MOSI National Hispanic Scientist of the Year Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes

Date: 7 August, 2017, Time: 9 am, Place: The University of Tampa Room Sc 302

Those attending: Dr. Stephen Kucera, NHSOY Chair, Mr. Larry Planck, STEM Coordinator for the Hillsborough School District. Marchi Azorin phoned in to the meeting.

Community member present: Janet White

The meeting was called to order at 9 am. Dr. Kucera announced that the meeting had established a quorum. There are 3 MOSI Board members on the committee. 2 were present at the meeting room.

Old business

None

New business

The meeting began with a general conversation about the future of NHSOY and the event separating from MOSI, but with a willingness to include MOSI as one of any number of STEM/STEAM partners in the community.

Dr. Kucera reported that MOSI President, Julian Mackenzie, had contacted him by phone to discuss whether the committee would be receptive to licensing the MOSI NHSOY trademark as part of an arrangement for the NHSOY event to no longer be held under the marquee of MOSI. The other members of the committee stated they had received such a phone call as well.

Dr. Kucera showed the members of the committee the MOSI NHSOY mark and trademark information, as shown below:

While this is not business that the committee intends to bring before the MOSI Board, the committee was not interested in pursuing any further discussion on Mr. Mackenzie’s request that a licensing arrangement be made. Those involved in the past MOSI NHSOY events deeply appreciate the past support of MOSI that has involved fronting financial and personnel resources to make the event possible with the return of resources generated by the activities of the committee at the conclusion of the annual Gala, both dollars and in-kind, to MOSI to support the MOSI YES! Team. How this relationship will develop in the future will depend on the desire of MOSI to be a partner for the event and, at a future time if the interest exists, discussions can occur as to funding possibilities to support MOSI (e.g. should the YES! Team continue as a viable program in the re-tooled MOSI that is slated to re-open in the near future.)
Dr. Kucera noted the disclaimer in the trademark registry.

Following the discussion, Dr. Kucera made a motion to remove all mention of the NHSOY subcommittee of the Board from the bylaws* and to formally dissolve this board subcommittee committee and to present this motion, if approved, to the full MOSI Board.

The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, was approved unanimously.

At the conclusion of the motion, there was a short discussion. For many years, the mission of NHSOY has been captured in this brief mission statement: “It’s all about the kids.” Nothing has changed in this regard with any of the committee members, other than all feel it is time for the NHSOY committee to step back, re-visit its approach to supporting this mission, engage the larger STEM/STEAM ecosystem in the west central Florida region and explore, if the institution and its Board is interested, how MOSI can continue to be a partner with the NHSOY committee and its annual events.

Dr. Kucera asked if there were any further business to discuss. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 10 am. Dr. Kucera thanked the Board members in attendance and the MOSI staff member and member of the community who attended to hear what was discussed by the committee. The committee welcomed the comments of this member of the community during the discussion, but this staff member was not invited to participate in the motion that was made and approved.

Post-script

*Turns out that in the latest version of the MOSI bylaws.