

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Via Teleconference

Monday, February 24th, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judge James Cecile (President/Development Chair), Paula Freedman, Tysha Martin, Christopher Montgomery, Edward Perry, Erich Shafer, Robert Tackman (Finance Chair), Patricia Usherwood Fitzpatrick, Jason Wallace

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Eric Caballero, Shirley Copes (Planning Chair)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nicholas DeMartino, Steven Hodgins, Pastor Phyllis Lee-Williams (EEO/Personnel Chair)

STAFF PRESENT: Carolyn Brown, Jamie Colucci, Todd Goehle, Kathleen O'Brien

CALL TO ORDER:

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President Cecile at 4:47pm.

ROLL CALL:

President Cecile noted for the record that a quorum was participating either in person or via Zoom.

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Board members observed a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The President requested a motion to approve the January Board Meeting minutes;

Ms. Tysha Martin moved to approve the January Board Meeting minutes;

Mr. Robert Tackman seconded the motion;

The motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Cecile reported that he did not have any updates beyond what was to be presented in the committee reports.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:

President Cecile reported that the committee is requesting nomination letters in support of new Board member terms for Ms. Freedman and Mr. Caballero. He reported that the committee also discussed agency responses to new federal initiatives.

***The President requested a motion to accept the Development Committee report;
Ms. Paula Freedman moved to accept the Development Committee report;
Mr. Edward Perry seconded the motion;
The motion carried unanimously.***

FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT:

Chair Robert Tackman asked CFO Kathleen O'Brien to present the first close of the monthly financial statements for January 31st. Ms. O'Brien reported that the net income before depreciation is (\$261,512) versus a budget of \$258,199, and that the net income after depreciation is (\$836,725). She also reported that the current ratio of assets over liabilities is 153%, and that the net income from normal operations is (\$26,809), reflecting timing differences of fixed asset purchases, revenue recognition grants, and donation cost centers, and the cost of the 401(k) plan adjustment of \$162,298.

Ms. O'Brien also discussed fundraising revenue, the capital improvement account, the indirect rate, the Captive Health Insurance reserve account, the calculation of funds available for investment opportunities, and the annual audit process.

***The President requested a motion to accept the Finance/Audit Committee report;
Mr. Erich Shafer moved to accept the Finance/Audit Committee report;
Mr. Jason Wallace seconded the motion;
The motion carried unanimously.***

EEO/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT:

President Cecile asked Mr. Montgomery to present the monthly committee report. Mr. Montgomery reported that the committee discussed the 401(k) plan forfeiture account balance, the 2024 turnover analysis, and the applicant pool report.

***The President requested a motion to accept the EEO/Personnel Committee report;
Ms. Patricia Usherwood Fitzpatrick moved to accept the EEO/Personnel Committee report;
Ms. Paula Freedman seconded the motion;
The motion carried unanimously.***

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT:

The February Planning Committee meeting was cancelled because there were no action items or presentations scheduled.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Brown gave an update on policy changes that are being made or proposed to align with recent presidential Executive Orders.

Ms. Brown discussed the development of new Immigration and Customs Enforcement protocols.

Ms. Brown discussed the 1115 Medicaid Waiver Reform initiative, noting that Inclusive Alliance lost its contract to Healthy Alliance, and that a wider role for PEACE, Inc. is still to be determined.

Ms. Brown gave an update on the Head Start program, noting that the new Baldwinsville/J-E site is now fully open, and that the Merrick site has a Black History Month exhibit.

Ms. Brown reported on various upcoming speaking events for the Community Engagement Department.

PROGRAM REPORTS:

Monthly program updates for Big Brothers Big Sisters, Family Resource Centers, Senior Services, and Head Start/Early Head Start were distributed to all Board members in meeting packets for review.

President Cecile highlighted two success stories: the County South NAC collaboration with the Fabius-Pompey Outreach youth bed project, and a client who obtained his driver license and a job at the Amazon warehouse with assistance from the Eastside FRC.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ms. Brown reported on a state payroll tax error on the part of the agency payroll provider that had been resolved.

Ms. Brown reported that the agency is challenging fines incurred for Article 19-A driver recordkeeping violations from the prior Call-A-Bus collaboration with Centro.

Mr. Shafer encouraged Board members to continue to propose additional potential sponsors for the annual Champions of Diversity fundraiser scheduled for May 21st at the Veterans Resource Center.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Goehle announced the honorees for the Champions of Diversity event: Syracuse Commissioner of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Youth Programs **Syeisha Byrd**; NYS Assemblymember **Pamela Hunter**; and Vice President of Community Investment at the Central New York Community Foundation, **Frank Ridzi, Ph.D.**

Mr. Goehle reported on the recent Free Tax Prep Super Saturday event at Key Bank, which resulted in 61 tax filings and refunds totaling approximately \$131,000.

ADJOURNMENT: President Cecile adjourned the Board meeting at 5:26pm.