

**World Computer Exchange, Inc.**  
122nd Meeting of the Board of Directors  
18 October 2023 09:00 am to 10:24 am EST  
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.*

122nd Meeting of the Board of Directors

**Present:** Pamela Cooney, Suzanne Grant Lewis, Jeremy Griffiths, Satish Gupta, Manoj Kumar, Ayesha Hassan, Lisa Dale, Alexandra Higuera, Chloe Chaple, Danielle Minnetian, Annie Ladd Reid, Marci Rosenthal

**Future Meetings:** December 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM EST; 15:00 CET; 18:30 New Delhi

1. **Welcome and check-in** on members conducted. Ayesha spoke about going to 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ICANN

2. **The Minutes from the Board Meeting on July 12th** were unanimously approved, Jeremy moved to accept, and Ayesha seconded.

3. **Treasurers Report**

- Everyone on audit committee very involved
- Gratitude expressed to Satish in particular for help with accounting
- Presentation of revised set of accounts is much better. Still some things to get better at but we in a much more solid place

Discussion of the Balance sheet:

- stable cash position
- Merrill Lynch accounts went up
- credit cards significantly paid off; interest lower
- Pam is recycling more desktops this year
- Ayesha asked if there are any areas of concern for the Board to think about; Pam confident things are OK.
- Two large contributions received over the summer - \$10K from a company who wished to honor CEO who just retired and \$25K from PCR's foundation, a global company who wishes its gift to be confidential for now. This income was used to pay down credit cards.
- Still paying PPP loan, very low interest rate
- Pam still not getting paid

Discussion of the Cash Flow projection for next year

- potential shipment to Madagascar (150 laptops with 75 new batteries and 150 monitors)
- other shipments in the works – a long-term partner wants 300 computers
- Pam would like to expand program expense for new coding bootcamps
- Need to promote Donor Connection

Regarding the SV Fund Restricted donations, the Board is looking to unlock those to use as needed.

**Follow-up:**

- Pam will reach out individually

- Manoj can help find partner in Pakistan

VOTE on Financial Report: Jeremy proposed to adopt budget and P & L, Lisa seconded. Unanimously approved

#### 4. Fundraising Committee

- Alex presented the report and introduced 3 new BC interns:
  - a. Chloe Chaple, Junior, handing fundraising
  - b. Danielle Minnetian, Junior, social media
  - c. Annie Ladd Reid, Senior, Puerto Rico intern
- Committee meets every 2 weeks this quarter
- Remainder of calendar:
  1. Newsletter 10/27 with 3 articles
  2. Social Media. Posting regularly crucial to improving engagement. Reasons include to be transparent; better serve donors who want photos and metrics; and to help to spread the word. Visit.org match for corporations and employees to social impact causes
  3. Corporate sponsor strategy has 3 types of asks: Volunteers; Corporations contribute technology; Corporations cash donations. Pam to meet with interns next week to brainstorm elevator pitch to promote WCE.
  4. Friends and family outreach Nov / Dec. Board asked for ideas.

The Board expressed appreciation for the activity of the Fundraising Committee. A Board member stressed the importance of Facebook for some people.

#### 5. Orders and Shipping Update

- Potential shipment to Madagascar from potential new partner for 150 laptops. Tricky to prepare shipment with new batteries, even though they will cover costs.
- Request for 300 computers to Technical University in Kenya
- 50 computer potentially to rural Kenya, want to set up tech center and training lab

#### 6. Services

- Zambia – started another session of coding boot camps in 2 different locations
- Budgeted for 4 more boot camps, about \$1000 each, for this fiscal year.
- Ghana coding boot camp was afterschool program
- Volunteer from India – has not had new session that Manoj introduced a possible coach/mentor for a coding boot camp.
- Puerto Rico – Annie has been reaching out to organizations that Tim worked with. We hope to have the Boys and Girls Club host a coding book camp. Lisa will share contact for the Jane Stern Library with Pam, in hopes of organizing a coding boot camp. Rob Nieves, an IT Teacher, will check out computers in storage at Ciudadela to see what machines are worth refurbishing. A Board member stressed the importance of activity happening before the end of the year. If the funds are not spent, it is difficult to get new funds in 2024.

##### **Follow-up:**

- Pam will reach out to Rob Rill for access to the flexible half of the \$50 K and update him on plans in Puerto Rico.
- Pam will check if WCE needs to renew its listing on the acceptable charities in Puerto Rico.

**7. New Partner Proposal**

- Madagascar potential shipment Onja, a non-profit. A Board member asked if we have done our due diligence.
- Follow-up:
  - It was agreed that since little is known about them, Manoj will check with contact in New Zealand to vet them
- The Board voted to approve the partner, subject to vetting – Jeremy put motion forward, Satish seconded.

**8. Any other business**

The Audit Committee to meet before next board meeting. A Board member asked when the audit will be completed. Pam reported that Auditor does not have everything yet. Pam hoping to finish preparing files hopefully in next 2 weeks.

The Meeting ended at 10:24 am EST.