

World Computer Exchange, Inc.
103rd Meeting of the Board of Directors
October 2, 2019 2:15 to 3:45 PM
Hull, Massachusetts 02045

WCE 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 10 (Nominations), February 11 (Annual Meeting), April 14 (Work Plan), June 9 (Budget), September 8 (Fund Raising), December 8 (Nominations)

Present: Peter Hellmonds, Robb Rill, Jeremy Griffiths, Lisa Dale, Wayne Fritze, and Timothy Anderson. **Staff:** Pamela Cooney. **Absent:** Jose Enrique Fernandez and Richard Gingras.

Minutes: Upon a motion made by Lisa Dale and seconded by Wayne Fritze the Board unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Minutes of the July 2019 meeting ([July Minutes](#)).

International Advisory Council: Lisa Dale reported that Cynthia Grace ([BIO](#)) Senior Vice President of Western Digital to the International Advisory Council has accepted her election until the next Annual Meeting in February. Lisa Dale believes that in the future, Cynthia Grace would be a good addition to the Board of Directors.

Puerto Rico: Robb Rill again discussed the proposed **Code of Incentives** law in Puerto Rico and how he is gathering letters to support an amendment that would allow more of the 20/22 funds to support a wider range of nonprofits in Puerto Rico. The 20/22 Act Foundation has granted \$25,000 for WCE to provide refurbished computers to the **Boys and Girls Clubs** of Puerto Rico as well as sponsorship of a WCE Refurbishing Club and their participation in the WCE Inspire Girls project. This new Refurbishing Club will receive **training** by Jack O'Donnell in the same week that he provides training for the WCE Refurbishing Club at the Padre Rufo School. The training, tools, parts, and computers for the Refurbishing Clubs at Jayuya and at Kinesis will await sponsorship funds from Jose Enrique Fernandez. Jeremy Griffith reported on the delivery of **computers** to the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Secondary School and that Padre Rufo School reports that half of their computers (that they received prior to WCE) are not working. We have heard interest in more WCE computers from 4 other schools. Two were recruited by our new Puerto Rico Coordinator and two by a member of our International Advisory Council. WCE will place a press release about computer availability on the island. The **proposal** in support of strengthening Computers for All – Puerto Rico will be submitted by WCE to the National Science Foundation in the next month.

Projects: Timothy Anderson reported on small additions to the **Inspire Girls** and **Refurbishing Club** projects in Massachusetts and Puerto Rico. The pilot proposal being drafted for youth involvement with the Boston chapter will include local youth helping with this. Then we will explore adapting this for our chapters in Chicago, Puerto Rico, and Washington DC.

Shipping: Timothy Anderson reported about this year's encouraging level of shipments totaling 841 computers during the first quarter of the fiscal year and how much the Field Associates have aided in this momentum. An additional 332 are paid for and will be shipped during this month. Within a month, we will pass the 985 shipped this past fiscal year. Prospects are good that we will surpass our goal of shipping 1,490 this fiscal year.

Field Associates: Timothy Anderson reported that our 11 Field Associates have been involved in half of our shipments so far this fiscal year including: Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and

Zambia. Our other Field Associates in Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa, Zimbabwe are working on shipments that are likely to occur this fiscal year.

Treasurer's Report: The Jeremy Griffiths and Timothy Anderson reported that the annual independent audit is moving forward for FY'19 and that we hope this year to have it completed before the rush for April 15th tax deadline. He reported that staff has communicated a willingness to donate another \$100,000 in addition to their prior donation of \$200,000 in unpaid salary. He also reported on the FY'20: [financial report](#) for the first 2 months showing a deficit of \$17,000 but not showing expected revenue of \$15,000 owed from Field Associates in Liberia and Zimbabwe. Wayne Fritze commented that the new format is helpful. He noted that WCE is seeking to close the WCE-Canada affiliate and writing-off its \$31,000 receivable to WCE this year so that this loss will be offset by the staff donation.

University Cooperation: Peter Hellmonds discussed a meeting he had with representatives of Telanto that connects companies with university professors looking for projects for their students. He proposed a that WCE again involve a university team to assist with an identified consulting need that could be helping with fund raising strategy or looking at the next step on a revenue producing recycling project. Peter Hellmonds will draft a summary of the idea so that the Board and staff can make input prior to it being sent to Telanto or individual universities. This will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

Fund Raising Plan: The Board briefly discussed the draft fund raising plan. Robb Rill suggested that a meeting be scheduled with Chris Roelke a direct mail fund raiser for nonprofits, who previously suggested that WCE needed a fund raising plan. Timothy Anderson requested that he be able to go over the fund raising plan with Robb Rill and with Lisa Dale prior to the meeting with Chris Roelke. This will be on the agenda for the next board meeting. Lisa Dale said that she would like to see WCE distilled down to nouns and that she be given asks for \$500, \$1,000, and \$2,500 that she can then tailor. Peter Hellmonds suggested that the draft plan be expanded to include an annual corporate membership program and that it include a timeline or chronology of steps.

Other Business: The Board was asked for ideas for potential female Board nominees who could help raise money and/or who know international development. Lisa Dale suggested Cynthia Grace of Western Digital. At the February Annual Meeting three of our present 8 Board members have terms that are ending: Peter Hellmonds, Jeremy Griffiths, and Wayne Fritze. Wayne Fritze has previously said that he will be retiring at the end of this term.

Pamela Cooney
Clerk
October 7, 2019