

**CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
HIGHER EDUCATION INVESTMENT
COMMITTEE NOTES**

July 18, 2023

Regular Meeting

A meeting of the Higher Education Investment Committee was called to order at 5:15 p.m. in the Second Level Conference Room, City Hall. Roll was called and the following members were present:

Randy Holt

Eli Perkins

Marjorie Brant

Absent: Southwestern City Schools Appointee, City Council Appointee

Ex-Officio members present: Tami Kelly, Clerk of Council; Stephen Smith, Law Director; Shaina Rowe, Assistant Clerk of Council

Also present: Ted Berry

1. Mr. Holt moved to approve the Minutes from 04/17/23; seconded by Mr. Perkins. Motion unanimously approved.
2. The Committee discussed the number of ineligible students that need to repay the city. *Stephen Smith* stated that under the Code it is his obligation to regain funds that have been stolen and not repaid and he spoke to Administration about their tolerance to sue. The consensus was that he will continue to send out letters to those in collections. The next step would be to turn the ineligible students over to a collection agency. Mr. Holt explained that the ineligible students did not just take the scholarship money and run. The money went to the school and into their accounts to be used for tuition. He said that a student can be ineligible one time and that is enough to bar someone from reapplying.

Ms. Kelly suggested using 1099 forms to require outstanding students to claim the money on their taxes. Mr. Smith said that this could work. He stated that other municipalities that he has worked with have started using collection agencies and have gotten some money back. He compared the collections of the scholarship to Mayor's Court, stating that Mayor's Court only goes back 5 years. Mr. Smith said that he will continue with the same process for now and will copy the Clerk on his letters and he will investigate collections.
3. Chair Holt explained that the purpose of today's meeting was to approve the Fall, 2023 scholarships.

Ms. Rowe provided an overview of this semester and shared the details shown on the attached sheet.

Mr. Holt moved to approve all applications, contingent upon receiving the required grades/volunteer hours from previous students in the Program before an award was granted; seconded by Ms. Brant. Motion unanimously approved.
4. Mr. Holt passed out the article he wrote for Discover Magazine and drew their attention to a paragraph where he discusses his plans for broadening the scholarship. He said that he has talked with the Mayor about opening the scholarship up to on-line learning and removing the need for schools to have a presence in the City. He said that he would like to have this approved in October by Council.
5. The committee each received a copy of the guidelines of the scholarship with suggested changes and highlighted areas for review. The committee looked over the first draft and discussed the merits of

opening the scholarship to all colleges. Mr. Berry suggested that in-person schools that are accepted must be close to Grove City and the committee should make a list of the eligible colleges. He also suggested that online students that apply must live here and take their classes online.

6. Mr. Holt stated that he will get a rough draft to the committee members soon.

7. The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.


Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Secretary


Randy Holt
Chair