



**Saint Paul Children's Collaborative  
APPROVED Minutes  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Wednesday, May 8, 2013  
8:15- 10am @ CAP/RW**

**Board Members Present:** Jane Eastwood, Tyrize Cox, Elona Street-Stewart, Chris Tolbert, Charles Gill, Mary K Boyd, Denise Stahura

**Others Present:** Ann DeGroot (Executive Director – Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board); Christa Anders and Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Co-Coordinator); Mike Hagen (SPCC Fiscal Agent)

**Meeting called to order by Eastwood at 8:24 am.**

**I. Call to Order and Children's Fire**

Cox lit the Children's Fire with a quote about children's sense of self, and how fragile it is, and how dependent on the elders that surround them. The advice is when we make decisions about children, ask yourself, "Does this invest in or betray them?"

**II. Consent Agenda**

**Motion to approve the Minutes from the April 10, 2013 Board meeting and accept the information contained in the April update from Advance Consulting. Motion approved.**

**III. Youth Master Plan – K Readiness Data**

There was a discussion about the fact that Generation Next baseline data is using the Mondo literacy assessment as the measure of kindergarten readiness for their Age 3: Grade 3 Literacy network. Last year, the SPCC sought a reliable, valid measure of kindergarten readiness as part of gathering our Youth Master Plan baseline data. Based on conversations with the District, we understood that SPPS does not have a universal, comprehensive measure of K readiness that we could use to track progress on K readiness for St. Paul children. This gap between SPCC Youth Master

Plan and Generation Next baseline data is a gap. SPCC will work to insure that Generation Next staff and Early Literacy Network members understand that gap, and take that into account when assessing progress toward closing the readiness gap. Advance Consulting will also contact Minnesota Department of Education staff leading the Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge K readiness project about the status of that effort, and when SPPS may be able to begin using their selected measure of K readiness.

#### **IV. Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board**

Ann DeGroot, Executive Director of the Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board (YCB), provided the Board with an overview of the YCB (for more information, see <http://www.ycb.org>). She also talked in detail about the YCB's Call to Action (see [http://www.ycb.org/public\\_policy/call\\_to\\_action\\_report\\_card/](http://www.ycb.org/public_policy/call_to_action_report_card/)), and the work they are doing to address each of the goals in that initiative. She also told the Board about the Minneapolis Youth Congress, which is a youth-driven effort to inform the policy-making process. With regarding to Minneapolis' LCTS funding, they use most of that funding to support the Entry Centers in the Minneapolis public schools. The Youth Congress members also work with The Minneapolis Foundation to distribute \$25,000 in summer safety-related grants of LCTS funds in Minneapolis. There was extensive discussion of the "Go To Pass" program, currently in place for MPS high school students, and currently being sought by St. Paul Youth Commission. There was discussion about how the Minneapolis Youth Master Plan fits with our Youth Master Plan, and how both fit with Generation Next's collective impact model. One frame that the YCB uses in its work is, "what do we need to do to make Minneapolis a city where families with children want to live."

#### **V. Freedom School**

Eastwood and Cox gave the Board an update on the development of the Freedom School program for Summer 2013 (which is a Learn Grow Thrive grantee). The current fund gap is only \$7,000, which is fantastic, thanks to many of the SPCC partners. Freedom School staff are currently being hired. The goal is 350 students for this summer. They are recruiting Promise Neighborhood kids who are also "bubble kids." Transportation is secured from SPPS. The Freedom School will be located in Rondo Education Center. The \$30,000 evaluation plan has been funded (\$15,000 from Wilder and \$15,000 from St. Paul Foundation). The mandatory attendance threshold has been increased from last year's 50% to 80%.

#### **VI. Grad Nation**

Anders gave an update on the composition of the SPCC Grad Nation work group. There is still a gap with identifying community-based representatives from the American Indian and Latino communities, who also have content knowledge and community knowledge. The work group will begin meeting soon.

#### **VII. Promise Neighborhood Update**

Eastwood gave a short update on the status of St. Paul Promise Neighborhood. They are focusing on age 3 to grade 5. There will be an event on May 14, 5:30 – 7pm at Maxfield, designed to reengage the Solution Action Groups and other SPPN stakeholders. Dr. Hill will be there to talk about Freedom School, Think Small will be there to talk about Early Childhood Scholarships, along with a number of other partners. There was discussion about signage to mark the Promise Neighborhood.

**Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

- Learn, Grow, Thrive Grantee: Neighborhood House
- Promise Neighborhood update
- Youth engagement in grant making process

**Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:53 am.**

**Next Board Meeting: June 12, 2013, 8:15 – 10am  
Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties**