



**Saint Paul Children's Collaborative  
APPROVED Minutes  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Wednesday, March 11, 2015  
8:15- 10:00 @ CAP/RW**

**Board Members Present:** Jean O'Connell, Tyrize Cox, Jane Eastwood, Toni Carter, Mary Jo McGuire, Jackie Turner, Mary K Boyd, Carol Dawson

**Staff Present:** Christa Anders and Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Co-Coordinators); Mike Hagen (SPCC Fiscal Agent)

**Guests:** Theresa Battle (SPPS – to present graduation data)

**Meeting called to order by O'Connell at 8:20 am.**

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

Turner lit the Children's Fire with words – alone we can do little, together we can do so much. She spoke about doing the Collaborative Factors Inventory, discussing how far this board has come, representing each organization, each walking the walk to support children and families in Saint Paul.

**II. Consent Agenda**

**Motion to approve the Minutes February 11, 2015 Board Meeting and accept the information contained in the February update from Advance Consulting. Motion approved.**

**III. Youth Master Plan: High School Graduation Update**

Theresa Battle presented the recently released high school graduation data for Saint Paul, for the 2013-14 school year. The presentation may be found [here](#). Then she shared a few stories of individual students' success in graduation. This board could be a good place to talk about how all the partners working in high schools can really coordinate and target their services.

Advance Consulting gave an update on the GradMN Policy Recommendations. They would like us to sign on it support of these.

**Motion to sign on in support of the GradMinnesota recommendations for improving high school graduation and supporting the policy platform as it is created. Motion approved unanimously.**

The recommendations requiring legislative action would not be of focus until next session. Eastwood said that she'd like this board come back to deeper discussion on some of the individual recommendation (for example, mentoring).

#### **IV. My Brother's Keeper**

Eastwood and Carter and Advance Consulting gave an update on progress of the My Brother's Keeper efforts, as they relate to Saint Paul. We are in the midst of a planning group that is supposed to develop recommendations for the six goals. The data shows the outcomes are worst for African American and American Indian young men. There was also a discussion of the populations that are "invisible" based on our data (Hmong, East African, etc.) They will recommend three goals. Minnesota Council on Foundations is a partner in this, and they are interested in a policy agenda that might support this work. Ramsey County is focused on supporting young people who come to the attention of the County through various avenues. They are still in the phase of organizing the planning group. They are hoping for June 2 event, with William Bell as keynote speaker, to launch the Ramsey County efforts for My Brother's Keeper. The next City meeting is May 19, in the afternoon.

#### **V. Promise Neighborhood Funding Request**

The Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood submitted a funding request for summer 2015: \$50K for Freedom School, \$50K for Bell Power Scholars. The Board reviewed the funding request. Reminder that this project, along with other summer projects, should be invited to apply in new RFP cycle, to get them synched up with our general grant-making process. Freedom School will be available to all kids who live in the Promise Neighborhood, and Bell Power Scholars will be targeted at kids attending Jackson and Maxfield. They are going to do joint marketing to families this year. Eastside has been trying to get Freedom School for years – this year, SPPS resources will support 200 kids in Freedom School in Hazel Park. (That is separate from this request.) There was a discussion about the evaluation – it would be very helpful to have the same tools measuring the key outcomes across both projects (academic outcomes and attendance and perhaps parent engagement.)

There was a discussion of the per participant cost shown the program. The board's intent is that both programs serve the target number of kids in each program, and again, it is the Board's intent to pay the full grant amount if the full number of children are served (200 in Bell and 300 In Freedom School), and that if there is lower than target number of kids served, our grant funds will be reduced by the per participant cost.

**Motion to increase the Community Award amount in the SPCC 2015 budget by \$27,250. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Motion to approve \$50,000 for Freedom School and \$50,000 for Bell Power Scholars, and to have both projects use the same assessment tools to measure the key indicators for academic outcomes and parent engagement, and that funding is contingent upon serving at least 95% of the target of 500 students. Motion approved unanimously.**

## **VI. Collaborative Factor Inventory Results**

Advance Consulting shared a summary of results of the Collaborative Factor Inventory Survey that board members took over the past few weeks. Staff and board members all completed – 12 respondents. There was a discussion about the lower score in “sufficient funds, staff, materials and time.” Some were referring to the amount of funds available for community grants. Another mentioned the non-financial resources, such as cross-sector meetings of staff to focus on specific issues. This could happen in the context of the Youth Master plan. One idea would be a focus on children safe and free from abuse and neglect – could be child protection focus, and could be gang-focused. Consider what comes out of My Brother’s Keeper groups and perhaps let that guide our work. How can the SPCC be influential where there is most need. SPPS sees gang-involvement and school attendance. County sees child protection and corrections as places where kids have dual involvement. Police Department has an ambassador program that may be relevant.

Jane will gather Jackie, Mary Jo/Toni to talk about resources to support the SPCC infrastructure.

## **Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

- New Lens Urban Mentoring overview
- Update on My Brother’s Keeper
- Ramsey County Human Services regarding wraparound services
- Kent Pekel from Search Institute– caring adults
- Ramsey Interagency Early Intervention Council – Help Me Grow, SPPN Screening Group and GenNext Screening work group
- Michael Rodriguez from the UM on Minnesota Student Survey (social emotional, connection to one or more caring adults, etc.)
- Follow-up deeper discussions on Collaborative Factors Inventory results: multiple layers of participation; sufficient funds/resources; appropriate pace of development; history of collaborative in the community.

**Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 am**