



## APPROVED MINUTES

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### Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Board Meeting

October 9, 2019

8am – 10am

CAP/RW: 450 Syndicate Street North, Saint Paul

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT** Cedrick Baker, Toni Carter, Alfreda Flowers, Heather Kilgore, Robert McClain, Mary Jo McGuire, Nicolee Mensing, Hoang Murphy, Mary Vanderwert, Rolando Vera, Daniel Yang

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**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT** Nicole MartinRogers, Rebecca Noecker

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**STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT** Christa Anders, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators)  
Gayle Smaller – Executive Director (New Lens)  
Professor Jillian Peterson (Hamline)  
Professor James Densley (Metro State)

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

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#### Children’s Fire

McGuire lit the Children’s Fire with some profound, relevant and substantive words about today being National Stop Bullying Day, which was founded by a group of sixth graders, and how we can be instruments of peace. She encouraged all of us to think about how we can take action in our own lives to bring calm and peace to ourselves and the world.

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#### Consent Agenda

**Motion to approve the Minutes from the September 11, 2019 meeting and accept the information contained in the September update from Advance Consulting, and the September finance report. Second. Motion approved.**

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#### SPCC Administration

The board needs a nominating committee to reach out to candidate for open positions. Robert McClain reaches the end of his second three year term in December, so one community representative position will be open, as well as all four officer positions. Officers may serve up to two consecutive one year terms in any position. Carter is currently in year 1 as Chair, Vanderwert is in

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her second year as Secretary, McGuire in her first year as Treasurer, and MartinRogers in first year as Vice Chair.

**Motion to appoint Mary Vanderwert and Robert McClain as the Nominating Committee to bring forward nominees at the December meeting. Second. Motion approved.**

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### Collaborative Coordination Update

Carter met with other Ramsey County Commissioners (McGuire and McDonough) involved in the county's three collaboratives to discuss open issues related to coordination and collaboration. They asked that each collaborative consider assigning two board members and one staff person to meet several times over the next few months to reach agreement on open issues, including: legal representation of the collaboratives, allocation of ACE escrow funds, revision/updating of LCTS Partnership Agreement, and other organizational issues. The group will be facilitated by County staff. There are not predetermined outcomes, and the group would be time limited. It is definitely not an attempt to merge/consolidate collaboratives, and no specific collaborative is in charge. The SPCC board is also not supportive of changing the LCTS allocation.

**Motion to appoint Cedrick Baker and Daniel Yang to represent SPCC, along with one of the co-directors, on this committee. Second. Motion approved.**

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### Grantee Update: New Lens Urban Mentoring

Gayle Smaller, Executive Director of grantee New Lens, provided the board with an overview of their program and their evaluation strategy for evaluating participant outcomes and the organization as a whole. The New Lens Big Five (non-cognitive skill sets): self-cultivation, intentional community building, strategic thinking, situation analysis and adaptability. The evaluation was aligned around grade levels, focusing on specific Big 5 skill at each grade. They also focused on recruiting culturally congruent evaluators. It's an example of designing a program first from the perspective of the participants. As this board makes future funding decisions, it's important to think about how New Lens has approached the design, evaluation and operation of the program.

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### Gun Violence

Professors Jillian Peterson (Hamline) and James Densley (Metro State) from [The Violence Project](#) shared some of their research. They look at life history variables for mass shooters and communities involved in mass shootings, as well as gang violence. They talked about tackling both violence, and the fear of violence (because it's the fear of violence is what motivates people to join gangs, for example). Many of the lessons from mass shooting also apply to "everyday gun violence." Need for a shift to a public health approach: this is a public health epidemic. Violence clusters in places, like a disease, and it spreads like a disease. It clusters not really in places, but among groups of people.

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Violence is transmitted like a disease, like a blood-borne pathogen. It spreads through certain risky types of behaviors – joining gangs, carrying illegal firearms (secondary market). Target gangs and reciprocal violence between gangs, and target illegal firearms. Frame as untreated health problem, and treat as such:

- Do no harm
- Neutral/scientific/data-driven
- Guided by understanding, no blame
- Care for the most in need
- Grounded in person, family and community
- Education and outreach
- Confidentiality, credibility and trust
- Bottom line: care

The Violence Project is offering a one day training on mass shooting prevention on January 17, 2020 (register at [bit.ly/typtraining](http://bit.ly/typtraining)). What can we do? Support safe storage efforts, primary prevention (promoting social connectedness), and intervening at moments of crisis. How can we work to build social connectedness (for example teaching social-emotional skills at young age).

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### SPCC Partner Updates

Tabled until next month due to lack of time.

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### Agenda Items for Future Meetings

**Meeting adjourned 10:05.**