

**Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Meeting**

**April 12, 2023**

**8am – 10 am**

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

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<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Chauntyll Allen (virtual), December Brakefield (virtual), Emmanuel Donaby, Darlene Fry, Angelica Klebsch (virtual), Tonya Long (virtual), Nicolee Mensing, Rena Moran (virtual), Hoang Murphy, Jackie Turner (virtual), Daisy Vang (virtual), Mai Chong Xiong (virtual)
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Dana Abrams, Rebecca Noecker, Erica Prosser
<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS PRESENT</b>	Nicole MartinRogers (virtual), Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators)

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**Meeting called to order by Donaby at 8:04 am.**

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**Children’s Fire**  
The Children’s Fire was lit by Murphy, who shared the poem “Voting as a Fire Extinguisher” by Kyle Tran Myhre:  
When the haunted house catches fire: a moment of indecision.  
The house was, after all, built on bones, and blood, and bad intentions.  
Everyone who enters the house feels that overwhelming dread, the evil that perhaps only fire can purge.  
It’s tempting to just let it burn.  
And then I remember: there are children inside.

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## Consent Agenda

**Motion to approve the Minutes from the February 8, 2023, meeting and accept the information contained in the February and March updates from Advance Consulting and the February and March 2023 finance reports. Motion to approve by Murphy. Second by Mensing. The motion passes.**

## Learn, Grow, Thrive Grants

There have been several questions regarding the review team for the Learn, Grow, Thrive grant making process that need board action. Board members discussed the perception of conflict of interest or an actual conflict of interest if someone who applied for the grant is also on the grants committee, so they want to avoid that situation if possible by not having people who intend to apply for the grant to be on the review committee. Vang encouraged us to involve youth reviewers, which we have done and will continue to do in this grant round. Some board members still need to turn in their conflict of interest forms, Davis will follow-up after the meeting. Board discussion about allowing people who are board members of an organization to serve on the review committee, even if they don't have a financial interest.

**Motion by Turner that individuals who are staff members, consultants, board members, or have a financial interest in the organization that is applying for a grant under this RFP, they are not eligible to serve as a grants committee reviewer in that grant cycle. Second by Murphy. Motion passes.**

Second, the board discussed if community members who have served as reviewers in past RFP processes can serve again. Long suggests that people who are new should get priority, Moran also acknowledges the value of having people with experience on the committee.

**Motion by Murphy to allow people who have reviewed before to be on the committee again. Second by Moran. Motion passes.**

Third, the board discussed the amount that reviewers should be compensated to review grant applications. Advance Consulting recommends a minimum of \$599 and depending on how many proposals are submitted, and how much time we anticipate reviewers will need to spend.

**Motion by Murphy to pay reviewers a minimum of \$599 and more depending on how many grants are submitted and how much time we anticipate that reviewers will need to spend. Second by Mensing. Motion passes.**

A notice went out to the board and community of care list in early April, asking for community members to submit emails if interested in serving as reviewers for the upcoming Learn, Grow, Thrive grantmaking process. We received six responses (summarized in board packet). We also need two board members to serve as reviewers. Dr. Fry has expressed interest but is not able to serve based on the previous board action. Vang is interested but wants more time to think about it. Klebsch volunteered, particularly interested in site visits.

**Motion by Klebsch to appoint Reyna and Tatiana (with alternates in order of priority Tene, Marcia, Eric, and Takiya) to serve as review team for the 2024-25 Learn, Grow, Thrive grant making process. Board members on the committee to include Long and Vang with back up Klebsch. Second by Xiong. Motion passes.**

The board did not ask Advance Consulting to conduct research or gather additional information to inform the 2024-25 RFP, so the previous RFP was modified and updated, but the content and focus was left the same as for 2022-23. The board reviewed the draft.

**Motion by Turner to approve the RFP. Second by Murphy. Motion passes.**

### **SPCC Planning/Admin**

Noecker, who was not able to attend today's meeting, submitted a request to use unrestricted reserve funds to provide support for the upcoming Summer Choice Fair, a family event on May 7 at Conway Rec Center to help recruit youth to summer programs. There was discussion of that request, which was prepared by Erik Skold from Sprockets and shared with the board during the meeting. We discussed that this should be considered a direct service under the LCTS spending policy, so it could be paid for out of SPCC's restricted fund. Question of if the check will be made to Sprockets or Sanneh Foundation. Murphy is in favor of being responsive to community needs.

**Motion by Long to provide the funding in the amount of \$3,300 as requested. Second by Fry. Motion passes.**

The Administrative Support subcommittee (Donaby, Turner, and Prosser) shared their review of Advance Consulting's performance, referencing the documents shared in the board packet (partner survey results, grantee survey results, and Advance Consulting's self-report on activities of the past year). Advance Consulting left the meeting for the discussion.

**Motion by Murphy to continue the contract with Advance Consulting for next year (2024). Second by Long. Motion passes.**

The March meeting was the first time the SPCC meeting structure reflected the board's new direction to hold an educational community of care event once/quarter in lieu of a regular board meeting. Advance Consulting asked for feedback from the board members on that meeting. Turner would like to do these events in person in the future, at least once a year. Vang felt like the questions were very general, and also that we needed to manage the time more amongst the programs so everyone got an equal amount of time. Hoang and Fry

agreed that the questions were generic and also that the young people should have received the questions ahead of time. Board members with expertise could be involved in the design of these events. The Community of Care on June 14 will be in person.

As mentioned at the February meeting, DHS directed SPCC to update our governance agreement. Advance Consulting asked City, County, CAP/RW and school district to identify legal experts from their respective organizations to be part of a subcommittee to work on that new agreement. Advance Consulting tried to draft a first take on an update, using the previous agreement as basis and trying to incorporate the feedback on changes required received from DHS. CAP/RW said that they do not have on-staff legal experts, so they'd prefer to review the final draft. Brakefield helped connect SPCC to Lindsey Millard, county attorney, to help prepare an initial draft. While Turner and Noecker did identify legal staff from their respective organizations, those experts have not responded to repeated requests from SPCC. Every board member will need to sign it annually. This needs to be completed by the end of June, or our LCTS funding could be suspended.

### **Partner Updates/Future Meeting Topics**

Question from Vang about adult youth cannabis and if SPCC is doing anything with Youthprise on the adult use cannabis bill. The board did not take action to sign on to the coalition. If anyone wants to be plugged in we can connect board members to Ignite and share action alerts on this topic with the board.

Dr. Fry says they have a program at Mn Landscape Arboretum for youth gardening, starts June 21, will share a flier.

Commissioner Xiong and Commissioner Moran as part of youth justice transformation work, went to Washington DC and learned about the support for this work and coordinated efforts, such as restorative justice, credible mentors program, drop-in centers for youth, etc.

Turner mentioned unemployment insurance bill, likely to pass both Senate and House, that says hourly staff will qualify for unemployment insurance during the summer. This would be a significant impact on SPPS regarding non-licensed staff who help to run summer programs, but they might be eligible to get unemployment insurance instead, and those staff could choose to stay home vs. work the summer jobs. Would take effect 5/23 if the bill goes through. Are other partners worried about this? It didn't come up at Ignite Policy Committee meeting. Mensing says some staff are year-round, but if they offer work to somebody over the summer then they aren't eligible for the unemployment, but she's not HR so not fully aware of the details. Turner says non-licensed staff are 10-month employees so the summer jobs are seasonal/temp jobs, so they are not under the contractual bargaining agreement. Might be different for nonprofits vs. school district.

**Meeting adjourned 9:32 AM.**

