



Saint Paul Children's Collaborative
APPROVED Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, June 14, 2017
8:15- 10:00 @ CAP/RW

Board Members Present: Robert McClain, Mary Jo McGuire, Heather Kilgore, Alfreda Flowers, Bruce Thao, Rebecca Noecker, Karri Kearns, Mary Vanderwert, Peter Grafstrom, Anna Ross

Not in Attendance: Toni Carter, Jackie Turner

Staff Present: Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Co-Coordinator)

Guests: Dr. Yeu Vang, Saint Paul Public Schools Director, Office of Multilingual Learning

Meeting called to order by McClain at 8:20 am.

I. Call to Order and Children's Fire

Grafstrom lit the Children's Fire with a plea for calm and wisdom for our leaders and shared a poem by Claire Keys – *You Should Avoid Young Children*.

II. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the May 10, 2017 Board Meeting and accept the information contained in the May update from Advance Consulting and the May finance reports. Motion approved.

III. Services to Dual Language Learners

Dr. Yeu Vang provided the board with an overview of the work happening through the Office of Multilingual Learning at St. Paul Public Schools. Staff will send the presentation to the board. She provided information on what is working well and areas for improvement, especially in light of the recent MDE report. Dr. Vang's basic point is that the district's goal is compliance in serving EL students well. The focus is helping students and families set goals and work their way through the EL service continuum, in order to be successful in their academics. There was also discussion about the evaluation of the services to EL students, which would be a good question to ask REA when they come.

IV. Presentation/Discussion/Action: Learn, Grow, Thrive Funding

Current grantee Project for Pride in Living requested an amendment to their current grant, as outlined in their memo to the Board on May 30, 2017, due to recent cuts by the United Way and the loss of the Saint Paul Public Schools Foundation. Generally, they propose to cut services from the Selby-Wilkins site, and expand the services offered at Fort Road Flats. They would also stop tracking of oral language skills and positive engagement in learning, but would add an indicator related to newly proposed Well Being Plans.

Motion to approve the amended grant plan for Project for Pride in Living's Learn, Grow, Thrive grant. Motion approved.

Given the recent United Way cuts, SPCC staff contacted each of our grantees to see which were impacted by those cuts. Several expressed need for "bridge funding," so SPCC staff did some research to better understand the allowable use of LCTS funding in such cases. While previous practice had been to not allow this type of "supplanting," the state DHS changed the policy several years ago (during the federal sequestration period) to allow "bridge funding." The board was asked for guidance on whether or not SPCC would entertain requests for bridge funding, including a recent request from Interfaith (distributed with board packet). There was discussion among the board about our overall support of the Interfaith programming, but concern about the precedent set by providing bridge funding. Staff were directed to ask Pohlad Foundation about the likelihood of funding and to ask Interfaith if they've talked to Management Assistance Fund. Kilgore talked about the impact on the schools involved in the two projects if they were to close, and that impact would be worse if the program started and the stopped in the middle of the school year. Needs to be contingent on raising the other half of the money. The SPCC would hope the program would continue through the entire school year.

Motion to approve the bridge grant of up to \$87,500 matching funding contingent upon on Interfaith securing the second half of the needed funding and that Interfaith work with the district to get a letter of partnership to explain how Interfaith and the district will work together to sustain these programs. Motion approved with three abstentions (Thao, Grafstrom, McGuire).

Staff will explain that the Board will consider this funding when reviewing a 2018-19 grant request from Interfaith and that we will strongly encourage them to explore other funding sources.

There was discussion of the new of the RFP, including draft announcement of the SPCC's intent to accept letters of inquiry as the first step in the process. There was clarification that the total pool of funding for emerging non-profits is \$50,000 and that only organizations with annual budgets of less than \$250,000 are eligible for those funds.

Motion to approve the Letter of Inquiry and RFP with clarifications on the process for emerging non-profits. Motion approved.

V. Board Administration: Community Representative

Anna Ross has indicated her intent to step down from the SPCC board as a community representative due to many competing demands on her time, and staff have been working with some board members to figure out a process for filling that spot. Discussion that we should create a “posting” looking for a new community representative and share it with the board to share with their networks, plus Management Assistance for Nonprofits, Minnesota Council on Foundations, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, and Pollen, plus state and parent councils. We will ask interested candidates to email staff with a short bio and a commitment that they could attend regularly scheduled meetings.

VI. Sharing & Discussion

Meeting adjourned 10:25.

Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- Legislative Session Debrief - ALL
- SPPS Update: ACT scores, other outcome data, data disaggregation update (REA); Eastside middle school proposal (Turner) – AFTER March 2017
- Ramsey County Attorney – Triad, juvenile justice, school violence
- Ramsey County Youth Continuum of Care (McGuire/Carter)
- City Education Update: Parent Powered Texting (Grafstrom)
- African American Futures Initiative (Stephanie Battle)
- Dr. Gothard – July or August

NO MEETING IN JULY! Next meeting: August 9, 2017 from 8:15 – 10am at CAP/RW.