



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 18, 2020
Zoom Conference Call

Present (22): Shari Aser, Karen Chaplin, Hagar Chemali, Grace Djuranovic, Laura Erickson, Tim Drinkall, Jaime Eisenberg, William Finger, Dan Fitzgerald, Mario Forlini, Debra Hess, Joui Hessel, Eva Maria Janerus, Eileen Kim, Cait Kraus-Long, Nicole Kwasniewski, John Maus, Erin McCall, JP Muir, Karen Oztemel, Kirsten Riemer, Nancy Weissler

Absent (2): Laurie Tropiano, Diane Viton

Guests (2): Bruce Blasnik and Winifred Lam, O'Connor Davies

Total Board Attendance: 22 out of 24

Staff Attending: David Rabin, Jeremy Nappi, Misha Young

Meeting called to order by Eileen Kim, Board Chair at 6:01pm.

Finance – Debra Hess, Vice Chair

Eva Maria Janerus introduced Bruce Blasnik and Winifred Lam from O'Connor Davies who presented for 15 minutes about the audit process, outcomes of clean audit and no material weaknesses, and financial statement highlights.

Debra complimented Eva Maria for her leadership role on Audit Committee and emphasized the importance of the Board role in proving the financials. Eva Maria noted:

- Pam Fornero (former Audit Committee Chair) is still an active committee member providing continuity
- Good relationship with external accountant Martin, DeCruze & Company; working to improve internal controls

Motion to Approve the Audit

“Whereas, the Audit Committee has met with the independent auditors (O'Connor Davies) of the Greenwich United Way (the “Corporation”) and has reviewed the independent auditors’ report on the audited financial statements of the Corporation for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020;

And whereas, the Audit Committee believes the independent auditors’ report and the financial statements are reasonable and appropriate and has recommended that the Board accept the independent auditor’s report and authorize the release of the financial statements;

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It is therefore, resolved, that the Board hereby accepts the independent auditors' report on the audited financial statements of the Corporation for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 and authorizes the release of such audited financial statements."

Eva Maria Janerus made the motion and 2nd by Shari Aser. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – William Finger, Secretary

Bill made a motion to approve minutes with the following amendments:

- In CEO Report, change \$500K to **\$200K**
- Under Finance, change to "Audited financial statements were received..."
- Reorganize bullets for 2020 and 2021 Sole Sisters
- Add Bill Finger for who 2nd motion to adjourn the meeting

2nd by Debra Hess. The motion passed unanimously.

CEO Report – David Rabin, CEO

The full report available for review on the G UW board portal.

- Greenwich United Way received a Moffly "Light A Fire" award for community impact. The virtual event is on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 5:45pm. Jeremy Nappi will share the event link with Board members.
- The deadline for CIP grant applications was on November 9, 2020. 28 applications were received with requests totaling \$1.37 million, including 2 COVID-19 Relief Fund applications for \$85K.

Announcements – Eileen Kim, Board Chair

- Legislative Breakfast on Thursday, December 10
- NO Board Meeting in December
- Please consider contributing to annual Board effort to give \$50 holiday gift cards to teens from Community Centers Inc. (CCI) and families participating in the Greenwich Parents as Teachers program.

Finance – Debra Hess, Vice Chair

The budget will go through the final approval in January 2021 to determine how much is available to award in grants for the remaining fiscal year. COVID-19 Relief Funds are still available. Some monies will be used for pre-school scholarships. Fundraising events were



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deferred because of the pandemic, but events may be added in the current fiscal year to offset loss of revenue. The PPD loan is classified as deferred potential revenue.

Jeremy Nappi noted that the year-end will close on January 13, 2021. We will follow donor intent according to the check date (December 31 or earlier) if received on or before January 13.

Fund Development & Marketing – Diane Viton, Vice Chair

Jeremy Nappi reported that individual giving is at 54% of goal and the overall goal is at 60%, trending the same as in prior fiscal years.

Eileen Kim explained that historically grants dollars were committed before being raised. Our current process is to raise most of the funds prior to issuing the grant awards.

Community Impact – Nicole Kwasniewski, Vice Chair

Jeremy Nappi provided an update about the Needs Assessment. The GUW team met with Fairfield University on Friday, November 13. The final interviews have been completed. After the final analysis, we will move to the narrative stage. Karen Keegan, former Board Chair, will work with the management team on this. A copywriter for Fairfield University will proof the final draft.

Eileen wished everyone “happy holidays” as the Board will reconvene in January 2021.

Eileen Kim made a motion to adjourn the meeting and 2nd by Bill Finger.

The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53pm.

Executive session followed.