**READ USA Board of Director’s Meeting Minutes, Monday, October 24, 2023, at 4:00 PM**

1. Meeting was called to order by Ellen Wiss at 4:11 pm
2. In attendance-

**Voting board members:**

* 1. Ellen Wiss
  2. Dr. Rudy F. Jamison
  3. Marla Buchanan
  4. Vanessa Tussey
  5. Meredith Guess
  6. Kawanza Humphrey
  7. Glori Katz
  8. LaKeisha Wells-Palmer
  9. Nadiya Casey

**Advisory Council members:**

* 1. Susan D. Brandenburg
  2. Char Landen
  3. Chester Spellman

**Staff:**

* 1. Dr. Rob Kelly
  2. Jordyn Coleman
  3. Sophia Oliveira

**Guests:**

* 1. Sean Nesselt

1. **Mission Moment**:
   1. One student encouraging another student about tutoring.
   2. One special donation honoring classmates. She donated 15,000.
2. **Approval of Minutes from last board meeting**- Meredith made a motion, Marla seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. **Old Business**
4. **New Business**
5. **Treasurer Report**-
   * 1. **Sean’s Report**
        + 1. 1.2 million received in Q3 (most expensive quarter due to book fair cost)
          2. 1.2 million in program expenses (most funds are committed to before they arrive)
          3. Need additional resources to bring funds in
          4. 294k in operating expenses
          5. Marla is concerned about book choice expenses.
          6. Glori suggested partnering with DCPS for the bookfair to share cost. Rob replied, the schools don’t have the budget to share expenses. Would like to follow up with private donors to get donations.
6. **Development and Governance Report**- Marla Buchanan
   * 1. Survey for board members
        + 1. Several vacancies for board spots. Need new members who share the passion and bring in funding and development.
          2. Would like to set up additional meeting, For potential members.
          3. Everyone to think of 3-4 names that would have an interest in joining. Have names within 2-3 weeks.
          4. Reminder email needs to be sent.
          5. Brainstorm Fundraising ideas to bring funding. (smaller than PITP)
          6. Meeting in four weeks for governance and development.
          7. Glori is concerned about the cost of the book’s programs cost; Meredith replies that we are on track to break even for the year. Ellen confirms scholastics will be paid by the end of the year.
7. **CEO Report- Rob Kelly**
   * + 1. Programs Update
          1. AmeriCorps- new funding stream
          2. State National- tutors. $427k cost reimbursement
          3. We had to hire an AmeriCorps Supervisor.
          4. VISTA- has been postponed again. They had federal budget cuts. It has been pushed back to a potential February date.
          5. Talking to Mayor Scott Singer to discuss additional funding. (Most likely want to discuss READ USA in South Fl.
          6. Most funding is not reimbursed until 90 days after.
       2. Development/Grants/Funding Opportunities- Rob Kelly
          1. Working on Renewal from previous donors.
          2. Will start with 450k in 2024.
          3. Rob is asking board members for connections for potential donors.
          4. Marla suggested a funding meeting.
8. **Peace in the Pages recap.**
   * 1. 2024 Peace in the Pages proposal
        + 1. No presenting sponsors yet
          2. Possibly Dr. Jonetta Cole as a speaker
          3. Possibly a dinner for profit before PITP
9. Announcements
10. Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 5:34pm