

NCHSAA Foundation Meeting Minutes

Date: January 13, 2025

Official Start Time: 4:58 PM

Attendees: Karen DeHart, Bill Steed, Anna Hipps, Bill Miller, Tavares Toomer, Neil Blankenship, Andre Lassiter, Mark Mansfield

Absent: Kathy Spencer, Evan Sauer (NCHSAA)

Meeting Agenda

1. Introduction of New Members

- **Anna Hipps:** Principal at Cedar Ridge High School; previously part of Durham Public Schools and Chatham Public Schools.
- **Bill Miller:** Retired Superintendent; former high school basketball coach and principal; served on the NCHSAA Board and was a past Board President.

2. Approval of Minutes from 10/14/2024 Meeting

- Motion to approve: Mark Mansfield
- Second: Andre Lassiter
- Roll Call Vote: (7-0 approved)

3. Email from Dr. Jeff McDarius (Discussion Point)

- **Issue Raised:** Concern over loss of gate receipts due to Hurricane Halen's impact on schools in Western NC.
- **Summary of Discussion:**
 - Bill Miller: Emphasized focus on gate receipts rather than facility damage.
 - Neil Blankenship: Agreed; only known damage reported from Pisgah and Freedom High School.
 - Karen DeHart: Mentioned past hurricane assistance included matching funds raised by schools.
 - Tavares Toomer: Queried about FEMA coverage for capital losses.
 - Group consensus: Focus on gate revenue loss as it directly impacts athletic programs.
 - Neil Blankenship: Suggested looking at regular season gates over the past three years compared to this year for affected schools.
 - Karen DeHart: Proposed a \$10,000 maximum grant for disaster-related assistance.

4. Grant System Discussion

- **Points Raised:**
 - Andre Lassiter: Suggested using a grant application process to address needs.

- Mark Mansfield: Emphasized careful consideration to ensure fairness and future implications.
- Karen DeHart: Recommended expanding the existing grant program to include disaster categories beyond hurricanes.
- Neil Blankenship: Proposed assessing impacted time frames, particularly from September 26/27 through the regular season.

5. Financial Updates (Tavares Toomer)

- **Budget Overview:**
 - IRS charges and cost savings initiatives discussed.
 - Values of accounts managed to ensure sustainability with a 5% draw from the 12-month average.
- **New Funds:**
 - Officiating Fund and Student Programs Fund established; awaiting audit report for allocation.
- **Software Utilization:**
 - Donor management software (Bloomerang) and award tracking (SmarterSelect) shared with NCHSAA.
- **Past Funding:**
 - No longer receiving funds from the Department of Health and Human Services since 2021.

6. Policy Creation and Solicitation Updates

- **Policy Development:**
 - Karen DeHart to draft standard non-profit policies for review by Chair Bill Steed; vote scheduled for April.
- **Solicitation Adjustments:**
 - Fundraising mailings shifted to early spring to reduce costs.

7. Future Meetings

- **Frequency:** Four times per year (two in-person, two virtual).
- **Next Meeting:** April 2, 2025, at the NCHSAA Office.

Closing

- **Adjournment:**
 - Motion to adjourn: Bill Steed
 - Approved by Neil Blankenship, seconded by Anna Hipps
- **Official End Time:** 5:54 PM

Approved: 4/22/2025