

World Computer Exchange, Inc.
108th Meeting of the Board of Directors
September 8, 2020 2:15 to 3:54 PM
Hull, Massachusetts 02045

***Mission:** To reduce the digital divide for youth in developing countries; to use our global network of partnerships to enhance communities in these countries; and to promote the reuse of electronic equipment and its ultimate disposal in an environmentally responsible manner.*

Future Meetings: Second Tuesdays from 2:15-3:45 PM Eastern (Please let Timothy know if you foresee a problem with any date): December 8 (Board & Council Nominations), February 9 (Annual Meeting and Signing Authority), April 13 (draft Work Plan), June 8 (Work Plan, Budget and Letter of Appointment for Field Associates), September 14 (prep for Friends & Family)

Present: Peter Hellmonds, Jeremy Griffiths, Lisa Dale, Suzanne Grant Lewis, Ayesha Hassan, Robb Rill, and Timothy Anderson. **Staff:** Pamela Cooney. **Absent:** Richard Gingras.

General Check-In: Each Board member reported on how they are doing during the pandemic. It was mentioned that any future similar sessions focus more on the the Board members getting to know the roles of each.

Minutes: Upon a motion made by Suzanne Grant Lewis and seconded by Jeremy Griffiths the Board **VOTED** unanimously except for one abstention by Lisa Dale to approve as submitted the Minutes of the 107th Board Meeting ([June Minutes](#))

Treasurer's Report: Jeremy Griffiths reviewed the draft pre-audited [FY'20 Fiancials](#) that have not yet had the inkind and computer donations included. He reviewed the \$92,000 deficit and that it will be covered by the \$30,560 forgivable pandemic loan from the US Government and nonpayment of \$62,000 in salaries to Timothy Anderson and Pamela Cooney. He also reviewed [Financial Report and Balance Sheet](#) for July and August showing a \$38,000 deficit year to date. The Board discussed the feasibility of WCE surviving the pandemic and the steps that are being taken.

Shipping Report: Timothy Anderson reported that there have not been any shipments so far this fiscal year. We are finally beginning to see orders again and will ship two containers of 350 computers each from our older desktop inventory (with some tablets, eReaders, and smart phones) to our Field Associates in Kenya and Zambia as they move toward establishing WCE Chapters. 8 of our 11 Field Associates are now beginning to work with our Africa Chapters Manager, Gary Song, to develop WCE Chapters. This will result in additional shipments of older desktops – and prepares WCE Chapters in Africa to be able to accept un-refurbished computers from outside the USA for them to refurbish. We also have a variety of other shipments coming up in the next two to three months.

Plan for Projects: Timothy Anderson briefly presented a review of our status for the 11 current projects for WCE aimed at responding to key challenges facing each. He asked each Board member to take on the mentoring a newly recruited young volunteer from business and an intern to work together to lay out a plan for each respective project for the next year. He noted that most Board members have already agreed. Suzanne Grant Lewis sent some UN recent research on distance learning.

Coding Bootcamps: There was discussion of the pilot online programming for girls with online coaches and how it is not starting with coding because of the advice of 2 of our participating Field

Associates who have taught coding before in their countries. We are hoping to tailor the coding bootcamps to smart phones. The CEO will set a meeting with some of Robb Rill's programmers. Robb Rill pointed out that he is willing to financially support this once he sees it as training coding as needed in jobs.

Fundraising Update: Timothy Anderson reported on the New WCE website and our first pilot of an online fundraising event raised \$1,500 for Madagascar shipment. He requested that each Board member identify 3 potential donors to approach about WCE. One Board member has done this. Some Board members discussed in the meeting the difficulty of doing this due to the pandemic and political season but that they will try. Board members suggested mentioning WCE when each are talking in virtual meetings. He reported that the \$300,000 National Science Foundation [Proposal](#) is still pending which is seen as a good thing. He mentioned the new [Proposal](#) for the Kenya Affiliate and Nairobi Chapter. In the past WCE has completed the formal submission of only 8 grant proposals. One to Google was funded for \$25,000 and 3 declined but gave suggestions of how we could resubmit and have a better chance.

Friends & Family Campaign Plan: Request for Board involvement November, December, and January. Robb Rill pointed out that this campaign was meant to augment the funding of WCE – not be the main fundraising effort. The CEO will send out draft emails and draft social media campaign materials.

President's Evaluation: Peter Hellmonds reported that all of the Board members who were around during the past have completed evaluations of the CEO and that he will consolidate the answers and share it with the Board for comments and then meet with the Vice Chairs and the CEO to do the evaluation.

New Board Member: Upon a motion made by Lisa Dale and seconded by Robb Rill, the Board unanimously **VOTED** to elect until the February Annual Meeting [Cindi Grace](#).

Pamela Cooney
Clerk
September 9, 2020