



Classified Forum

Red Rocks Classified Meeting

3/26/2013

Red Fox Room

Members Present

Lakewood Campus: Yvonne Pepping, Karla LeComte, Mary Adrian, Sonja Starkweather, Peggy Stewart, Janis Eagan, Kim Kleiman, Karen York, Di Drobnick, Bishop Burroughs, Sheryl Scharnikow, Bruce Elliott, Nancy Kookan.

Arvada Campus: None

Guest Speaker: Ron Slinger, Executive Director of RRCC Foundation

Welcome

The meeting was conducted by Yvonne Pepping, President and Karla Le Comte, President-elect, with Mary Adrian, Secretary and Sonja Starkweather, Treasurer. Yvonne introduced Ron Slinger to discuss the Lakewood Officer fund donations previously approved by the Classified Forum.

Ron Slinger presented an alternative to the Lakewood Officer Fund:

Alternative to Lakewood Fallen Officer Fund/Veteran Book Fund

- Endowment Fund by State of Colorado amply covers spouse and children of fallen officers.
- Federal and State funds also cover all fallen first responder tuition fees.
- We don't want to duplicate the coverage of existing funds.
- A Foundation Board member specifically requested we look into Veteran's funding.
- The main gap identified with the GI Bill is coverage of books, so if we want to redirect our donation, it would be the seed money for a new fund for GI books.
- The fund would be available at the discretion of Donna Merriman based on several factors. It would be a very selective process, for the neediest veterans, and not necessarily for the full amount of their book bill.
- Any recommendation by Donna Merriman would then be forwarded to Lisa Fowler, VP of Student Services for further discussion and approval. No application would be used which should streamline the process because the timing may require a quick turnaround.
- Since there are large lag times between applying for GI benefits and disbursement, and books are usually not covered, funds from this book fund may be dispensed in anticipation of their benefits.
- If we choose to seed this fund with the funds originally designated for the fallen officer, the Foundation will fundraise for it, with a goal of \$5,000 a year. If it is allowed to grow to \$10,000, the Foundation can start an Endowment Fund.

Crowd Funding

Ron went on to tell us a little bit about a new fundraising technique that is becoming more common with Social Media. Called crowd funding, this is when lots of people can visit a site and donate any amount of money starting from a few dollars. The Veteran Book Fund may be a good candidate for this kind of funding. Red Rocks might establish a site that has *maybe* 6 causes available for people to help fund. This is a different approach than when he approaches donors to donate for larger funds. The University of Delaware was discussed as a good example of this funding used at a college.

Vote

There is \$300 originally set aside for the Fallen Officer Fund. Do we want to use that money to seed the Veterans' Book Fund? Sheryl Sharnikow motioned, Bishop Burroughs seconded and all said aye.

Treasurer Report

Sonja Starkweather shared the balances in our accounts

- \$1,827.28 in the Books for Benefaction Fund
- \$1,269.69 in the Auxiliary Fund

Nine Health Fair Breakfast Burritos

- Discussion about the breakfast burritos for the 9 Health Fair. Burritos are \$2 apiece. We have provided 200 previously and they have been cut in half, for 400.
- In 2011 we actually spent approximately \$518, which included not only burritos, but coffee and orange juice. Funds came out of the auxiliary Fund in 2011.

Vote

Do we want to donate a flat amount of money or do we want to buy 200 burritos and whatever else we might be billed for. Peg Stewart motioned to donate a flat \$400 to buy 200 burritos, Bishop Burroughs seconded, everyone said aye.

Caps, Gowns and Tassels for Student Life

- Discussion about the gowns that Student Life has on hand that they loan every year for students who would not walk because of the cost. Possibly 12-15 on hand. Don't usually use them all each spring.
- People keep the caps and tassels, but return the gowns. Do we want to buy caps and tassels in an amount to match up with gowns on hand? Maybe a dozen each spring?

Vote

Sheryl Sharnikow motioned to buy 12 sets of caps and tassels for Student Life, Peg Stewart seconded, everyone said aye.

Community Special Needs Garden-Fletcher Miller School

- Discussion about The Fletcher Miller Special Needs School and the Leadership Jefferson County Team project to raise money for a special needs garden they want to create at the school, near the Kipling Stadium. The garden will be both an experiential setting, as well as, a memorial.
- Several Classified had seen the email that came around and asked to donate to the garden.
- A number of questions were raised with regards to fundraising for this project. What is the timing? Will other constituencies be participating? Kathy Kaoudis is the Red Rocks contact for more information. The group decided to table the idea for now.

Discussion of possible calendar of donation projects for Classified

- Spring - Caps and Tassels
- Fall – Books for Veterans’
- Then something outside of Red Rocks

Second Wind Funding

- Discussion on our decision last year, for involvement with Second Wind Organization.
- One possibility is that Classified would pay for the entry fees for people who want to participate in their walk, and we could wear our Service Day Tee shirts that will say Connecting with Community.
- It was brought up that we had a sign on our Books for Benefaction table that funds were going to Second Wind. Maybe we should donate those funds now and discuss the walk when that time comes up in the fall.

Vote

Di Drobnick motioned to give \$100 to Second Wind Fund from last month’s book sale. Janis Eagan seconded and all said aye.

Marketing of Books for Benefaction Funding

- The marketing department has all the pictures and information to update our web pages to let everyone know where the fundraising money goes.
- We are the only constituency that fundraises and donates.

Wrap up and recap dollars

Emergency meeting

Michele Haney, with Tim Griffin, has requested an emergency meeting before April 15th to discuss goals for the next 4 years. She would like all constituencies input for areas of improvement and goals. Everyone is encouraged to bring a Classified guest who doesn’t usually come to meetings. Yvonne will get back to us with a date. ***Date announced since meeting as Monday, April 8th at 11 am in the Red Fox Room.***

Second April meeting

This could be a brown bag type of meeting, not necessarily a formal meeting, open to everyone about the new light rail that will be stopping at Red Rocks. RTD would be available to come and speak but they won’t have time after April 22nd, so we need to schedule it before then. It would be held in the Community Room and open to students, and all constituencies. ***Date announced since meeting as Wednesday, April 17th at 10 am in the Community Room.***

R.I.S.E.

Liz Cox may be our speaker in May.

Help with Constitution Changes

Classified Forum made changes and is in the progress of changing the Constitution, (they are only in the 3rd article). Sonja is working on this, but doesn’t necessarily have all the needed information. Yvonne would like it to be ready by elections in middle of May if at all possible. If you are familiar with the constitution, have read it and understand it, your help on this document would be welcomed. Please see Yvonne or Sonja for more information.

Thanks for the snacks and close

Peg Stewart initiated thanking everyone who brought delicious snacks.