fire Tablets, books for the library, furniture and training.

### **Kokobe Classroom/Library with Electrical Project Plan**

Henk did not attend this meeting so there was no update from him. Janissa did provide an update based on her interactions with Me. Alice and Florence. The Board did discuss the confusion between the previous discussed 25-student classroom/library and the input from Kokobe to provide room for 40 students.

***The conclusion of the discussion - the classroom/library design is specifically for the computer training requirements and room for the library and must have space for 40 students and the teacher.***

**ACTION ITEM:** Janissa to coordinate with Henk and Me. Alice to finalize the drawings for the classroom/library with the power requirements.

### **Peace Corps Volunteer Status**

Janissa reported that the application was submitted and she will coordinate with Florence to determine if there is any feedback on the application. She reminded all of us that this process takes a significant amount of time before a volunteer (if approved) is available.

### **ASU Partnership Update**

Vicki reported that ASU SolarSPELL team is interviewing potential intern candidates for the agreed work statement.

### **FIPE Scholarship Student Performance**

The teachers are on-strike so there was no further updates on the issues related to the student performance.

### **2020 Training Trip Plans**

1. Training Trip – After discussion, the Board agreed the Training Trip will be aligned with a Peace Corp Volunteer availability – possibly a year from now.
2. Organization / Planning Trip – In the Spring 2020, coordinate a smaller trip for a team to visit Kokobe to continue with the planning process. We will have SolarSPELL access by then and therefore, we can work with the teachers and discuss further needs. Depending on the building status, coordination of the remaining work for the building, library and power. Janissa indicated that it would be important for Fortunate to be available for the trip. We will also need to raise funds to support the team.
3. One key item needed is to understand the curriculum for the primary schools in Kokobe. Currently, there is no official curriculum but it was suggested that we investigate a primary school in Maseru to see if they have a plan that can be used as a proxy.

ACTION ITEM: Fortunate investigate primary schools in Maseru to determine if there is an education plan that we can use.

### **New Business**

No new business

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Board meeting is Saturday, October 19, 2019 at 9:00 AM MDT.

### **MEETING ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 AM MDT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Panhuse, Secretary/Treasurer

