



## APPROVED MINUTES

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### Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Board Meeting

June 12, 2019

8am – 10am

CAP/RW: 450 Syndicate Street North, Saint Paul

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT** Toni Carter, Alfreda Flowers, Robert McClain, Mary Jo McGuire, Nicolee Mensing, Hoang Murphy, Rebecca Noecker, Mary Vanderwert, Rolando Vera, Daniel Yang

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**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT** Cedrick Baker, Heather Kilgore, Nicole MartinRogers

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**STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT** Christa Anders, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators)

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**Meeting called to order by Carter at 8:05 am**

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#### Children's Fire

McClain lit the Children's Fire with some simple words, recognizing and celebrating the young people who have completed another school year. He reminded us to also pay attention to those young people who have struggled and lost their focus on education, and may or may not move on in their education.

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#### Consent Agenda

**Motion to approve the Minutes from the May 8, 2019 meeting and accept the information contained in the May update from Advance Consulting, and the May finance report. Second. Motion approved.**

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#### SPCC Partner Updates

The Board welcomed Rolando Vera as a new non-voting member of the Collaborative, representing Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health.

Ms. Alfreda's Golf Classic is on July 29, to raise funds for their back to school event through Family Values for Life.

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Commissioner Carter reported that Commissioner Huffman resigned and there is an election process underway to fill his seat, including the northern suburbs. She also spoke briefly about the issues going on with the Children's Mental Health Collaborative and potential consolidation. She also reported that Womazetta Jones is leaving the county to become the Commissioner of Health and Human Services in Rhode Island.

Director Vanderwert spoke about leadership changes – 11 principals left their positions, including 3 high schools. They also had two assistant superintendents resign. The legislature's action on school funding was helpful to the district's budget stabilization.

Nicolee reported that Head Start's duration grant will allow opening two new centers next fall. They are currently enrolling preschool aged children in the program.

Yang reported that there was a meeting related to the Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood's budget shortfall, and also they are hiring a new Executive Director.

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### **SPCC Administration**

Ramsey County has been doing internal planning around consolidating Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative and the Children's Mental Health Collaborative into one consolidated collaborative, perhaps including the SPCC. There was an effort to combine operations of the 3 collaboratives back in 2008 and the final report from that effort was included with the board packet.

Related to this consolidation, the attorney at the Ramsey County Attorney's Office who has provided the SPCC with legal guidance in the past recently informed us that the County Attorney's office can no longer provide legal guidance to the collaborative, due to conflicts of interest. Thus, the SPCC will need to secure outside legal representation if necessary, and funding for that service will need to come from partner contributions to the unrestricted fund.

Carter shared her understanding that it has never been the intent of the County to merge SPCC with any other collaborative, but there were concerns that led to exploration of merging Children's Mental Health Collaborative and Suburban Ramsey County. She will have a conversation with the County Manager to get a clear understanding of what the County is discussing. McGuire was part of a conversation of the Executive Committee of the County Board about making the mental health services county-wide through Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative. Any conversation about that by SPCC should come through a formal request to the SPCC. She would not recommend or participate in a conversation without that formal request. She also spoke about the LCTS funds that have been shared, since 1997, with the All Children Excel program, which stopped in 2018. Carter asked Paul Allwood to come to discuss this issue with the SPCC board.

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There was a discussion about the SPCC's legal representation, and whether the Board needs to act on these issues before the next board meeting. Noecker pointed out the urgency is with the County, not with the SPCC, and that we should continue according to our strategic objectives. Carter will talk to county staff and report back to the board.

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### **Learn, Grow, Thrive Grant Making Decisions**

Thanks to a connection made by Nicole MartinRogers, Advance Consulting was able to secure another community member to participate on the review team. Her name is Angelica Allery, she is enrolled member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate tribe, she lives on the East Side, works at American Indian Family Center as a Promise Fellow, graduated from Face to Face Academy and is interested in a career in non-profits. She is very excited about the opportunity to serve on the review committee. Murphy, Vanderwert and Flowers are interestd in being the Board representatives on the review committee.

**Motion to appoint Angelica Allery, Hoang Murphy, Mary Vanderwert and Alfreda Flowers to the be on the Learn, Grow, Thrive review committee, in addition to Eric Armacanqui.**

After the May board meeting, staff revised the RFP to try to reflect the board's direction. The current draft was included in the board packet and was presented for discussion. There were several areas where staff didn't know how to reflect some ideas the board had presented, particularly the fact that there was a decision that the Youth Master Plan data should guide the focus, but then there were several ideas presented in addition, including focusing on early care and education and out-of-school-time, prevention and two-generation approaches and parenting support, in ways that are culturally supportive. There was a clear commitment to funding programs that are getting results. The board worked together to revise and finalize the RFP.

**Motion to approve the revised RFP, including languge on clarifying the focus on Youth Master Plan priorities and expressing a preference for transformative, two-generation approaches. Second. Approved.**

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### **SPCC Administration**

Carter and McClain presented the results of the annual review of Advance Consulting's work providing administrative support to the Collaborative to the board. (Advance Consulting left the room for that discussion.) The board accepted the subcommittee's review of Advance Consulting.

Advance Consulting took photos of board members to include on our new website.

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### **Sharing/Agenda Items for Future Meetings (Discussion)**

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- Council for Black Male Success (Stephanie Battle)

**Meeting adjourned 10:00.**