



APPROVED MINUTES

Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Board Meeting

March 11, 2020

8am – 10am

CAP/RW: 450 Syndicate Street North, Saint Paul

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	Toni Carter, Emmanuel Donaby, Alfreda Flowers, Jeanelle Foster, Angelica Klebsch, Nicole MartinRogers, Hoang Murphy, Rebecca Noecker, Daniel Yang
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BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT	Cedrick Baker, Heather Kilgore, Nicolee Mensing, Mary Jo McGuire, Rolando Vera
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STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT	Christa Anders, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators); December Brakefield (Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health)
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Meeting called to order by MartinRogers at 8:08 am

Children’s Fire

Yang lit the Children’s Fire with a recommendation and request. He spoke of having the chance to meet incredible leaders around the world, and remembering when he was young, meeting President Mandela. Daniel asked for advice on doing service work. President Mandela recommended building out empathy (not patience, not compassion) – the active practice of viewing someone else’s experiences, especially your opposition. He asked each of us to approach our most difficult interactions with empathy for other people.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the February 12, 2020 board meeting and accept the information contained in the February update from Advance Consulting and the February finance report. Second. Motion approved.

Learn, Grow, Thrive Grants (DISCUSSION/ACTION)

Advance Consulting prepared summaries of the 2018-19 grantees (shared with board in advance of the meeting). Overall, grantee performance was as expected. There was discussion about what the SPCC’s approach should be to setting and monitoring grant outcomes. There is a desire to work collaboratively with grantee partners to understand community context and overall “needle movement” on outcomes that matter. This work does take time. The context is changing as we work,

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which has huge impact on these community programs. There is also a need to be more thoughtful and strategic in WHAT we measure. It may not just be on the actual Youth Master Plan goals. It would be interesting to talk about how our Youth Master Plan goals really could be impacted by grantees' work. Have a way that grantees can learn from each other. We should have mid-year conversations with each grantee – informal, perhaps with board members. We could host community meals/conversations for grantees and prospective grantees. Even better if we could provide tools/useful resources. We should do this annually.

The SPCC has approximately \$182,000 to fund new grant(s), due to the distribution of SPCC's share of the escrowed LCTS funds. Advance Consulting prepared a draft RFP for board response/changes, based on discussion at the February board meeting. There was direction to improve the RFP's rubric to make it more specific. Add Community Ambassadors to the target list to invite to apply. Change deadline so that there is more time and have the board review at May 13 meeting. Grants due April 9.

Motion to approve the RFP with the changes to move the due date back and approve at the May meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

There is a need to a review team for these proposals.

Motion to appoint Robert McClain, Emmanuel Donaby, Angelica Klebsch, Alfreda Flowers as reviewers and pay a stipend for reviewers, amount to be set once we know how many organizations apply, based on the estimated time involved. Second. Motion approved.

SPCC ADMINISTRATION

Since the February board meeting, Ramsey County Attorney's Office declined to review the grant agreement for our work on OST transportation with 4mativ. We were able to secure legal services from Kirsten Libby of the Libby Law Office. She made suggestions to the grant agreement which we incorporated and presented to 4mativ. They accepted all of the changes and so we are on our way to finally getting that grant agreement in place and the OST Pilot moving.

At the February meeting, the board briefly discussed the idea of adding a legislator to the SPCC board. Advance Consulting was directed to prepare a discussion-starter to help the board come to some resolution on this issue. There was discussion of not wanting to change the bylaws but preferring the second or third option. There is concern about whether a legislator would attend due to conflict with the legislative session. If we want legislator to be more engaged in our work, they need to be invited to voting members of the body. There is also concern in having someone here without voting. It also shifts the conversation to what is happening at the state, rather than focusing on local. There would be value to have a post-session and a pre-session conversation with legislators (July or

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August and December). We could get mid-session reports from our partner organizations' lobbyists. Carter recommended looking at option 3 right now (Simply inviting the Saint Paul legislative delegation (one or all?) to attend SPCC board meetings as non-voting members) and come back to the discussion in spring of 2021. We could schedule meetings with the Saint Paul delegation, partly to discuss their interest in joining this body, and that could inform the decision. The bigger issue is engaging legislators beyond Saint Paul in supporting our Saint Paul agenda. We could also invite a lobbyist or two to come to the board and talk about how SPCC might more robustly engage state-level policy makers.

Over the next several months, we could invite lobbyists, debrief with Saint Paul delegation this summer (possibly follow-up conversations with some legislators to learn more about issues), and THEN have a conversation in the fall about whether we want to change bylaws.

Youth Master Plan: 2020 Plan for Focus

There was discussion about how to use the Youth Master Plan goals to focus content at the remaining meetings in 2020. The goal is to better understand what our grantees are doing in each goal, what are the best practices, and then what else we could be doing/what gaps. Site visits are one way to connect with the grantees. Could be more about convening discussion with grantees working in similar areas together, including with the board, to talk about what is working, what is missing, what are the real indicators of progress and what could move things forward (for grantees and the larger community). We could, perhaps, shift our meeting focus, so that every other month we have a community meeting/breakfast during this time, including a speaker or some other sort of professional development, to provide opportunity for growth for grantees and for the board members, along with building relationships and trust. Consider inviting other funders (East Side Funders Collaborative, Bigelow, etc.) We could partner with Saint Paul Foundation or perhaps another funder to underwrite these events. We'd only want to invite funders whose values align with ours, especially around equity. We could try it out, see how to structure, who to invite, and generally how to make it worthwhile. Could be every fourth board meeting, or quarterly. We will target doing the kindergarten readiness goal at the June meeting.

SPCC Partner Updates

There was discussion about the SPFT strike, which comes down to issues of community needs. This definitely relates to the larger issues of state policy discussed earlier.

Ramsey County has a command center with regard to stopping the spread of Coronavirus. We are waiting on the State also to provide more information on restrictive measures. They don't foresee an emergency, but are preparing for one. For the April or other meetings that may be impacted by Coronavirus, we can use Zoom to have our meeting.

Meeting adjourned 10:10.