

## **Maasai Education Foundation Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Sunday, 6 Aug 2023

10am – 11:37pm ET

Brian and Karen's House, 3475 Evergreen Trail, Blacksburg, VA 24060

### **Attendance**

Audrey Spielmann – Board Member and MEF Canadian Representative

Brian Benham – Treasurer, Board Member

Essra Kibler – Development Committee Co-Chair

Isabella Munson – Service Without Borders

Jen Spurl – Development Committee Co-Chair

Karen Scalf-Benham, Board Member

Margie Lee – Board Member

Nina Tarr – Board Member

Olar Paul Mollel, EEMPS Public Relations Officer

Randy Stith – Secretary, Board Member

Rebecca Caldwell – Board Member

Steve Conner – Board Member

Theo Dillaha – Board Chairperson

Tom Neils – Guest

Daphne Kibler – Guest

Acadia Lewis - SWB

**Call to Order** at 10AM EDT – Theo

**Roll Call and Approval of April Meeting Minutes** – Randy

**Brian moved to approve, Steve seconded, approved unanimously**

**Treasurer's Report** – Brian

\*Current period donations: \$81,741.38

\*Current period grants/expenses: \$28,786.70/\$232.04

\*Current balance on hand: \$132,961.71

**\*Randy moved to approve Treasurer's Report, Rebecca seconded, approved unanimously**

\*New Sponsorships – 3 from Shanna and Scott Bird, 3 for Margie Lee's family

**Mid-Year Fundraiser Results** – Theo

\*Over \$42,000 in donations plus \$10,000 match

\*Exceeded goal by 5% helped by Rob & Shannon Crane \$20,000 donation

**EEMPS Update** – Olar

\*Reviewed ENCO report about recent visits to the school and sports at the school

\*Update on ENCO website. Working with Tom. Needs info on Google Workspace

\*Only 10 students can use a school account – Will look into non-profit status.

\*Essra, Colin, Theo and Brian will all help

### **Public Relations Position Funding – Theo**

- \*Theo feels this should be part of regular operating budget in future
- \*Theo moved to send ENCO \$5650 to cover PR position from May 2023 – April 2024, after which time it will be covered by operating funds. Rebecca seconded, passed unanimously.**

### **Canadian Representative Update - Audrey**

- \*Lawyer resubmitting application for Canadian non-profit – confident
- \*Many people waiting to donate, mostly interested in sponsorships
- \*Theo wants discussion next meeting about unified front on self-sustainability

### **Service Without Borders Update - Acadia**

- \*Was on May trip helping create fruit orchard, irrigate and plant vegetable garden
- \*Donated 10 laptop computers and helped students on math program

### **2023 School Visit Discussion and Future Trips - Rebecca**

- \*Need to book sooner - Should encourage school visits – Definitely helps with donations
- \*Spend longer at school, start with school visit – Better tents for donors?
- \*Maybe have planned activities for group - Be there for classes and weekend
- \*Activities were planned but got there late – Cultural activities would be good
- \*Thomas might bring his groups by – Have something in place for more people coming
- \*Three full days, 4 nights minimum, arrive earlier in day - Different safari options
- \*Maybe let people plan own safaris but come to school on certain dates
- \*If MEF representative goes on safari could Thomas support those expenses
- \*Need to plan in fall – Overlap with part of SWB trip
- \*Committee to plan how to handle future visits - Rebecca, Jenn, Essra, Margie, Olar, Martha, Audrey, Tom?**
- \*Tom mentioned need for guest bomas and staff housing - Extended water line – Still waiting on boys dorm funding progress – Documentary being made on Martha

### **Other Items**

- \*Fundraising successful, raised \$18,000 in operating fund. **Theo moved to send \$18,000 in operating funds and \$5650 for PR position – Rebecca seconded, passed unanimously** This will fulfill this year's \$70,000 operating funds commitment
- \*Rob Crane requested video to show at family meeting so Randy made donor video  
Maybe there should be a Canadian version
- \*Have about \$100,000 for boy's dorm but no news on bids so haven't sent yet
- \*Not much progress on Zoom chat sessions between students and sponsors
- \*2021/2022 Audits – Contacted Pat Norris
- \*Olar – Thanks to Tom for helping on school's website – Feels MEF website needs updating - Maybe Tom's person who did ENCO website could help on MEF site- Randy feels MEF site needs new look and is exploring options – Theo approached VT classes that help on websites, maybe for Spring and maybe SWB as well – Need way Olar can easily create content for all the websites – Need templates – Could put some videos on YouTube – Links among websites -Isabella – Worked some on SWB site
- \*Theo – Proposed Social Media Committee but decided on website committee – Perhaps Randy, Essra, Olar, Tom, Theo

\*Newsletter – Have good content after trip, want to include boys dorm if get info – Theo would like blurbs from trip participants. Tom wonders if newsletter needed with website but newsletter email gets good open rate.

\*Rebecca still doing personal Thank Yous to donors – If want anyone for her to contact

**Meeting Adjourned - 11:37 AM**

**Next Meeting – 10 AM ET, November 12**



### Treasurer's Report

April 13, 2023 to Aug 2, 2023

**WELLS FARGO CHECKING ACCOUNT**

**BALANCE ON HAND: 04/13/2023 \$80,239.07**

INCOME	Current Period	Previous Year-to-date	Year-to-date	Draft 2023 Budget	Actual 2022
Donations	\$81,741.38	\$33,000.05	\$114,741.43		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$81,741.38</b>	<b>\$33,000.05</b>	<b>\$114,741.43</b>	<b>\$130,740</b>	<b>\$188,481</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Contributions, gifts, grants paid out</b>					
Grants to ENCO (\$2268.37 for Maria's expenses, \$16,998.33 for EEMPS operating expenses)	\$19,266.70	\$8,788.31	\$28,055.01	\$130,000	
Grants to Service without Borders for May 2023 service-learning trip to EEMPS (current	\$9,520.00	\$7,177.02	\$16,697.02		
Grant to A. Spielmann to support creation of Maasai Educ. Society non-profit in Canada	\$0.00	\$3,750.00	\$3,750.00		
<b>Total contributions, gifts, grants paid out</b>	<b>\$28,786.70</b>	<b>\$19,715.33</b>	<b>\$48,502.03</b>	<b>\$130,000</b>	<b>\$196,486</b>
<b>Professional Fees</b>					
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25	
<b>Total professional fees</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$25</b>	
<b>Printing, publications, postage, and shipping</b>					
Postage, printing, supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25	
Shipping assoc. w/ eBay sales via PayPal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250	
<b>Total printing, publications, postage, and shipping</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$275</b>	
<b>Any expense not otherwise classified</b>					
2023 Tax prep fee	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$45	
2023 VA State Corporation Commission Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25	
Pay Pal fees assoc. with cash donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100	
PayPal taxes and fees assoc. w/ eBay sales of donated items	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100	
Girl's dorm memorial plaques (Benham, \$84.18, Sprol, \$77.86)	\$162.04	\$0.00	\$162.04	\$0	
International Wire Transfer fee	\$70.00	\$45.00	\$115.00	\$180	
Benevity Fees for match for donations made thru Starbucks	\$0.00	\$58.00	\$58.00	\$15	
Charity on Top processing fee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.12	\$0	
<b>Total any expense not otherwise classified</b>	<b>\$232.04</b>	<b>\$143.00</b>	<b>\$376.16</b>	<b>\$465</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$29,018.74</b>	<b>\$19,858.33</b>	<b>\$48,878.19</b>	<b>\$130,740</b>	<b>\$196,879</b>

**BALANCE ON HAND: 08/02/2023 \$132,961.71**

**PENDING AND POTENTIAL DONATIONS**

	"Sub-accounts" in Wells Fargo Checking			
	Non-Sponsorship	2023 Sponsorships	SWB	Total
<b>SUB-ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>	<b>\$130,361.71</b>	<b>\$2,600.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$132,961.71</b>
<b>Pending Donations</b>				
Facebook	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Paypal Giving Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Pending...</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Potential Donations</b>				
Andrew Tarr, monthly USAA bank transfer for Mary Thomas Laizer sponsorship		\$140.00		\$140.00
Becky Patrick, quarterly Napokie Hangarai Lenariku sponsorship		\$340.00		\$340.00
Sandy Knapp, monthly, Ngaiseri Pakirouwa Laizer sponsorship		\$100.00		\$100.00
Wimberly Thompson, monthly, Nakwani Richard Lazier sponsorship		\$161.67		\$161.67
Margie Lee (1 personal, 2 friends and family)		\$2,100.00		\$2,100.00
<b>Total Potential...</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,841.67</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,841.67</b>
<b>CHECKING + PENDING + POTENTIAL DONATIONS: 08/02/23</b>	<b>\$130,361.71</b>	<b>\$5,441.67</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$135,803.38</b>

  
Brian Benham, Treasurer

8/2/2023  
Date



**ENCO** | ENGARUKA  
COMMUNITY  
INITIATIVE  
ORGANIZATION



**ENGARUKA**  
ENGLISH MEDIUM  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Quarter Narrative Report

May 2023 - July 2023

### **Introduction:**

We are pleased to present the quarterly report for the period of May to July, highlighting the various progress and achievements that have taken place within our esteemed school. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our major donors, the Masai Education Foundation (MEF), for their continuous support and contribution towards the development of our institution.

- **Visitation from MEF Donors and the Crane Family:**

During this quarter, we had the privilege of hosting a visitation from 15 donors representing the Masai Education Foundation. Additionally, we were honoured to welcome the Crane family, who have been long-standing supporters of our school. The visitation provided an opportunity for these generous donors to witness firsthand the progress and impact their contributions have made in transforming our school. During their visit, the donors had the chance to observe the positive changes brought about by MEF. They toured the school premises, including classrooms, dormitories, and other facilities that have been improved through their contributions. The visitors were able to see how their donations have directly impacted the learning environment and enhanced educational opportunities for children at school as well as getting to interact with students of which they sponsor. Also, another activity done during visitation was the unveiling and placement of plaques on newly constructed dormitory wings. These plaques served as a symbol of gratitude towards the donors whose generosity made these facilities possible. The ceremony was attended by both donors' parents & students, creating a sense of unity and appreciation for everyone involved.



Figure 3 MEF team and the crane family was welcomed by a maasai cultural choir



Figure 4 MEF team before arriving at EEMPS



Figure 2 Visiting residents within Engaruka



Figure 1 A group of women who are also parents giving gifts to sponsors as a sense of gratitude and appreciation



Figure 6 A plaque of a picture of Maria and Daphne within the girls dorm



Figure 5 Sponsors with students and thier parents



Figure 7 Randy, Rob Crane and Moinga (Head teacher) touring around the school premises



Figure 8 Crane Family infront of there plaque

- **Service Without Borders Volunteer Program:**

Our school recently had the incredible privilege of hosting a group of dedicated volunteers from Service Without Borders accompanied by Steve and Brian. These selfless Virginia Tech students came together to offer their time, skills, and expertise in transforming our school garden and orchard into a thriving and educational space for our students. They prepared our school orchard by digging 100 plus holes for various trees plants as well as helping installing drip irrigation system at our school garden. The impact of Service Without Borders' visitation extended beyond the physical transformation of our school garden and orchard. Witnessing individuals from different backgrounds come together to selflessly serve others inspired our students to consider how they too can make a difference in their own communities. Thank you to Isabella, Aditya, Sophia, Mary Grace, Jareck, Acadia as well as Steve and Brian



Figure 10 SWB team together with Brian and Steve



Figure 9 Working on digging goat manure from the school Boma and taking it to the school orchard.



Figure 12 Abby and SWB attended a Maasai Event during their stay in Engaruka



Figure 11 SWB team helping to prepare school garden



Figure 14 Digging hole 2ft within the school orchard



Figure 13 Lifting a water tank that is used to irrigate the school garden

- **National Interschool Sports and Games Competition:**

Our school actively participated in interschool sports and games during this quarter, showcasing exceptional talent and sportsmanship. Our students competed regionally and achieved commendable results across various disciplines. Their dedication, hard work, and teamwork were evident in their outstanding performances, bringing pride not only to our school but also to the wider community.



Figure 16 Football Team



Figure 15 Netball Team



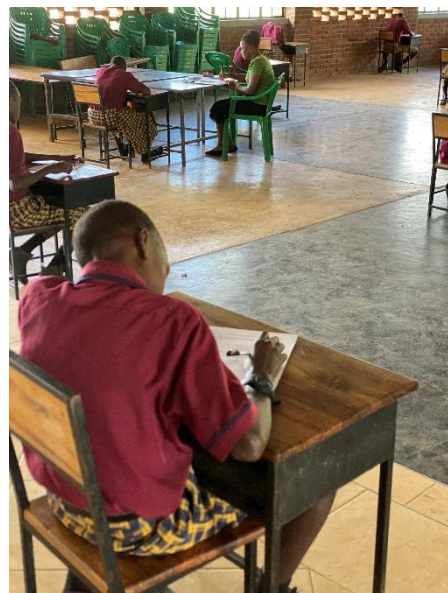
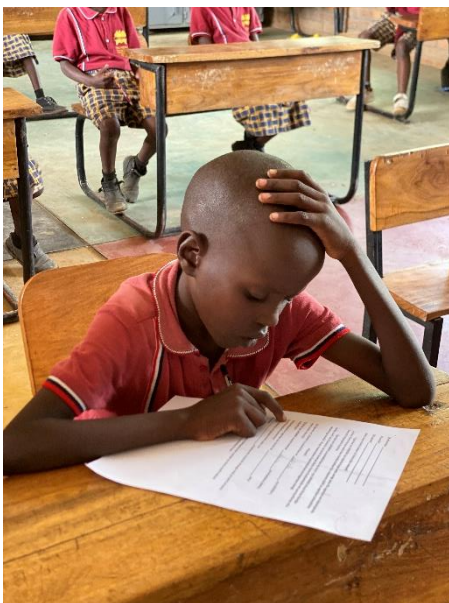
Figure 17 Our Netball Team competing in Selela ward. So far this is the best netball team in Engaruka ward.



Figure 18 Netball competition started at our school because other schools do not have a netball ground

- **Midterm Examination and One-Month Holiday:**

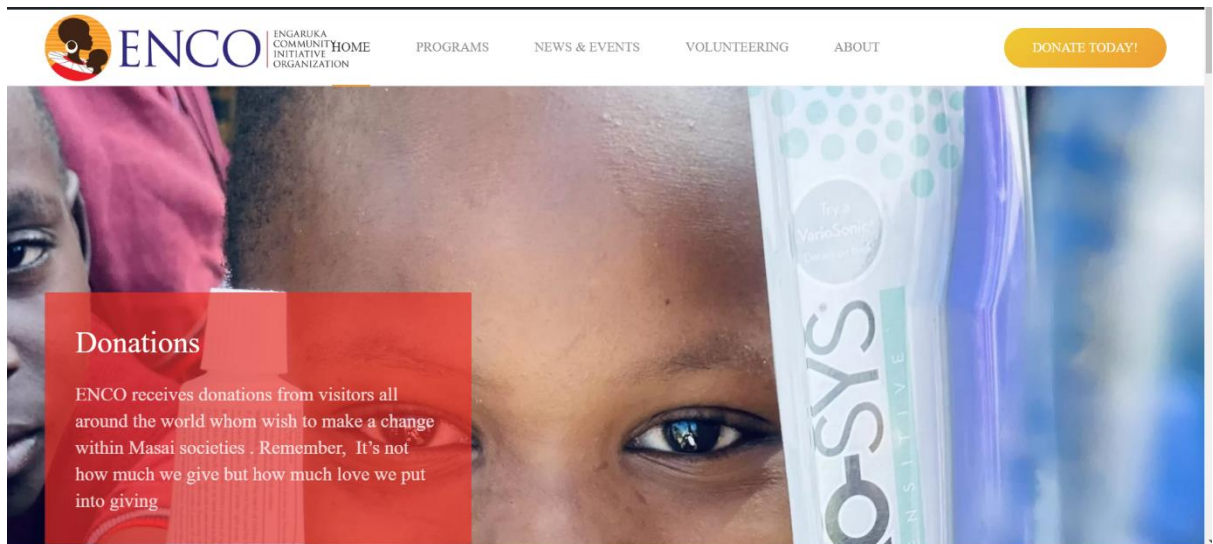
As part of our academic calendar, students underwent midterm examinations during this period. The examinations served as a crucial assessment tool to gauge their understanding and progress in their respective subjects. Following the examinations, students were granted a well-deserved one-month holiday, providing them with an opportunity to rejuvenate and engage in extracurricular activities.



- **ENCO'S Website development**

ENCO (Engaruka Community Initiative Organization) has made significant progress in website development, which went live in May with the invaluable assistance of Tom and Olar. The launch of their website marks a major milestone for the organization, as it provides a platform to showcase their initiatives, engage with the community, and raise awareness about their noble cause. The development of ENCO's website was a collaborative effort between the organization's dedicated team and the expertise of Tom and Olar. The website's design reflects ENCO's mission and values, creating a cohesive online presence that aligns with their offline activities. One of the key features of ENCO's website is its comprehensive information about the organization's initiatives and projects. Visitors can learn about ENCO's various programs, such as education, healthcare, environmental conservation, and community empowerment. Furthermore, the website includes a dedicated section for donations and fundraising efforts. This allows individuals who resonate with ENCO's mission to contribute financially towards their projects. The donation process is secure and transparent, ensuring that every contribution goes directly towards supporting ENCO's programs on the ground.

Visit <https://encoinitiative.org/>



- **Conclusion:**

The months of May to July have been marked by significant progress and achievements within our school. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Masai Education Foundation for their unwavering support. The visitation from MEF donors and the Crane family, the collaboration with Service Without Borders, the success in interschool sports and games, and the completion of midterm examinations as well as development of ENCO'S website contribute to the continuous growth and development of our institution

Prepared by Olar Paul – Public Relations Officer

Approved by Martha Mereso – School Manager