



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

Board Members Present: Robert McClain, Alfreda Flowers, Mary Vanderwert, Rebecca Noecker, Nicole MartinRogers, Mary Jo McGuire, Toni Carter, Molly Cave, Heather Kilgore, Bruce Thao (via Zoom), Cedrick Baker

Board Members Absent: Daniel Yang

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

Guests Present: Chris Samuel from the County Auditor/Treasurer

Meeting called to order by Carter at 8:10 am.

I. Lighting of the Children's Fire

Carter lit the Children's Fire by sharing part of a prayer, giving thanks for the opportunity to be at this table. She asked everyone to keep the focus on one good thing that we see happening in our midst because of our work together. "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

II. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the September 12, 2018 Board Meeting and accept the information contained in the September update from Advance Consulting and the September finance report. Second. Motion approved.

III. SPCC Focus Area: Out of School Time

Staff presented the list of legislative items that would support Out of School Time programs in Saint Paul. There was discussion about whether there could be a SPCC policy agenda that could be taken to the respective partner organizations. Vanderwert pointed out that SPPS is changing start times next year, giving elementary school children more out of

school time, and high school students less. SPPS has a child care committee that's been meeting to assess available "slots" that could be used, a proposal about how to share that with families during school choice time, and an effort to get a better handle on which students we don't know about, including the ones whose young children go home to older siblings who care for them. There was discussion about the exemption for youth income. Carter spoke in support, and McClain pointed out it may create incentive for parents to make their children work more, at the expense of other things. MartinRogers suggested that it would be wise to limit the types of employment income exempted to ensure that only employment opportunities that offer career development, leadership, and/or educational experiences beneficial to the youth be included.

Vanderwert suggested that we need to have a scorecard to track our progress. Staff has invited Generation Next to come to the November meeting to share their new data dashboards, which overlap a good amount with our Youth Master Plan goals.

Noecker talked about the focus needing to be more funding. She also supported change to the SPCC grant making process, including clarifying the Sprockets question on the current RFP to more clearly link to quality. She spoke about the need to have a more innovative approach to advocating for policy change. Thao talked about how to leverage the Collaborative's influence. He also talked about supporting the Youth Funders Network participation.

Summary – we need more information on some of these ideas to create an SPCC agenda but can move forward with the RFP change (next summer) and joining the funders' collaborative. Consider tapping our partner organizations, like St. Paul Promise Neighborhood, Youthrise to carry legislative proposals. Board members can recommend that their respective legislative committee/staff support a shared agenda. McClain pointed out that these issues are not part of the platform for major parties and we could take action on that. MartinRogers suggested pushing the information out to SPCC grantees so they can lend their support. Helpful to invite multiple public affairs firm representatives to a future meeting to get their advice. We could speak to the RNC and DNC chairs. We could be a convener. Ignite plays that role – there is an open issue about whether SPCC could support their agenda.

Motion to have the SPCC sign on in support of Ignite's after school policy platform. Motion approved.

Find out more about partner organizations' policy agendas. Clarify that the Ignite funding request is not suggesting taking the funding from the ALC.

IV. Saint Paul Schools and Property Tax Levy

Staff shared the overview of the SPPS strategic plan. They also shared info on their process for engaging staff and community. Final report on Phase 1 initiatives will be presented to the board on December 18. Each initiative (10 total) has a different time horizon. It will include the reporting cycle, the measures at that December 18 launch. Beginning of 2019 there will be more detailed implementation plan for Phase 1.

Baker, Kilgore spoke about the SPPS levy request for 2018. Thao talked about the CAAL response/request related to the SPPS referendum request. CAAL is asking for specific accountability and commitments from district leaders. Baker talked about the district is aware they need to do better, not just with SE Asian students but other racial/ethnic groups. They see common threads – there has to be more accountability, and the district sees that as reasonable. Need to show work, effort and results, and they would like to do that in partnership with SE Asian students, families and community groups. Vanderwert pointed out that community support is critical to passing the referendum, which is necessary to meeting CAAL and other’s objectives. McCain pointed out that parents and teachers have to spend so much money on school supplies – voters needs to see how referendum is connected to stopping those requests. Noecker points out the short time before referendum – community engagement needs to be front-loaded so that in December and January, SPPS goes to the groups that are making these requests and share how they will address.

Noecker talked about the City’s property tax levy request, which includes 11.5% increase over 2018, and what would be supported through that increase. She is on the Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee, which understands and works to be more effective in working together to save taxpayer money. McGuire pointed out that the taxation system is unfair – locals should be able to tap into income tax, and vice versa.

Chris Samuels from Ramsey County’s summary of proposed tax levies and estimate on 2019 property taxes and the highlights of the county’s budget. Notices to property owners go November 13.

V. 2019 Nominating Committee

Note that we need a slate of officers for 2019, as each officer term is just one year. Officers are permitted to serve two consecutive terms in a position, which means that Thao (Chair) and Vanderwert (Secretary) are eligible for a second term if they are willing, but Carter (Vice Chair) and Noecker (Treasurer) need to be replaced in their officer roles. McGuire volunteered to be considered by nominating committee to be Treasurer. McGuire and Thao will be the nominating committee.

Motion to nominate Thao and McGuire to be the nominating committee to build a slate for 2019 officers. Motion approved.

SHARING/AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS (DISCUSSION)

- SPPS Update: ACT scores, other outcome data, data disaggregation update (REA)
- Council for Black Male Success (Stephanie Battle)
- Interfaith’s new evaluation tool – November

Meeting adjourned 10:00.