

Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Meeting

June 8, 2022

8am – 10 am

Via Zoom and in person at 450 Syndicate Street North, Wellstone Room

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	Emmanuel Donaby, Alfreda Flowers, Angelica Klebsch, Tonya Long (virtual), Mary Jo McGuire (virtual), Nicolee Mensing, Rebecca Noecker, Erica Prosser (virtual)
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT	Dana Abrams, Toni Carter, Halla Henderson, Hoang Murphy, Ginny Nierad, Jackie Turner
STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT	Nicole MartinRogers, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators) Pang Vang Daniel Cox (SPARK Campaign Manager) Brooke Blakey (City of Saint Paul Office of Neighborhood Safety Director) Mitch WalkingElk, Nina Berglund (not present), and Jody Nelson (GAP – Indigenous Youth Ceremonial Mentoring Society)
Meeting called to order by Donaby at 8:05 am.	
Children’s Fire The Children’s Fire was lit by Klebsch with some words about where hope comes from, then things are looking particularly bleak. She reached out to a preacher she follows on Twitter, asking where she gets hope. First, we find hope in what our ancestors have done to get us where we are. We hope for each other, for the strength to get through barriers together. And we hope for future generations, seven generations on. Here I am contributing one grain of sand!	
Consent Agenda Motion to approve the Minutes from the May 11, 2022, meeting and accept the information contained in the May update from Advance Consulting and the May 2022 finance report. Motion to approve by Klebsch. Second by Flowers. The roll was called, and the motion was approved.	
SPARK Daniel Cox, SPARK campaign manager, shared background information and gave a campaign update on SPARK. They are seeking approval on the ballot this November. There are 3 sides –	

501(c)3 through Think Small, organizational detail work group led by Dianne Haulcey at Think Small, and the campaign side working on getting the ballot measure passed. The program was developed through a lot of community outreach. The org development work group is working on policy questions. The most urgent work right now is on the campaign side. Two ways SPARK can get on the ballot: via petition or by a vote of the City Council. They are pursuing petition. They are turning in signatures of June 15, and they have until June 27 to turn in last ones. They need about 12,000 signatures from Saint Paul voters. They are very close right now! There is a max amount the levy can bring in, and a max that any individual's tax can increase in a year. They have a Board of Directors on the campaign side, canvass team, organizers, and several vendors doing canvassing to collect signatures. There is also a work group on One Stop Shop, which is issuing a request for information from software developers, so we have vendor options in November if the ballot measure passes. There is no organized opposition, which has pros and cons. How can people help? They are working to grow the coalition. They need funding/connections to funders. They are looking for people to help do community engagement (community conversations). They also are seeking info on upcoming public events at which to do outreach.

SPCC Administration

We are planning to take August 10 meeting off for summer break.

We need to replace Ginny Nierad as non-voting Ramsey County rep to the board. It likely makes sense to have it be a county staff person who also participates in one or more of the other collaborative's boards, which would mean Ling Becker, Anne Barry, or Kathy Hedin. December Brakefield may be a good representative, and we just need to make sure there is a link to one of the county directors. We will send a note to Commissioners Carter and McGuire, and Kathy Hedin with the SPCC priorities and they will help us figure this out.

Jackie Turner has returned to the board as Superintendent Gothard's designee.

Congrats to Hoang Murphy, who just received a Bush Fellowship. Next month he can tell us all about his plans!

Safe and Free from Violence

Brooke Blakey, Director of the Saint Paul Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS), shared an update on that office and their work with the board. She's been in the role for 100 days, has hired some staff. As they enter summer, youth are the biggest focus. They are serving as a clearinghouse to make a dedicated plan for the next 60 days of summer, especially gun violence. They are working on creating positive opportunities for programming and mentoring. They are starting a neighborhood safety community council that will provide microgrants to communities, starting July 1. Those will focus on gun violence, youth violence, and group violence. The microgrants will be under \$20,000 each. Optimal response teams will be working with other system partners on a wraparound approach, as an alternative response to 911 calls. They are also making their strategic plan public. There was a question about how to connect young people who currently are not involved in programming – ONS is working on that, too. They will be part of the Juneteenth celebration and other

community events all summer. MartinRogers mentioned that SPCC has been working on youth violence too, and one of the gaps we've seen is parents whose children are involved in violence, needing support to deal with that child, and another gap is that many youth are not engaged in school (e.g., in-school truancy). Brooke said that is coming up as a gap. SPCC has been in conversation with the other collaboratives, as well as Erica from Ramsey County Attorney's Office.

Grantee Update: Indigenous Youth Ceremonial Mentoring Society

Long time project director Mitch WalkingElk is retiring. The board presented him with a token of thanks for his work over many years. Jody Nelson and Mitch WalkingElk shared some history and an update on how they plan to continue the project, with Nina Berglund (a former participant) as the new director. She has the full support of GAP and of SPCC and we're all here to help as needed!

SPCC Partner Updates and Ideas for Future Meetings

Tonya brought up that when we talk about the youth in all these programs, there seems to be an assumption that the public schools are doing what they are supposed to do. She noted that is not the case for black and Indigenous students. SPCC needs to have that conversation with our district partners to see where we can increase supports for those students and make changes at the district level.

There is a Transforming System Together is having an open house on Saturday – all are welcome.

Meeting adjourned 9:50 AM.

Roll call votes for June 8, 2022 Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Meeting

	Motion 1 - Consent Agenda
Carter (absent)	
Donaby	YES
Flowers	YES
Henderson (absent)	
Klebsch	YES
Long	YES
McGuire	YES
Mensing	YES
Murphy (absent)	
Noecker	YES
Prosser	YES
Turner (absent)	