CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
HIGHER EDUCATION INVESTMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES

September 17, 2015 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Higher Education Investment Committee was called to order by Chair Hampson at 3:00 p.m., in the City Hall 2nd floor Conference room, 4035 Broadway. Roll was called and the following members were present:

Marjorie Brant *John Hampson* *Colin Hopkins* *Bill Wise*

Ex-Officio members: Stephen Smith and Tami Kelly were present.

Mr. Holt and Council President Berry, *was absent.*

1. Ms. Brant moved to approve the Minutes from the 9/3/15 and 9/10/15 meetings; seconded by Mr. Hopkins. Votes unanimously approved.

2. Chair Hampson commented that he received a list from Mr. Hopkins showing each College and the debt the students carry after graduation. He said Ohio is $600.00 above the national average. This will be sent to the rest of the Committee. He also confirmed the receipt of an e-mail from Steve Smith about the definition of scholarships in the Ohio Revised Code; a memo from Mr. Walters explaining the discrepancy of the survey that Ms. Brant brought up; and a survey from Ms Brant on Skilled & Educational Workforce Update and a Higher Education Loan Program Legislative Report.

3. Chair Hampson moved to the Disbursement Process. He noted that he spoke to a friend that says a social security number must be provided. Dr. Wise say he wasn't sure about that.

   Ms. Brant asked if the monies for the Program would be awarded annually. Mr. Smith said the City budget is on a calendar year. Ms. Brant suggested that the scholarship dollars be parceled out in three semesters. Then each divided amount would be used in each semester application. Any monies left could be rolled over to the next semester. Chair Hampson said he liked that idea.

3. The Committee then discussed the awards of up to $1,000.00. Some criteria needs to be developed to determine the amount. Dr. Wise said he is not comfortable with a tiered system. The Committee talked about choosing a set amount for each application semester. Dr. Wise asked about part-time vs. full-time students. Ms. Brant asked about graduate programs. Chair Hampson asked if a stipulation should be added that students be full-time. Discussion took place over this and it was decided to reserve this question for Mr. Metz. Mr. Hampson asked if a transcript should be supplied with reapplications.

4. Chair Hampson then asked about a maximum amount that one applicant could receive, as suggested by Mr. Hopkins. Dr. Wise said the legislation says a maximum of $12,000.00. Mr. Smith since this is a City Program, it is going to fall on the City to verify and be responsible for the scholarship requirements.

   Mr. Hopkins suggested requiring the applicant to submit the credit hours that have been enrolled for. Chair Hampson said someone could drop a class and still have credit hours shown.

5. Chair Hampson moved on to clarification by Mr. Smith concerning the collection process. Mr. Smith said he sent a couple of programs he found to the Committee. There was one Program that requires a Promissory Note to be signed. It is one avenue that could be used.

Chair Hampson referred to the examples Mr. Smith sent where the program was named a Scholarship and reimbursement was required. The Committee agreed to ask Council to review the naming of the Program so it clearly reflects the nature of the monies rewarded, which include a commitment of volunteer hours & possible refund of monies received.

6. Chair Hampson reviewed the latest Draft application with the Committee.
Ms. Brant asked if they should ask Council to expand the volunteer possibilities, as there may be other organizations that could be used. *The Committee agreed to make that suggestion.*
Chair Hampson asked about the Social Security Number. Mr. Smith said he would check and added that we have provisions to secure private information.

7. Chair Hampson said that last week, the Committee discussed the Consortium schools. He asked Mr. Walters how many are still involved. Mr. Walters said he hasn't talked to them for six years and he is uncomfortable talking to them now, until there is a building in place.

**Editor's Note: Mr. Berry arrived at 4:15*

Chair Hampson said Ms. Brant provided information on Harrison College, which shows some type of accreditation. He asked if they were in. The Committee wasn't sure. Ms. Brant thought they could be for the interim program. She said they should make a recommendation for an Interim Program to Council. Then, the ultimate program would include the Consortium Schools and those classes offered at the Career Academy and at the Christian School. Dr. Wise said the legislation does not say "accredited". He said if the Committee recommends to Council that they should be accredited, Council can define what "accredited" is. Mr. Berry suggested recommending that a college/university be "accredited" by the Ohio Board of Regence. Ms. Brant asked if that group functions as an accrediting institution. Mr. Walters said he would find out who the appropriate accrediting board would be.

8. Chair Hampson said he would revise the Application and draft an Interim Program and a Final Program for the Committee to review at its next meeting.

The Committee agreed to divide the appropriated funds as follows: $100,000.00 for the first semester; $100,000.00 for the second semester; and $50,000.00 for the third. Any monies left unused in a semester would roll over to the next.

Chair Hampson asked if they wanted to award a flat amount or by credit hour. Most of the Committee preferred a flat amount. The question of part-time vs. full-time came up again. Ms. Brant suggested awarding $1,000.00 for a full-time student and $500.00 for a part-time student. There was also a suggestion that the award would be up to $1,000.00 of the Bursar's Bill, whichever is less. *Ms. Brant moved to make the suggestion that awards be given up to $1,000.00 of the Bursar's Bill, or whichever is less; seconded by Mr. Hopkins. Motion approved.*

Dr. Wise noted that a part-time student may only take three hours and by the time he completes his studies, the skills learned could be antiquated. He suggested asking Mr. Metz what the appropriate commitment should be.

9. The Committee listed other potential questions for Mr. Metz.
What is the criteria that they operate by for granting scholarships.
Timelines for application submission
Management of the scholarship dollars
Willingness to administer program for interim and final program

Mr. Walters will contact Ohio Christian, Mt. Vernon and Harrison College with the same questions.

10. The next meeting will be Thursday, 9/24 at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Walters will contact Mr. Metz to see if he can attend.

11. A motion was made to adjourn and was approved by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Tami K. Kelly

Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Secretary

John Hampson
Chair