



The mission of the Adult Education Association of Utah, as the primary advocate for lifelong learning in Utah, is to meet the diverse needs of all Utahns by providing and supporting quality educational opportunities.

Location: Zoom

Date: May 11, 2021

Time: 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Board Members:

Present: Josh Bell, Kate Brainerd, Shauna Brown, Cathleen Carter, Marcia Goodrich, Jessica Hercules, Justin Martinez, Sherrie Mortensen, Stephanie Nicolaides, Danielle Pedersen, Kathryn Reeve, Tim Stack, Alison Taylor, Elizabeth Totterer, Jim Wiscomb

Guest: Stephanie Patton

Absent: Linda Eyring, Breanne Kelly, Mark Mataya, Natalie Mataya, Nicki Wake

Quorum present? Yes

Proceedings:

· *Meeting called to order at 10:02 AM.*

· *Minutes (Kate Brainerd)*

MOTION by Jim Wiscomb to approve minutes of previous meeting; seconded by Stephanie Nicolaides and passed.

· *Treasurer's Report (Shauna Brown)*

Treasurer Shauna Brown reports that accounts are now in her name, and that Todd Bird is now free to resign from the board. AEAUT's name is registered, and should clear in about 24 hours. The only thing that still needs to be updated is the 990. Shauna needs all board officers to sign a corporate resolution, which indicates that they are aware of the account's existence; and she would like Nicki Wake to be a co-holder of the account.

Kate Brainerd asked Shauna how she would like to do the Treasurer's Report in the future. Todd Bird would bring a bank statement to each meeting and walk the board through the income and expenditures. Shauna said she needed to think about it, but that she would have something ready for the next meeting.

· *Current Business*

Welcome State Adult Education Director Stephanie Patton – (Cathleen Carter)

Cathleen Carter introduced Stephanie Patton, the new State Director for Utah Adult Education. Stephanie joined the meeting to answer questions about the future of adult education in Utah, and



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to address concerns. She has been Director for a little more than one month. Her position was previously a Coordinator position.

Brian Olmstead, former Coordinator for Adult Education, had started a conversation with Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) about the possibility that adult education could be effectively administered within Higher Education. Since there had been conversations about Adult Education moving to the management of USHE, Stephanie was viewed as temporary at USBE and was consequently not given the title of Coordinator. According to Stephanie, it does not affect her access or limit her voice – it will probably not matter.

Discussion turned to what it might mean for Adult Education to be managed by USHE, and Stephanie reminded the board that these conversations were very preliminary. Brian has only met with USHE leadership a few times, and Stephanie had only joined one of those meetings. She assured the board that continuing to award high school diplomas was a high priority for all concerned. In the event that Adult Education were administered by USHE, that issue would be non-negotiable.

She said that she welcomes feedback, questions and concerns about the proposed change. The plan will not go ahead if it appears to affect Adult Education negatively. Cathleen Carter voiced a concern about equal access for all adult learners, regardless of their location in the state. She does not want to see any impact to the quality or availability of services. Jim Wiscomb said that USHE is hard to work with. In his opinion, it is totally geared toward Higher Ed and Adult Education could get lost in the bureaucracy. Stephanie responded that she agreed – that is a concern. Cathleen asked about cost. Would the system of Higher Ed charge adult students for services? Stephanie stated that this would not be permitted – it would be a deal breaker. Kate Brainerd wondered about undocumented students and whether they would qualify for services. Stephanie also called that a deal breaker. Cathleen asked whether a member of the AEAUT board could begin to attend Stephanie's meetings with USHE. Stephanie replied that she would keep the board updated and involved, but that it was premature to include AEAUT in meetings. Josh Bell asked whether higher education had any demonstrated past effectiveness with Adult Education students. Stephanie agreed that this would be an important factor. Josh also asked whether adult education services would take place on community college campuses, as is customary in other states where Adult Education is managed by Higher Ed. Stephanie pointed out that this could be an advantage, and get students used to being on campus. Kate agreed, but wondered how community based



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organizations would fit into that scheme. Cathleen suggested that stronger partnerships would be better than a move to campus.

Kate asked Stephanie how she would like board members to reach out to her further. She said email or phone is fine.

Stephanie.patton@schools.utah.gov

(801) 538-7989

Stephanie finished by saying that this change will only be implemented if it is a good fit for Adult Education students.

Conference Committee (Nicki Wake)

Nicky Wake is absent today. Other committee members were able to report that preparation for the Fall Conference is moving forward. The committee has chosen a keynote speaker.

Jeff Borden is with the Institute for inter-Connected Education.

The committee wondered whether the board would like to have the October meeting in conjunction with the conference. No decision was reached on this question.

The Call for Presenters has gone out, but the committee needs more presenters to step forward.

Danielle reported that Essential Education would like to offer \$3,000 of support to recording the conference sessions. They would do this in exchange for advertising. Josh Bell is interested in a campaign with the Utah Transit Authority – wrapping busses to let the community know that Adult Education programming will be returning to normal in the fall. He wondered if Essential Education would be interested in sponsoring something like that if their sponsorship was included on the wrap.

Ad Hoc Committee for Mini-Grants (Kate Brainerd)

The mini-grant proposal is ready to post. **(Action Item):** Kate Brainerd will send out the link to the proposal to the rest of the Ad Hoc Committee and to Tim Stack so he can get the link posted on the web page.

PR Committee Update – (Alison Taylor)



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Alison Taylor reported that the PR Committee has been working on new ideas with Tim Stack. They are almost ready to present their new ideas to the board.

Utah-Designed Assessment for English Language Learners (ELLs) - (Josh Bell)

Mark Mataya is absent again. Josh Bell said that Mark was really the driving force behind this project, and that he preferred that Mark report out to the board. The topic was tabled until next month.

Assessment of the Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Kate Brainerd will send out a Zoom invite prior to the meeting. Cathleen Carter will be absent on June 8, but will ask Nicki Wake to chair the meeting.

- MOTION to adjourn at 10:39 AM by Josh Bell; seconded by Jim Wiscomb and passed.

-Minutes submitted by Secretary, Kate Brainerd.