

## **Education and STEAM Subcommittee Meeting**

### **Microsoft Teams**

**Wednesday August 12, 2020.**

#### **Members in Attendance:**

Director Timothy Larson (CO- Chair) Noele Kidney, Janice Floyd, Melanie Tavares, Jennifer Michalek, Norm Sondheimer, Carolyn Alessi, Abigail Jewett, Debra Goss, Taylor Van Antwerp, Eric Smith, Rhona Free, Karen DeMeola, Erin Choquette, Ellyn Savard, Heather McDonald, Kristin Violette, Andrea Kovacs, Patrice Gans, Melissa Hickey, Gwen Brantley, Lyn Caliendo, Mary Bidwell.

Meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm by Director Larson who apologized for Co- Chair Commissioner Magubane's absence as she handles pertinent agency matters. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for their continued support.

#### **Announcements:**

- Carolyn Alessi has assumed the position of State Chair for the Million Women Mentors. There will be a virtual event, the information will be shared with the committee soon.
- The Committee is accepting legislative proposals. The application was shared in the Teams file and the deadline is September 9, 2020.
- The Information Hub, Arts, Internship and Coding Challenge work stream groups are asked to meet independently and provide a report by September 9.

#### **Work Stream Updates:**

- Norm Sondheimer represented the Coding Challenge Group and reported the success of the first Lt Governor's Coding Challenge. The following suggestions were made to improve the next event:
  - Include technical artefact with ideas
  - Inform Teachers in advance so it may be included in their lesson plan throughout the year
  - Team up with outside organizations to increase diversity and assist in the process to further our efforts
- Abigail Jewitt from the information Hub outlined challenges the group is currently facing. One of which is the need for more participants. The other was investigating if there was already a vehicle in place that supports, teachers, parents and students. It was identified by Gwen Brantley that there is a tool called "STEM MAP" with STEM resources readily available to utilize. The information was shared with the committee to be analyzed.
- Debra Goss reported the Internship group has developed a toolkit. She explained that Department of Transportation is currently piloting a virtual internship for girls 8-12 grade to provide exposure to transportation technology. This is a three-week program.
- The leads for the Arts group were not present.

#### **Next Steps:**

Legislative proposals are being accepted through Noele Kidney

Carolyn Alessi will forward details on the upcoming Million Women Mentors event

Arts and Internship groups will be meeting with Commissioner Magubane