



APPROVED MINUTES

Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Board Meeting

October 14, 2020

8am – 10 am

Via Zoom due to COVID-19 Restrictions

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Toni Carter, Emmanuel Donaby, Alfreda Flowers, Jeanelle Foster, Heather Kilgore, Angelica Klebsch, Nicole MartinRogers, Mary Jo McGuire, Hoang Murphy, Rebecca Noecker, Daniel Yang

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Cedrick Baker, Nicolee Mensing, Rolando Vera

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

Meeting called to order by Martin Rogers at 8:03 am

Children's Fire

The Children's Fire was lit by Jeanelle Foster, asking "and how are the children?" Thinking about the pandemic, racial injustice and all that's happening, she shared a poem from a seventh grader, about a country named Lolandia.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the September 9, 2020 board meeting and accept the information contained in the September update from Advance Consulting and the September finance reports. Motion to approve by Murphy. Second by McGuire Motion approved.

MarinRogers also spoke about obligations of board members and their partner organizations, per the bylaws.

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Questions Advance Consulting Update

Advance Consulting gave an overview of the highlights from the September update to the board and fielded questions.

SPCC Administration

Advance Consulting submitted an inventory of work completed from May 2019 to April 2020 to the board chair. It was also distributed with the board packet for board members to review. The fiscal agent has asked that the SPCC take action on the 2021 contract for administrative support this month so the contract can be in place by January 2021.

Motion to contract with Advance Consulting, continuing the contracting for the administration of the Collaborative in 2021. Motion by Yang, second by Murphy. Motion approved unanimously.

October is when the annual nominating committee should be appointed. All current officers are in their first term as officer, so are eligible to serve one more consecutive term in their officer positions. All are willing to do so, per email conversation this month. All community representatives are in the midst of a their terms, which are three years (two terms max), and all are willing to continue serving, per email conversation this month. There was discussion of whether anyone would like to make any changes, and since no one does, no nominating committee is necessary. McGuire asked the Chair to contact board members whose attendance is not in compliance with our bylaws.

October is the month the board agreed to consider whether a subcommittee is required to review/revise the bylaws.

This discussion raised a question about whether SPCC is subject to Open Meetings Act. County Commissioners will ask RCAO generally if board's such as ours are subject to Open Meetings Act, and Advance Consulting will also ask DHS.

Earlier in 2020, the board discussed and rejected the possibility of adding a member of the Saint Paul delegation in the Minnesota Legislature, which would have required a bylaw change. Instead, the board asked that we reach out to those legislative members to invite them to attend SPCC meeting(s). There was discussion of when that invitation should be issued, and what the content of a legislatively focused meeting should include. There was a suggestion that we invite lobbyists and seek their opinion on how SPCC can be most effective at the capitol. It may make sense for a subcommittee to meet with legislative delegation regularly to share information and align work, which could start with written communication: our background, our work, our priorities, and ask how we can work together, then invite them to a discussion with the board. We should coordinate with the lobbyists from our partner organizations, then set up the meeting through the Saint Paul delegation

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chair. In summary, SPCC will work on our legislative agenda, send a welcome/introduction letter to new delegation, and invite them to one of our board meetings (along with lobbyists and other interested parties).

The regular SPCC meeting schedule places the November meeting on November 11, which is Veterans Day. There was discussion about whether members would be available to meet that day – no one said they are not, so we'll proceed on November 11.

Unmet Needs for Saint Paul Families

Since the September meeting, Advance Consulting has been doing outreach to see how the \$200,000 reverted from the transportation pilot grant might be reallocated to meet pressing needs of children/youth in Saint Paul related to COVID. Information and options were presented in a memo that was included in the board packet. All spending must be accordance with LCTS Spending Policy, as always.

Board members with connections to any of the ideas presented shared background. The SPPS/Library proposal was funded through CARES Act funding. The number of subscriptions that SPPS will purchase through Comcast will address all needs of families still struggling with connectivity.

There was a concern raised by Murphy re: Catholic Charities with regard to the Supreme Court case (Fulton vs. City of Philadelphia) pending related to licensing of foster families and discrimination against licensing LGBT families as foster parents, and multiple board members expressed concern. Noecker shared the city is working with SPPS to cover digital needs of SPPS in full (as mentioned above). Yang talked about supporting homeless students from SPPS and many concurred on helping meet the needs of homeless students. Murphy talked about the needs of foster youth and how they have been excluded from COVID relief. Foster Advocates, YMCA and Project for Pride in Living are working on a proposal to Hennepin County for foster youth. Question about whether LCTS funds can be used for youth already in out of home placement.

MartinRogers summarized requests from Option 2, suggesting half the funding going there, and half to Option 4, with a focus on homeless/foster youth if possible. Murphy suggested splitting the funds equally among current grantees. Discussion the families know best about their needs. Kilgore said the need for devices/wifi for all youth in Saint Paul has been met by the funding mentioned above. Concerns again expressed about Catholic Charities.

Suggestion by Carter to explore Options 2, 3 and 4 in some combination to allocate the \$200K. Suggestion by Noecker to allocate among current grantees interested, given the priorities stated by the board. Discussion of sending a note to all current grantees expressing the Board's desire to meet urgent basic needs of families during this crisis, asking for a brief response on how they would use



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additional funds for that purpose, ask for a quick response (within a week), and then allocate the funds among those who respond with allowable uses by having the board take electronic action. All agreed with this plan and Advance Consulting will get to work on this process.

Meeting adjourned 10:03 AM