

MINUTES

NEW JERSEY WORLD TRADE CENTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND BOARD

March 23, 2009

The World Trade Center Scholarship Fund Board of Trustees held a meeting on March 23, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the HESAA offices in Hamilton.

PRESENT: Ms. Gisele Joachim; Mr. James Gray; Ms. Gina LaPlaca; Ms. Nancy Style, Treasurer's Designee, Mr. Peter Traphagen and Ms. Kathleen Wisniewski.

Ms. Edith Brower, Deputy Attorney General, Office of Recovery and Victims Assistance; Ms. Cheryl Clarke, Deputy Attorney General; and

HESAA staff: Fran Andrea, Gloria Green, Robin Bridges Johnson and Marnie Grodman, Esq.

CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Wisniewski called the meeting to order 10:15 a.m. and stated that the meeting had been noticed in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Co-Chair Wisniewski welcomed the Board members, DAG Cheryl Clarke, Edith Brower, Office of Recovery and Victims Assistance and Sonia Frontera, Esq. of the Governor's Authorities Unit. No members of the public signed up to speak with us.

Co-Chair Wisniewski announced DAG Cheryl Clarke would swear-in new Board Member Gina LaPlaca.

Roseann Sorrentino called the roll.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 2, 2008 MEETING:

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2008 meeting was made by James Gray and seconded by Nancy Style. The minutes were approved unanimously with two abstentions, Peter Traphagen and Gina LaPlaca; they did not participate in the July 2nd meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 23, 2008 MEETING:

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2008 meeting was made by James Gray and seconded by Gisele Joachim. The minutes were approved unanimously with two abstentions, Peter Traphagen and Gina LaPlaca; they did not participate in the July 23rd meeting.

RESOLUTION 01:09: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE NEW JERSEY WORLD TRADE CENTER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES GENERAL PROVISIONS AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND FINANCIAL NEED, N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.1 AND 7.4.

Marnie Grodman, Esquire presented this Resolution to the Board.

N.J.S.A. 18A:71B-23.5a(3) was amended effective January 17, 2007 to expand scholarship eligibility to the dependent children and surviving spouses of those who were New Jersey residents on September 11, 2001 and died as a result of illness caused by exposure to the attack sites, as established in medical records or other appropriate documentation as required by the board. A subcommittee, made up of Kathleen Wisnewski, met with HESAA staff on September 16, 2008 to determine the “other appropriate documentation” required to establish whether the deceased died as a result of illness caused by exposure to the attack sites. Accordingly, it is necessary to amend N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.4 Eligibility Requirements and Financial Need, to reflect the statutory amendment to enumerate the required documentation.

Additionally, it is necessary to amend N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.1, Eligibility Requirements, to correct a typographical error effecting the semesters of eligibility. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.1 “General provisions for the Tuition Aid Grant and Garden State Scholarship Programs that pertain to ... payments set forth in N.J.A.C. 9A:9-2.11(a)1... shall be in effect for the New Jersey World Trade Center Scholarship Program.” However, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 9A:9-2.11(a), paragraph 1 pertains to the Tuition Aid Grant Program, while paragraph 2 pertains to All Other Student Assistance Programs. Accordingly, as the World Trade Center Scholarship is a Student Assistance Program other than the Tuition Aid Grant Program, it is necessary to amend N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.1 to reference N.J.A.C. 9A:9-2.11(a)2, instead of (a)1.

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Nancy Style and seconded by James Gray. The motion was adopted unanimously by roll call.

2008-2009 SCHOLARSHIP YEAR

Gloria Green reported that 68 students received awards for the fall 2008 semester. There were two (2) additional students eligible in the Spring 2009 semester. The total expenditures for the 2008-2009 school year were \$405,650. Only two students were denied the scholarship: one was not a full time student, the other was not matriculated.

FAMILIES OF FREEDOM DATA UPDATE

Gloria Green reported Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund data for New Jersey. Thru June 2008 the fund made awards to 214 NJ students totaling \$6,053,869. Unlike the NJWTC Scholarship Fund, Families of Freedom Scholarships applicants are required to provide family income and asset information. Students may have received less than the \$1000 minimum award if they did not attend college for both semesters and/or other financial aid awards covered their costs.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Meeting Schedule FY10

It was determined that meetings would be scheduled for July 2009 and February 2010.

b. Establishment of Fund Raising Subcommittee

Kathleen Wisniewski and Gina LaPlaca volunteered to serve on this subcommittee.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Gisele Joachim and seconded by James Gray.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 am.

RESOLUTION 01:09

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE NEW JERSEY WORLD TRADE CENTER
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES GENERAL
PROVISIONS AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND FINANCIAL NEED,
N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.1 AND 7.4.**

Moved By: Ms. Nancy Style
Seconded By: Mr. James Gray

WHEREAS: Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:71B-23.4d(1), the New Jersey World Trade Center Scholarship Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing criteria for the determination of eligibility for a scholarship from the New Jersey World Trade Center Scholarship Fund; and

WHEREAS: The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) is authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:71B-23.7 to adopt rules and regulations necessary for the administration of the New Jersey World Trade Center Scholarship Program Act; and

WHEREAS: N.J.S.A. 18A:71B-23.5a(3) was amended effective January 17, 2007 to expand scholarship eligibility to the dependent children and surviving spouses of those who were New Jersey residents on September 11, 2001 and died as a result of illness caused by exposure to the attack sites, as established in medical records or other appropriate documentation as required by the board; and

WHEREAS: It is necessary to amend N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.4 Eligibility Requirements and Financial Need, to reflect the statutory amendment to enumerate the required documentation; and

WHEREAS: It is necessary to amend N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.1, Eligibility Requirements, to correct a typographical error effecting the semesters of eligibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE:

RESOLVED: That the World Trade Center Scholarship Board of Trustees approves the Proposed Amendments to the New Jersey World Trade Center Scholarship Program Policies and Procedures General Provisions and Eligibility Requirements and Financial Need, N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.1 and 7.4; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the proposed amendments will be presented to the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority Board at its April 22, 2009 meeting; and be it further

RESOLVED: That upon approval by the HESAA Board, the proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 9A:10-7.1 and 7.4 will be published in the New Jersey Register.

March 23, 2009