



The CORNERSTONE

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News of the North Dakota Newspaper Association Education Foundation -- Est. 1979

NDNAEF grants \$100,000+ for projects

The NDNA Education Foundation has a little less to grant in 2023 since its portfolio is slightly smaller.

However the board of directors granted on Oct. 14 more than \$100,000 toward programs for the advancement of journalism. Another \$50,000 was earmarked for the North Dakota News Cooperative, a program that received its first seed money in 2020 to form the non-profit organization.

The foundation considers grants each fall for the following year. This year the foundation board received applications for everything from structural improvements to Bonnazaville's print shop to internships. Although the Foundation experienced healthy returns on its investments and was able to give generously the past few years, 2022 was a lackluster year because several projects didn't materialize while the market took a nose dive.

NDNAEF funded just three internships in 2022 - two at the Bismarck Tribune and one at the Hillsboro Banner. NDNA did not hold a symposium, which the foundation usually funds. Report for America, a project that recruits and helps fund reporters in rural America, was matched for \$7,000. One of those reporters is now working for Journal Publishing in Crosby and a portion of his salary is cost-shared by the publisher and the foundation. NDNAEF also funded a Bismarck Tribune hosted seminar for the state's newspapers on investigative reporting.

NDNAEF Board members took strong interest in getting behind 2023 projects.

Kid Scoop - A Journal Publishing project that started with delivering 10 issues of Kid Scoop News to 11,000 students in northwestern North Dakota is poised to go statewide, pending continued success in the fundraising department. The foundation granted \$34,000 - first \$25,000 in the summer and another \$9,000 at the Oct. 14 meeting.

Internships - NDNA will be recruiting legislative interns to report for the



state's newspapers in 2023. The association will also be working with the state's newspapers to place more college and high school interns throughout the year. NDNAEF approved \$42,000 for internships.

Digital archiving - The foundation board agreed to partner with the state to fund digital archiving equipment in the amount of \$11,800 to continue to put more newspapers online and digitized. Currently all the state's newspapers are archived but only 10 percent are online and digitized.

Oral histories - More oral histories will be conducted in 2023 by Teri Finneman. She was granted \$6,000 to continue the project. (The board later increased that amount to \$6,900 if Finneman needs additional travel reimbursement in 2022.)

Spelling Bee - The state's spelling bee was funded for \$4,000.

Pilot training project - NDNAEF funded \$9,000 to Transcript Publishing to develop a pilot apprentice project to help the state's newspapers with graphic design training.

All of this great work is funded by NDNAEF, whose mission is "to promote the advancement of journalism education, study, research and development through financial assistance, internships, fellowships, lectureships and other means to enhance the newspaper profession in North Dakota.

Memorials, donations welcome

There's never enough money to help contribute to all the great projects that come before the North Dakota Newspaper Association Education Foundation.

Your gifts matter.

Whether its a memorial or a donation, your generosity helps the organization continue to do valuable work.

The foundation currently has about \$1.5 million in its investments. All that began in 1979 when a publisher left \$100,000 to the association and the foundation was established.

How you can help:

- Year-end charitable gifts
- Memorials
- Bequests
- Gifts honoring friends, family or co-workers

No matter the size, your gifts and continued support help the state's newspapers.





NDNAEF Board Meeting

October 14, 2022 minutes

Members Present: *President Jill Denning Gackle, Steve Andrist, Laura Lueder, Jill Friesz, Brian Kroshus, Amy Wobbema, Amy Dalrymple*

Present by Zoom: *Cole Short, Rob Keller, Soojung Kim*

Others Present: *Jack McDonald, Beth Helfrich, Cecile Wehrman*

Absent: *Kirsten Stromsodt*

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. Members were introduced and welcomed.

On a motion from Andrist, seconded by Wobbema, the minutes for July 29 and August 7th, 2022 were approved.

Motion carried. Lueder wanted it noted that she was absent from the two meetings because her email address was incorrect and she did not receive notification.

On a motion from Friesz, seconded by Dalrymple, the Board of Director terms were clarified and two appointments were made. Brian Kroshus was appointed to the seat previously held by Mary Kay Kelsch and Soojung Kim was appointed to fill the remainder of the term previously held by Tom Gerhardt. On a motion of Andrist, seconded by Dalrymple, Friesz was appointed vice president following the resignation from the board of Tom Gerhardt, the previous vice president. Motions carried.

A financial overview was discussed along with 25 for 25, silent auction and symposium updates for 2022. Denning Gackle requested an updated 25 for 25 list be provided to NDNA members soon in the hopes of picking up a few more contributions.

2022 Grant applications

were discussed including College, High School and Legislative Interns. NDNA is seeking Legislative Interns for the 2023 session. Chuck Haga will continue to mentor as needed and possibly Michael Standaert of the ND News Cooperative. Beth will send out another reminder this week to all papers about year-round internships and post on the University platform Handshake, which connects with students throughout the ND system. Keller indicated we need to set ourselves up for success right away. The Hillsboro Banner and Bismarck Tribune (2) had three paid internships this year.

Review and discussion on the 2023 Grant Requests continued. Denning Gackle invited Cecile Wehrman to expand on Kids Scoop since the July meeting. She gave literacy statistics and Kid Scoop samples. The goal of the project is to go statewide pending adequate funding. The board noted that \$25,000 was approved previously.

Further discussion continued on other grant requests: Cass County Historical Society for Bonanzaville structural improvements; Kansas Publishing (a project that will instead go through NDNA); NDSU Press Association for chapbooks to be printed on printing equipment; Teri Finneman for online training; and SD High School Press Association for a study on embedding high school journalism students in newsrooms. Those projects were not accepted for funding.

Wobbema discussed in detail a project to hire an apprentice who would work for her newspaper in a pilot program

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**NDNA
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

Board of Directors

President

Jill Denning Gackle, Garrison

Vice President

Jill Friesz, Elgin

Directors

Kirsten Stromsodt, Fargo
Rob Keller, Jamestown
Laura Lueder, Bismarck
Steve Andrist, Bismarck
Brian Kroshus, Bismarck
Soojung Kim, Grand Forks
Amy Dalrymple, Bismarck
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Jack McDonald, Bismarck
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Our Mission

"To promote the advancement of journalism education, study, research and development through financial assistance, internships, fellowships, lectureships and other means to enhance the newspaper profession in North Dakota."

Quotable

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

— Winston Churchill



NDNAEF Board Meeting

October 14, 2022 minutes (continued from page 2)

and then be available for graphic design training to other newspapers. Dalrymple said she sees the value in collaboration and mentorship. Denning Gackle expressed doubt about the ability to serve many newspapers, given the individuality of the industry and the variety of programs and styles.

A request from the State Historical Society was reviewed. Currently all newspapers in the state are archived but only 10 percent of the state's newspapers are online and digitized. NDNA Board of Directors expressed interest last year in seeing more newspapers archived. NDNAEF met with the Historical Society staff and fielded a request for \$23,604 or 10 percent of the cost of the equipment needed. Kroshus said the State has a \$1 billion surplus and could fund the project in full. Denning Gackle said the Historical Society staff thought a partnership with newspapers would help them in their 2023 budget request.

ND State Spelling Bee continues to receive support from NDNAEF due to the volume of statewide recognition.

Oral Histories by Teri Finneman were discussed. Lueder said she hoped that the histories would be more accessible to the public in the future. They were at the Heritage Center kiosk prior to COVID.

Andrist gave a detailed overview of ND News Cooperative. On behalf of the organization he asked for \$50,000 for the second year of

operation. NDNAEF gave \$10,000 for a feasibility study in 2020 and then \$50,000 in 2022. There are plans to develop a membership model and sponsorships are being sought; it is a service available to all newspapers at no charge. There is also work going on with ND Department of Public Instruction to redefine news literacy standards in schools. NDNC hopes to hire another reporter in 2023.

Lueder made a motion to unanimously approve the following grants:

- **NDNA: \$42,000**
(internships – college, high school, legislative)
- **State Historical Society: \$11,800**
- **ND State Spelling Bee: \$4,000**
- **Teri Finneman/Oral Histories: \$6,000**

Dalrymple seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lueder made a motion to approve \$9,000 for Kids Scoop (this is in addition to the \$25,000 previously received from NDNAEF.) Motion seconded by Dalrymple. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dalrymple for \$9,000 for New Rockford Transcript Apprenticeship program, seconded by Lueder. Motion carried. Wobbema abstained from the vote. Denning Gackle and Friesz voted no.

A total of \$106,800 was granted using the foundation's

investment income guideline based on 2% of portfolio, 2022 dues, 2022 silent auction and 50-50 and 25 for 25 contributions.

Friesz made a motion to approve \$50,000 for ND News Cooperative seconded by Dalrymple. Motion carried. Andrist and Denning Gackle abstained.

Keller left the meeting at 1 p.m. Short and Soojung left the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

As a final matter, the board reviewed a previous vote to provide \$35,000, instead of \$10,000 to NDNA for the additional salary expenses anticipated in August. NDNAEF provides \$10,000 to NDNA each year for services provided including accounting, clerical, administrative and legal.

Andrist indicated additional funds were approved in August for a long term full time Executive Director. Wobbema indicated a search is still active and on-going. Andrist said it does not appear the immediate transfer of funds is critical at this time; Friesz agreed. Wobbema and Dalrymple said the motion passed and should be deliberated on. Denning Gackle suggested that the resources and time spent by NDNA on NDNAEF business be evaluated. Andrist suggested another review of the management fee before the end of the year. No further action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Helfrich, NDNA Executive Director*

Watch the Oral Histories of North Dakota Journalists at:
www.ndna.com/oral-histories/



25 for 25 campaign raises \$8,344 in 2022

The NDNA Education Foundation's annual 25 for 25 campaign has raised \$8,344. so far this year, slightly ahead of the pace at this time last year.

The total results are due to contributions and pledges from 67 of the state's 84 newspapers.

Special thanks to the newspapers listed below that contributed. There is still time for more contributions to come in before the end of the year.

Every little bit helps when it comes to supporting the Foundation's mission of shaping the future of North Dakota's journalism, inspiring young minds to carry the torch of democracy.

Those sending gifts or pledges to this year's campaign are:

- Ashley Tribune/Wishek Star
- Badlands Patriot-Bowman/Beach/Medora
- Belcourt, Turtle Mountain Times
- Bismarck Tribune and Mandan News
- Bottineau Courant
- Bowbells, Burke County Tribune
- Carrington, Foster Co Independent
- Cavalier Chronicle
- Cooperstown, Griggs County Courier
- Devils Lake Journal
- Drayton, Valley News & Views
- Finley, Steele County Press
- Glen Ullin Times
- Grand Forks Herald
- GS Publishing
- GS Publishing: Carson/Elgin/Hettinger/New England
- Harvey, The Herald-Press
- Hebron Herald
- Hillsboro Banner
- Jamestown Sun
- Journal Publishing-Crosby/Tioga
- Kenmare News
- Lakota American
- McClusky Gazette
- MHA Times
- Minnewaukan, Benson Co Farmers Press
- Mohall, Renville County Farmer
- Napoleon Homestead
- Ness Press
- Ness: Aneta/Edmore/Fordville/Hatton/Larimore/McVille/Michigan/Pembina
- New Rockford Transcript
- New Salem Journal
- Nordmark Publishing
- Nordmark: Cando/Ellendale/Oakes/Park River/Towner
- Northwood, The Gleaner
- Pure Prairie Publishing
- Pure Prairie: Enderlin/Gackle/Kulm/LaMoure/Litchville
- Rolla, Turtle Mountain Star
- Rugby, Pierce County Tribune
- Stanley, Mountrail County Promoter
- Steele Ozone & Kidder County Press
- Velve
- Westhope Standard



How can we give the gift of a future with newspapers?

Consider giving to the NDNA Education Foundation

- Year-end charitable gifts ■ Memorials ■ Bequests
- Gifts honoring friends, family or co-workers

Your support helps us help you with internships, seminars, scholarships, legislative news and more.



1435 Interstate Loop
Bismarck, ND 58503
701-223-6397
director@ndna.com