



UEN Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2021, 10 – 11:30am
1201 63rd Street, Des Moines, IA, 50311 or
Via Zoom (contact jen@iowaschoolfinance.com for link)

Committee Member Attendees via Zoom: Vickie Murillo, Chair (Council Bluffs), Noreen Bush, Chair-Elect (Cedar Rapids), Paul Gausman, Past-Chair, (Sioux City), Dan Gosa (Davenport), Kelly Soyer (Des Moines), JP Claussen (Iowa City), Endya Johnson (Waterloo), Jenny Risner (Ames), Doug Wheeler (College), Theron Schutte (Marshalltown), Mike McGrory (Ottumwa), TJ Schneckloth (Davenport), Matt Degner (Iowa City), Tom Ahart (Des Moines), and Jane Lindaman (Waterloo).

Others/Staff/Guest Attendees via Zoom: Margaret Buckton (ISFIS), Larry Sigel (ISFIS), and Jen Albers (ISFIS)

Welcome, Call to Order by Vicki Murillo (UEN Chair), and Introduction/Roll of Attendees

Murillo, Chair, called the meeting to order via Zoom at 10:03 am. All attendees introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda

Degner moved approval of the agenda. Bush seconded. Approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from February 11, 2021 Steering Committee Meeting

Bush moved approval of the February 11, 2021 Steering Committee minutes. Gosa seconded. Approved unanimously.

YTD Financial Report

Albers presented the YTD financial report through April 30, 2021, along with a bill pay listing of items since the last Steering Committee meeting. Net Income YTD totaled \$33,004 with Year-End Projected Net Income of just under \$32,000. *A motion was made by Lindaman to approve the 04/30/2021 YTD Financial Report and Bill Pay listing. Schutte seconded. Approved unanimously.*

Audit Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021

At the February UEN Steering Committee meeting, staff were directed to secure at least two proposals for full audit services for FYE June 30, 2021. Albers presented proposals from Denman & Company, as well as from RSM US. Discussion of the proposals ensued. *A motion was made by Lindaman to approve the proposal from Denman & Company for UEN Audit Services (and tax services if needed) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. Second by Gosa. Approved unanimously.*

Corporate Sponsors FY 2022

Buckton and Albers shared proposed corporate sponsorship benefit packages and pricing for FY 2022, based upon feedback from February's Steering Committee meeting. *A motion to approve the Corporate Sponsorship Packages as presented for FY 2022 was made by Gosa. Second by Soyer. Approved unanimously.*

Budget & Dues Schedule for FY 2022

Buckton and Albers shared the membership dues schedule history and proposed membership dues for FY 2022 and FY 2023. They also shared the history of UEN organization expenditures, YE Projected Net Income for FY 2021, and a Proposed Budget for FY 2022 and FY 2023. The Committee was reminded of the guidance shared with staff at the February Steering Committee meeting on various line items, current contracted obligations for FY 2022, and the goal of building reserves for UEN of at least a full year of expenditures (preferably 2 or 3 years), over a 3-5-year period. Discussion ensued. Comments included: concerns about dues expenditures for UEN districts where diversity plans were eliminated for FY 2022 due to possible additional loss of enrollment, comparison of UEN dues schedule and benefits to other educational organizations, how relevant this organization is and how helpful the collaboration was during this especially difficult year, the quality of supports received by UEN member districts, etc. *A motion was made by Gausman to set FY 2022 dues at \$10,500 for Charter Members and \$6,300 for Associate Members, and to approve the FY 2022 Budget as presented. Second by Ulrich. Approved unanimously.* The FY 2023 Budget will be determined next fiscal year.

Steering Committee Membership Changes July 1, 2020, Subcommittee Assignments (By-laws Subcommittee, Membership Recruitment Subcommittee, Other) & Meeting FY 2022 Schedule

Buckton shared the Steering Committee membership rotation for FY 2022 defined in the UEN bylaws, as noted below:

Chair – Cedar Rapids (Noreen)
Chair-Elect – Dubuque (Stan)
Chair-Elect 2 – Waterloo (Jane)
Past-Chair – Council Bluffs (Vickie)

Board Member – Davenport (Daniel)
Board Member – Des Moines (Kelli)
Board Member – Iowa City (JP)
Board Member – Sioux City (TBD)

Special thank you to Paul Gausman as he rotates off the Steering Committee as Past-Chair and a Sioux City board member takes his place, as well as to Endya Johnson from Waterloo as Jane Lindaman takes her place as Chair-Elect 2.

Buckton also shared that we're planning on a UEN Bylaws Subcommittee, a Membership Recruitment Subcommittee, and a Legislative Subcommittee for FY 2022, and we will be recruiting an officer, a newer member, and a more experienced member (at least) for each committee. Subcommittee members and meeting dates will be determined this summer. Based on earlier conversations about AEAs and the need for equity supports, Buckton also recommended pulling together a group to connect with the AEAs in the future about needs for UEN districts.

A proposed meeting schedule for the FY 2022 UEN Steering Committee was also presented.

Legislative Update & Status of UEN 2021 Legislative Priorities

Buckton shared the latest updates from the Statehouse on UEN priority issues with specific discussion around changes to accreditation, public hearings, and the final bills pending before the end of session.

Buckton also shared that there would be two ISFIS Webinars with the full recap of legislative actions and all UEN Members would be invited. The UEN Legislative Digest will also be produced and circulated after final actions are signed or vetoed by the Governor and all the details are sorted through. Discussion ensued around these legislative topics and the remainder of this Session.

The Good Work of UEN districts: Collecting stories about UEN work worthy of posting on the UEN website brag page

Buckton shared that public education could benefit for a more concerted effort around the positive work being done for students, especially by UEN districts. We'd like to work with UEN Communications staff to help champion that effort and those highlights member districts are already sharing locally, but on a broader level through the UEN. We'll be working on this effort over the summer so next school year UEN can help broaden the awareness so Iowans will see more of the positive actions happening in Iowa's public schools.

Other Business

No other business was brought forth by the group. The group thanked Vickie Murillo for her UEN Leadership over the year.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- This is the last UEN Steering Committee meeting for FY 2021.
- UEN Steering Committee Orientation will be held in August or September, date TBD.
- UEN Steering Committee – September 24, 2021 at 11am (tentative)

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted

Margaret Buckton, UEN Executive Director, as of 05/14/2021