



**Saint Paul Children's Collaborative
APPROVED Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, May 9, 2018
8:00– 10:00 @ CAP/RW**

Board Members Present: Robert McClain, Mary Jo McGuire, Rebecca Noecker, Heather Kilgore, Alfreda Flowers, Mary Vanderwert, Daniel Yang, Toni Carter, Bruce Thao, Karri Kerns, Jackie Turner

Board Members Absent: Christine Smith

Staff Present: Laurie Davis and Christa Anders (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Co- Coordinators)

Guests Present: Mayor Melvin Carter; Matt Hill (Commissioner Carter's Office)

Meeting called to order by Thao at 8:05 am.

I. Lighting of the Children's Fire

Thao lit the Children's Fire by sharing a [video](#). How can we tackle the issues facing us with the creativity, imagination and fearlessness shown by our children?

II. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the April 11, 2018 Board Meeting and accept the information contained in the April update from Advance Consulting and the April finance report. Second. Motion approved.

III. Community Representative

Christine Smith, Community Representative to the board, has encountered a conflict with our current board meeting time. There was discussion about how we could re-arrange our schedule to keep her on the board. There was agreement that staff would send out a scheduling poll to see if we can find an alternative meeting time/day. If not, there was agreement that we should go back to our previous list of nominees and see if we can find a new community representative.

IV. Youth Transportation

Anders met last month with Saint Paul Youth Services' YouthPower group and Gary Cunningham from the Metropolitan Council about the disparity in Metro Transit services for students in Saint Paul, as compared to what is available in Minneapolis. Cunningham asked for a letter from SPCC outlining the history of the efforts to provide this service to Saint Paul youth.

Motion to provide support for the youth's efforts to implement the Go-To Card system in Saint Paul. Second. Motion approved unanimously.

Discussion about being there to testify when the youth present to the Met Council. Also discussion about what else SPCC could do to support. Contact the St. Paul members of the Met Council to garner their support. Staff should provide talking points. Need to consider unintentional messages and consequences. Turner and Carter both had conversations with Met Council over the years. SPPS lobbyist did give an update about pending legislation for funding which did not pass. Turner said there is a pilot (\$1 million in funding from SPPS this year) to provide this for several schools right now, including Johnson. Issues include capacity of buses, drivers, etc. It would be a great byproduct of this effort to improve bus routes across the city.

V. Mayor Carter Welcome

We were joined by Mayor Melvin Carter, who shared his priorities for children/youth with the board. He spoke about our common job and most important priority of preparing our children for the future and the future for our children. Three core pillars: public safety (from a community first perspective); lifelong learning (connecting young people and adults to future workforce through education and training); and economic justice and inclusion. Talked about multi-generation approach, connecting with FFN providers through libraries.

Focus on early childhood in lifelong learning pillar. He mentioned Children's Savings Accounts, birth - 3 work at the county, 3K, and other efforts. Children's Saving Accounts are an opportunity to connect with children sooner, to address any barriers.

He spoke about Mayor's Education Leadership Team - his preference is not to have a separate MELT, but to see what functions that was designed to accomplish, and see where/how best to accomplish. Turner pointed out that one of the advantages of the MELT was the capacity to have the Superintendent, Mayor, County Commissioner and Police Chief meet and have honest discussion and make decisions. There needs, however, to be a much tighter connection between the two. The SPCC could help by creating a forum where the Mayor's office can have access to 3 dimensional connection - give information to the community, get expert feedback from the community, and build connection across the community. Need for shared vision - use the two groups to build a vision that is specific enough that the community can visualize it. McClain talked about having a community dialog about how to re-tool the community recreation centers to be a more flexible resource for their community.

There was discussion about how to use Children's Savings Accounts as an organizing structure for our shared work – not just about the money in the account, but using the account as a way to provide incentives when parents and children engage in the kinds of activities we want them to access (screening, registering for kindergarten, opening businesses in the city).

Finally – Mayor Carter would welcome a recommendation from the SPCC on the specifics of how we might work together.

VI. SPCC Strategic Planning: Part II

Staff met with two key stakeholders to inform possible strategic direction for the SPCC (Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood and Sprockets – notes in handout “Digging a Bit Deeper with Stakeholders”).

Figure out what we focus on, and “focusing” on that means in terms of what we do, and how we allocate resources. One of the barriers that keeps coming up is data sharing. For example, one of the issues related to Children's Savings Accounts: if we are to make a deposit for having a 3 year old screened, we have to know who is screened and have a way to trigger that connection. Key to that discussion is the fact that the data belongs to the family. We need to attend to the issues around data sharing intentionally, in any issue we choose. Goals, strategies, key objectives through 2019. Are the systems we represent here working and can we address any of the identified barriers? If they are beyond this table, do we have levers with those who can influence? And do we pull those levers.

Small group to work on how SPCC relates to the Mayor's priorities, etc? That would need to include Yang. (Note that the draft strategic initiatives from the SPPS strategic plan will be out before then.) Daniel Yang, Toni Carter, Bruce Thao, Rebecca Noecker, Jackie Turner could be the working group. Staff will schedule.

VII. Board Updates

Noecker updated on 3K: currently seeking a project manager to develop a full-scale implementation plan. Candidates are welcome to apply right now.

Carter gave an update on the 0-3 project funded by Pritzker Foundation grant, and SPCC staff will be on the advisory group. The goal is to make sure there is alignment on county's work around 0-3, especially for those who typically fall through the cracks. Target – those involved with Child Protection, incarcerated parents, and those who are homeless.

Meeting adjourned 10:05.

Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- SPPS Update: ACT scores, other outcome data, data disaggregation update (REA)
- African American Futures Initiative (Stephanie Battle) – Summer

Lower priority:

- Interfaith's new evaluation tool – Spring 2018

- New Chamber president

Next Meeting:

June 13, 2018 from 8:00 – 10am at CAP/RW (450 Syndicate Street North, Saint Paul)