



## **AMET BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

February 25, 2018

4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Embassy Suites, McAllen, Texas

### **I. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Maria Elena Cortez-ESC 1 Director (ESC 1), Cindy Ferdin-ESC 2 Director (ESC 2), Ana Nunez-ESC 3 Director (ESC 3), Deborah Rivera Fontanez-ESC 4 Director (ESC 4), Josie Padilla-ESC 6 Director (ESC 6), Leonard Beles-ESC 8 Director (ESC 8), Raquel Oxford-ESC 9 Director (ESC 9), Diana Sanchez-ESC 10 Director (ESC 10), Aurora Martinez-ESC 11 Director (ESC 11), Tonya Ramos-ESC 12 Director (ESC 12), Teresa Cuevas-ESC 13 Director (Seguin ISD), Mary Jo Beard-ESC 14 Director (ESC 14), Elizabeth Rangel-ESC 15 Director (ESC 15), Deborah Alcozer-ESC 17 Director (Plainview ISD), Anna Minjarez-ESC 18 Director (ESC 18), Ana Granados-ESC 19 Director (ESC 19), Ellie Ross-ESC 20 Director (ESC 20), Mary Castañuela-President (ESC 15), Yolanda Rollins-Vice-President (ESC 12), Wendy Branstine-President Elect (ESC 20), Omar Chavez-Past President (ESC 1), Angie Balderrama-Treasurer (ESC 18), Jo Ann Gonzales-Secretary (ESC 14), Tomas Yanez-Community Liaison Advisor (Retired), Maria Garcia-Guzman-Special Programs Advisor (TMIP), Jaime Miranda-Higher Education Advisor/Parliamentarian (UTRGV), Sigi Huerta-AMET Executive Council Advisor (ESC 13), Ken Schrader-Executive Director

Members Absent: Brenda Thompson-ESC 5 Director (ESC 5), Viki Sparks-ESC 7 Director (ESC 7), Matthew Chavez-ESC 16 Director (ESC 16)

### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Yolanda Rollins made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2018 AMET Board of Directors' Meeting. Deborah Alcozer 2nd the motion. The motion passed, and the minutes were approved.

### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

- 2017 Conference Review
  - Wendy Branstine shared comments on the conference. The group was asked to read over the comments as she gave an overview of the comments.
- Evaluations and Facilitators' Comments
  - Mary Castañuela asked everyone to look over the conference survey results. The keynote speaker was a recurring theme on the first question-"What was your favorite part of the conference and why?"

- Leonard Beles suggested that there should be a vetting process and that we could possibly limit the presentation to fifteen minutes rather than a thirty minute presentation.
    - Diana Sanchez suggested a video snip of what and how the speaker would present. This would be sent in for review.
    - Maria Garcia-Guzman mentioned that she does screen/interview the final speakers selected and makes the decision.
    - Aurora Martinez suggested having a one-on-one interview on stage with the speaker so that we do not worry about whether or not the presenter is a good public speaker.
    - Deborah Alcozer suggested a Facebook Live interview to have the keynote speaker answer question before coming in.
    - Mary Castañuela mentioned that having a keynote speaker that is inspiring and engaging helps set the tone for the conference.
  - Second question-What was your favorite session and why?
    - Mary asked everyone what trend was seen.
    - The ID&R session held the majority of the feedback.
    - Maria Elena Cortez suggested shortening the academies to half the time and having repeated session so that those who wanted to attend more than one academy would have the opportunity.
    - Anna Minjares suggested an ID&R academy for new recruiters and one for experienced recruiters.
  - Third question-What was your least favorite session and why?
    - Raquel Oxford mentioned comments about the closing session/luncheon, and individuals not being engaged at the end of the day.
    - Mary mentioned many seats were empty at the luncheon, even after rearranging things. Mary also suggested that we look into making the luncheon a brunch, instead. Everyone liked the idea.
  - Topics that you would like to hear presented next year:
    - Maria Elena suggested having an ID&R strand at each time slot.
    - Wendy & Mary commented on trying this in the past and it being unsuccessful.
    - Mary mentioned using buzz words like PFS & SDP to listen for the next conference.
  - What can we do to improve next year's conference?
    - Mary asked for recommendations via email to her by April 1, 2018.
- AMET Regional Meetings and Feedback
  - Mary shared notes from 2017 Regional Meetings.
  - AMET is trying to get locations more centralized. Most choices are locations where the organization can make money, as the largest migrant population is in South Texas. We are unable to go to extreme locations, so AMET will likely stay with South Padre Island and other central areas. For 2019, the conference will be in San Antonio. It is difficult to please everyone, as every region has their own concerns. The goal is to keep the organization going.
- Fundraising and Door Prizes
  - \$1832 was raised from fundraiser.
  - Other ideas were discussed on how to raise more money. More money was raised by the silent auction than with the drawings. More people are needed to volunteer to help with the table.

- Raquel's concern is that the scholarship fundraiser is not getting the participation that it needs.
- Suggestions included having monthly email blasts of donations from regions.
- Mary asked the group if we wanted to do away with the silent auction and raffle. The group chose to do away with the silent auction and raffle.
- Another suggestion for fundraising was creating a GoFundMe type of account for the scholarships.

- Other Items

## V. NEW BUSINESS

- 2018 General Budget Review and Approval
  - Ken gave a general overview of the budget. There was a conference surplus because of food costs and working efficiently. For 2018, the budget will be \$165,000 for the conference, scholarships, planning, and all other areas. There are anticipated revenues of \$164,000. We are close to a zero balance. When we get into conference planning meetings for the conference, we can better plan on how to save money.
- AMET Webmaster
  - Mary gave an update on the new webmaster. Dr. Robert Meaux has already been active in working on the website.
- Recruitment and Retention of Membership/Conference Attendance
  - Mary asked the group to submit ideas to her via email.
  - A list of conference theme ideas was passed out to the group to vote upon the 2018 Conference theme.
  - Themes voted upon: A Bounty of Migrant Blessings; Growing Future Leaders-Planting the Seed of Education Today to Harvest the Leader of Tomorrow; Migratory Connections: Planting, Growing, Harvesting; Planting Dreams; Harvesting Pearls of Hope; Planting Seeds Today-Harvesting (Cultivating) Leaders Tomorrow; Inspire, Advocate, Cultivate
- 2018 Conference Theme
  - **Migrant Education: Inspire, Advocate, Cultivate**
- 2018 Conference Artwork
  - The organization will put together an artwork contest that will be used in the conference theme. There will be a \$500 scholarship to the winner. The scholarship will be awarded upon completion of high school and may be used toward any post-secondary education. The contest will be open to all high school eligible Migrant students. Regional directors will be in charge of collecting artwork.

## VI. COMMITTEE UPDATES/CHAIR ASSIGNMENTS

- By-Laws
  - Tomas Yanez gave an update of the changes made to the by-laws. Tomas asked the group to contact any of the by-laws committee if any changes are needed.
- Nominations/Elections
  - Even numbered regions are up for elections.
  - AMET positions up for elections include President-Elect and Secretary.
- Scholarships
  - Wendy gave an update to the scholarships. 137 applications were submitted. 12 graduating senior scholarship and 3 undergraduate scholarships are available. Wendy reminded the group of the submission requirements.
- Public Relations/Website

- o Mary gave an update on how the new webmaster has already started updating the website. Mary asked the group on how we should use the website to increase membership. The Twitter account and other social media were successful at the conference.
- Conference Manual
  - o The conference program will have the theme.
- Fundraising
  - o Silent auction and raffle are now removed. Door prizes will still be requested from each region. Each region is to bring at least one \$10 item for the door prizes for the last day or the social. The centerpieces and door prizes. The person with the most number of years at each table wins the centerpiece.

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mary Jo Beard made a motion to adjourn. Yolanda Rollins made a second to the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.