

The DREAM Program Board of Directors
Minutes of the Meeting
August 18, 2005

Present: Jan Backus, Jon Harris

Present via Phone: Brianna Dusseault, Mike Foote, Sarah Siegel, Judy Last Name???

Staff: Mike Loner

Absent: Lisa Christie, Ed Willenbaker

I. Welcome and Introductory Remarks3.

Mike Foote called the meeting to order at 5:35

II. Chair Report by Mike Foote (Interim Chair)

Mike Foote commented on this past month's process for creating the agenda as a successful process.

Old Business

- Jon Harris is completing his research on Community Ends. He will send a memo to Mike Loner to be reviewed
- Mike Loner approached Glenn McRae MacKay to take a position on DREAM's Advisory Board. Glenn is considering it and Mike will remain in touch with him. Mike and the Board are also considering asking Ed Willenbaker to take a position, and possibly a lead role, on the Advisory Board.
- Mike Loner will complete the DREAM Six Month Review for October's homework
- Mike Foote is conducting his research on the Alumni Ends. He may need until November to complete his work.

New Business

- Legal Audit - Leigh Phillips conducted a Legal Audit Report on DREAM. Mike Loner distributed this out to the Board. The Board can give voluntary input to Mike for how it would like Mike to distribute it for October's homework.
- Annual Calendar – Mike Loner revised and streamlined the Annual Calendar, and with Bree's help, the Calendar will more focus on DREAM's Ends instead of the Executive Limitations.
- Recruitment - The Board welcomed Judy Huang as a new Board Member. Mike Foote is in touch with Brian Cotterill from the Vermont Youth Conservation

Corps as a new Board Member. Jon Harris will speak to Cara Gleason from CEDO as a potential Board member.

- Sarah SeigelSiegel must step down from the Board. Good luck Sarah and thank you!
- Trainings – Board Members are encouraged to attend any trainings (VANPO, TAP, VBSR) that will contribute to the Board. DREAM will cover the cost.
- Upcoming DREAM Events – Board members are encouraged to attend DREAM events. Upcoming events are:
 - DREAMstock at Camp (September 30 – October 1)
 - Chili Cook-off at UVM (October 21)
 - Downtown event in Windsor, VT (October 14)

III. Mike Loner's State of DREAM Address

Mike Loner updated the Board on the State of DREAM verbally in place of his normal one page report.

- DREAM appeared on TV – Mike Loner appeared with Michael McNamara (Director of HUD, Burlington), Allie Paradee (mentor at UVM), and Christian Seymour (Mentee). Everyone had great energy, and Mike Loner will try to get copies.
 - New DREAM Program at Franklin Street - DREAM is taking first steps to starting a program in Franklin Street in Winooski as an extension of the Elm Street program. UVM students are excited but nervous at the large undertaking of two programs.
 - Hal Colston and Neighborkeepers – Mike Loner is developing a relationship with Hal Colston of Champlain College and Neighborkeepers, which is a non-profit that creates social capital among low-income, single parents. Since there is an inevitable overlap between DREAM and Neighborkeepers, hopefully DREAM mentors can allie with Neighborkeeper families. Hal also created a new e-game for children, and Mike connected him with the Birchwood program.
 - DREAMstock – is this Friday and Saturday, September 30 and October 1. This is a retreat for all mentors to network with each other and attend workshops by staff.
 - New Staff-
 - Lu Neuse, Camp Property Manager
 - Kristen Burger, Program Liaison for Where?
 - Elizabeth Rosen, Program Liaison for where?
 - Daniel Shearer, Development Director
 - Chris Howle, Camp Development (begins in November)
- DREAM Staff just had a retreat, which covered establishing work dynamics and a staff contract. People left psyched.
- Birchwood Program in Barre – Green Acres chose not to fund DREAM. DREAM is contacting Highgate ,a new non-profit, to fund Birchwood. This puts expansion of the Norwich program on hold.
 - Each DREAM staff will participate with a DREAM program to better connect the office to the programs

- Camp Expansion Opportunity – Richard Villaneuve, who owned 700 acres bordering DREAM Camp, has passed away, leaving the final disposition and ownership of the land in question. Mike Loner is exploring this.

IV. Discussion #1: Evaluation of Budget Priority Setting Process

Mike Foote expressed dissatisfaction with the budget priority setting process, explaining that he thought that to have the board take one day to set the process was arbitrary. Jan Backus then said that this was one link in a large process, and that after Mike Loner compiles the 2006 budget, the Board will then compare the budget with the Board's budget priorities to establish DREAM's actual spending. Bree Dusseault is also incorporating DREAM's Ends into the annual calendar to ensure that the Board closely addresses budget setting.

V. Discussion #2: The Board's Role in the Strategic Planning Process

This Board and Mike Loner engaged in an open ended discussion about what constitutes an appropriate level of participation from the Board for DREAM's long term strategic process. Some points raised were how the Board should interact with the staff to gain appropriate knowledge to direct. Mike Foote asked Mike Loner to create a model planning process to be reviewed by the Board for November's meeting.

This discussion raised another issue of clarifying the Board's role for staff, and specifically, how the Board's work effects DREAM. Mike Loner suggested that Board Members assist with DREAM's strategic planning process and more DREAM events to help define the Board's role for staff.

VI. Board Recruitment

The Board welcomes Judy Huang as a new Board Member. Mike Foote is in touch with Brian Cotterill from the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps as a new Board Member. Jon Harris will speak to Cara Gleason from CEDO as a potential Board member.

VII. Board of Advisors

Mike Loner approached Glen MacKay and Hal Colston to take a position on DREAM's Advisory Board. They are considering it and Mike will remain in touch with him. Mike and the Board are also considering asking Ed Willenbaker to take a position on the Advisory Board.

VI. Policy Monitoring

Mike Loner provided the Board with additional information as requested on the Monitoring report for September as well as Re-monitored items from August. Notes and comments are available from Mike Loner if requested.

VII. Upcoming Homework and Meeting Dates –

Mike Foote will distribute the Board's homework on October 5.

The Board will hold its next in-person meeting on Wednesday, October 19 at 5:30 PM in the DREAM office.