

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MUSKEGON AREA PROMISE ZONE AUTHORITY BOARD  
April 11, 2023  
8:00 A.M.**

A regular meeting of the Muskegon Area Promise Zone Authority Board was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. at the Muskegon Area ISD.

The following board members were present:

Mr. Steve Parker, Longview Management Consulting  
Mr. Randy Lindquist, MAISD Superintendent  
Dr. Aaron Maike, Baker College of Muskegon  
Mr. Gary Nelund, State Farm Insurance  
Ms. Holly Hughes, Community Representative  
Dr. John Selmon, Muskegon Community College  
Mr. Keith Guy, Muskegon Public Schools  
Mr. Christopher Dean, Muskegon Heights Fire Department

The following board members were absent:

Mr. John Swanson, Swanson Pickle Co.  
Ms. Cindy Larsen, Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce  
Ms. Laurel Zwit, Greenridge Realty

Also present: Ms. Megan Byard Karaba, PZA Coordinator  
Mr. Mike Schluentz, MAISD

Guests: None

---

1. Call to Order

Steve Parker called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

2. Public Participation – None.

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

**It was moved by Holly Hughes and supported by Aaron Maike to approve the Agenda as presented and the Minutes of the March 14, 2023 meeting. All Ayes (8) Nays (0) Motion carried.**

4. Budget Update

- YTD Financials – Mr. Schluentz shared the Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2023, the Profit and Loss Statement, Choice One Bank statement, and the Community Foundation statement.
- The board discussed the possibility of putting funds in various banking institutions to diversify the cash and take advantage of higher interest payments.

**It was moved by Randy Lindquist and supported by Holly Hughes to allow Mike Schluentz to establish accounts at up to five bank depositories (i.e. Fifth Third Bank, Huntington Bank, Lake Michigan Credit Union, Best Financial Credit Union) and provide a recommendation at the May 9, 2023 meeting as to where the funds will be invested in order to diversify the cash.**

5. Membership Update – No Report

6. Student Eligibility, Terms & Appeals

- Appeals for Review & Approval – Ms. Byard Karaba indicated that five (5) appeals have been received thus far, which are all Early College students. She is recommending approval for all five.

**It was moved by Randy Lindquist and supported by Aaron Maike to approve the following five (5) appeals as presented. All Ayes (8) Nays (0) Motion carried.**

Name	District	Approved	Denied
Gavin Glomb	North Muskegon	X	
Brianna Ralston	Ravenna	X	
Luke Rushing	Montague	X	
Samantha Slayton	North Muskegon	X	
Avy Warrick	Reeths-Puffer	X	

- MCC Proposed Cost of Attendance – Ms. Byard Karaba indicated that the Muskegon Community College board will meet soon to approve the proposed cost of attendance for next year, which is roughly \$5,800. A final number will be provided upon approval.
- 2023 Communication Schedule – Ms. Byard Karaba reviewed the communication schedule that is being shared with students and families.

7. Student Success & Other Business – No Report

8. Marketing/Communication Update

- MCAN Advocacy Day 2023 – Ms. Byard Karaba attended the Advocacy Day and was able to meet with local legislators and learn about the MCAN legislative priorities. She was able to share and discuss Muskegon specific items as well.
- Board Member Video Update – Ms. Byard Karaba shared highlights of the video being prepared by Ben Kalb to use as a marketing tool for the Promise.
- Board Talking Points – Expansion Efforts – Ms. Byard Karaba shared the PZA Gaps & Obstacles document which highlights our growth and some of the gender, race and talent gaps. She also shared our WHY for eligibility expansion.
- 2023 Press Conference – MLCC Co-Sponsor, May 2023 – Ms. Byard Karaba indicated she is working with the Chamber’s Director of Events Linden Peterson to co-sponsor a press conference where we can launch our growth conversations. She will provide more details later.

- Senior Award Ceremonies 2023 – Ms. Byard Karaba has reached out to local districts as to their award ceremony dates and whether they will allow speakers. If so, she is asking for representation from a board member to present.
- 2023/24 Supply Needs & Budget – Ms. Byard Karaba provided the Dream Bigger 2022-2024 supply needs budget. Last year, each of the colleges donated \$10,000. She asked both colleges to consider whether they would like to continue their contribution for next year.

9. Fundraising Update – No Report

10. Other

- Randy Lindquist shared that he met with Mike Olthoff to discuss business leaders getting in front of scholars to talk about local job opportunities. He is meeting with the Greater Muskegon Economic Development board soon and will ask for their input. Megan will look into a similar event to see if we can replicate.
- Randy Lindquist indicated that Montague Superintendent Jeff Johnson would like an opportunity to address the board at the next meeting to discuss how a Montague student who lives in Oceana County might be able to avoid paying the out-of-county tuition rate.

11. Next Meeting Date

- May 9, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*/Barbara Irely/*

Barbara Irely, Recorder