

**MINUTES OF
THE EDWARDS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE
MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2009**

President Deaver opened the meeting at 8:00 AM. Directors in attendance: Deaver, Novinger, Pickard, Scott, Welling. Others present: Johnstone, Novinger, Williams, Uhazy.

ECA PROJECT STATUS

Land Use Compatibility: Nothing new to report.

EDUCATION

Teacher/Counselor visits: Mr. Scott said he has prepared an “Industry Orientation of Educators Job Visits Project” check list and Evaluation forms to be used for Teacher/Counselor visits. These forms provide guidelines for industry in preparing them for the visit and for educators to evaluate the visit based on the goals of the visit. Minor changes to these forms will be made and then they will be considered final. Mr. Williams asked if any tours have been scheduled so we can move out with this program. Mr. Scott said we have not scheduled anything at this time, but there is no reason why we can’t. Mr. Johnstone will discuss this at the next EKERN meeting and attempt to get potential dates for tours from the involved schools. Based on the availability of administrators, teachers and counselors we can get with businesses and set up a schedule for visits. These visits will be for various disciplines and will not be limited to technical careers.

Lancaster University Center update: Mr. Johnstone briefed that a small team of folks from the Lancaster University Center (LUC) and local industry visited the Dean of Engineering at Long Beach State recently. The Dean expressed interest in establishing an offsite campus in Lancaster and said he would meet with the Provost to discuss the possibilities and then would get back with the LUC. Representatives from the LUC also visited the Associate Dean of Engineering at CalPoly SLO and told the Dean our industry folks can not accept a general engineering degree. They require specific degrees from an ABET accredited university. The Dean said he would discuss with the Deans of the electrical and mechanical engineering departments to determine their interest in the Lancaster program. Dr Uhazy said AVC has more students enrolled in advanced math classes than ever and it would be devastating to the engineering pipeline to not have a replacement for the Fresno engineering program as soon as possible.

Educate to Innovate: The theme for the Business Outlook Conference in February is: Innovate Antelope Valley. The Obama administration has just announced a new program called Educate to Innovate. This program will focus primarily on math and science activities outside the classroom. This years Outlook Conference for the first time will have a session on education. The plan is to have each of the high school academies provide a booth at the conference displaying their activities to provide a skilled workforce to local industry. In addition, representatives from each academy will be a guest at selected industry/business tables throughout the conference to discuss their academy and future workforce plans with those at the table.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Welling, Treasurer, said there was no financial activity this past month so the account balance is the same as the last report: \$15,223.99.

OPEN DISCUSSION

EKERN GE visit: President Deaver said the EKERN visit to the GE energy site in Tehachapi was a real success. The meeting was attended by industry reps from GE Wind Energy, Lehigh Cement Plant, Cerro Coso, Tehachapi Economic Development, The Gas Company and Airstreams. Productive discussions took place with the Lehigh representative stating that they can not hire enough industrial electricians (high power technicians) to meet their requirements. Although they are currently laying off employees they would hire industrial electricians. GE said they are available to provide tours to teachers and counselors in the spring when the weather is better.

JSF Welcome Video: Mr. Johnstone said a multi-disciplined group of folks from the “Aerospace Valley” are meeting to discuss a video on the “Aerospace Valley” to send to potential families coming to Edwards to support the Joint Strike Fighter program. The planned deployment to Edwards is for approximately three years and the families have stated concerns about education in California and taxes that would essentially reduce their income. The video will hopefully show the numerous activities available in the region, local educational programs, potential housing availability, recreational spots, etc. Also, discussions with state elected officials about the taxes are planned.

Multiple Pathways: The Edwards Community Alliance, EKERN and other groups have been working for some time to establish programs for students to provide real-world work experiences to go along with their education. Now the State has formed a Coalition for Multiple Pathways, an alliance of education, industry, and community organizations dedicated to improving California’s high schools and preparing students for postsecondary education and career, both options and not just one or the other. The Alliance is a coordinated effort to expand access for California’s students to multiple pathways—programs of study that connect learning in the classroom with real-world applications outside of school. The Alliance does not feel the title

Multiple Pathways really explains the goals of the organization so an effort is underway to find a more suitable name.

NEXT MEETING

The next ECA meeting will be on January 11, 2010 at the Mojave Air and Space Port.

Sincerely,

Robert Johnstone, Technical Advisor

ATCH: Financial Report