

The GSMISTS Board of Directors held a Board Meeting at the Grand Rapids Service Center on January 21st. Staff in attendance - Mary Charles (Interim CEO), Janet Neubert (GSUSA); Guest - Lisa VanDeWeert, CPA (Auditor).

The November 28th minutes were approved along with the November 2016 financial statements and December Finance Committee Minutes.

Jeanine Bryant, GSMISTS Board Development Committee, Chairperson recommended Deborah Hughes to fill remainder of two-year term ending in 2017. Deborah Hughes is an attorney and Executive Director of the Legal Assistance Center, a nonprofit legal self-help center.

Brenda Lindberg, GSMISTS Audit Committee Chairperson introduced Lisa VanDeWeert, CPA from Rehmann, the GSMIST Audit firm to presented the 2916 audit which was accepted.

Mary Becker-Witt, GSMISTS Board Chairperson gave an update of the bylaw revisions as recommended by the delegates at the regional meeting, the board approved the recommended changes with the age for girl delegates left at age 14. She also gave an update on the CEO Search, we are working with Spano Pratt Executive Search as well as GSUSA HR Consultant Janet Neubert. The Committee members were identified and approved. Janet presented additional info including GSUSA grant availability for reimbursement of search expenses

Finance Update by Mary Charles (on behalf of Gail Montgomery). December 2016 Financial Statement was approved as presented. The line of credit was secured for an additional 7 months. The board discussed work related to the sale of Camp Charlevoix, Little Deer and un-used sections of Camp Anna Behrens. GSMISTS Board Authorizes Mary Charles to work with the Mason County Foundation to negotiate closing the Ludington Little House Fund. GSMISTS Board authorizes Mary Charles and Theresa Van Veelen to explore options related to the Muskegon service center and Betsy Cutler House and bring information and recommendations back to the board.

Operational Update was by Mary Charles. The 2017 Cookie Sale is critical to our success moving forward. We will be refocusing membership staff beginning in March focusing on training, education and building a great recruitment plan for fall. GSUSA really wants us on CEI, there are barriers and GSUSA is working with us to address those. Further updates were provided on membership, fund development and recent staff changes.

An operational Update was given by Mary Charles, Interim CEO regarding membership, Fund Development and some recent staffing changes.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Mary Becker-Witt, GSMIST Board Chairperson