



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Social Club – Private Function Room plus Zoom

Attendees:

Present (15):	Shari Aser, Grace Lockhart Djuranovic, Timothy Drinkall, Mario Forlini, Debra Hess, Alyssa Keleshian, Patrick Kerney, Caitlin Kraus-Long, Nicole Kwasniewski, Cory Anne Logan, John Maus, Karin McShane, JP Muir, Karen Scrivanos Oztemel, Kristen Riemer
On Phone (3):	Jeffrey Coviello, Carey Wunsch Giannetti, Diane Viton
Absent (6):	Hagar Chemali, Jamie Eisenberg, Laura Erickson, Joui Hessel, Eva Marie Janerus, Erin McCall
Total Board Attendance:	18 out of 24
Staff Attending:	Jeremy Nappi, David Rabin, Ilyssa Tanchum

Meeting called to order by Mario Forlini, Board Chair at 6:10 pm.

Welcome

Board Chair Mario Forlini welcomed Committee members.

Approval of Minutes

Secretary JP Muir made a motion to approve the minutes. Patrick Kerney second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CEO Report

David Rabin opened the floor for questions on the CEO Report – no questions arose.

David spoke about several highlights:

- Greenwich United Way will be moving on Monday, May 23rd and will be in the new office on Tuesday, May 24th. There will be a press release going out about the move.
- Met with Greenwich Hospital (2X) to further discuss partnership to address youth and adolescent mental health. At one of the meetings there was a G UW Board Member there.
- Honored at Laurel House event as Greenwich Town Champion. Our process does work.
- Rob Moore, Jeremy, and David are all working on next year's CIP process.
- David read to the Board some of the CIP Volunteer responses from their meetings with the organizations. Some were positive and a few were negative. David is also meeting one on one with all the CIP Volunteers and has been very impressed with their honesty and understanding of the process. Nicole asked if all the agencies were aware of the process and paperwork involved. Jeremy explained how the agencies are fully aware of how Greenwich



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United Way does their CIP Grant Process. Corey mentioned that it was great that this year all the CIP Volunteers presentations were upfront and honest. David mentioned that there is and will be training videos for future volunteers.

Comments – Mario Forlini

Board Chair Mario Forlini spoke about that there might be cocktails or a recognition ceremony for the CIP Volunteers. It would be a great idea to invite the press to this. Mario also spoke about how things sometimes get lost in translation. We did a poll with all the CIP Grant Applicants and went over all the feedback that the agencies provided. There also was a turnover of applications this year. Please always remember that confidentiality is key. If you ever hear anything less than positive to please tell him or David.

Mario thanked everyone. He then moved around the agenda a bit so that John Maus, BDRF Chair could speak about the DBRF Update.

Finance

John Maus, BDRF Chair spoke about the call that the committee had with Brown Advisory. Brown Advisory sees a silver lining. Businesses are getting back to as normal as possible. We have a balanced portfolio and as of March \$3M and was down around \$300K today.

Market Update

- Global markets continue to be volatile with several shocks happening at once: inflation, rising interest rates, War in Ukraine and lockdowns in China.
- Small signs of improvement in US Economy: easing of COVID related disruptions and slight improvements in labor shortages.

Portfolio Review

Portfolio has been balanced between growth and value within equities and significantly reduced duration in Fixed Income.

- \$3,025,364 Total Value as of 3/31/2022
- 1st Quarter Performance: -6.8% net of fees -Since inception Performance: 9.1% net of fees
- Allocation: 28% Fixed Income, 71% Equities, 1% Cash

John spoke to the Board about GUW's Asset Allocation. After, he asked the Board to vote on the Asset Allocation. Alyssa Keleshian second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



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Mario mentioned that the fund distribution is only once a year. There will not be another one till next January.

Vice-Chair Debra Hess asked if anyone had questions on the financial reports – no questions arose. She spoke about how David, Jeremy, and herself had a meeting on the Budget. Prior to the vote at the Annual Board Meeting in June, there will be morning and afternoon meetings to review the budget with the board. The date will be on June 7th and the times are 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

Mario thanked Debra and John and passed it over to Nicole Kwasniewski

Community Impact

Nicole Kwasniewski, Vice Chair Community Impact spoke about how the grant process is very through and all the CIP Volunteers did a great job presenting. She went on to read a motion to approve all the grants. Debra Hess seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mario thanked Nicole and went into New Business.

New Business

Mario spoke about the Sole Sisters Luncheon. It was his first time attending and it was a great event. He looks forward to all the other events this coming year.

Mario passed it over to Grace Lockhart Djuranovic for the Topic of the Month.

Board Affairs

Topic of the Month: Nominating Committee & Process by Vice-Chair Grace Lockhart Djuranovic

Nominating Committee & Process

GUW Board of Directors & Advisory Board

Per the bylaws, the Board of Directors can be made up of 18-42 members. We currently have 24 board members and 44 Advisory Board Members.

Nominating Committee Structure

Our Nominating Committee is made up of both current board members and community volunteers. Currently there are 4 board members, 3 community volunteers, Mario, David and Jeremy also part of our meetings. The Officers Nominating Committee is comprised of the board members who are on Nominating.

Nominating Committee responsibilities



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The Nominating Committee is responsible for proposing the complete slate for vote by the Board at each Annual Meeting. The Bylaws stipulate that the slate include all members for the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Officers Nominating Committee, and the

Board Designated Reserve Fund Committee. In recent years, the Nominating Committee has also proposed all members to the Advisory Board.

The Officers Nominating Committee works with the incoming Board Chair, the CEO, and any other Board member whom the incoming Board Chair wishes to include, to develop a slate for incoming officers and a slate for the BDRF Committee.

Nominating Process

At the beginning of the year, the Committee looks at the Slate to see which board members will be rolling off after their two 3-year terms and we look to identify any specific holes we may need to fill

Candidate identification - who is our ideal candidate? There is no specific answer to this, and it varies each year.

- Professions/ Skill Sets: There is a huge variety of professions and skill sets that can be very helpful to our organization; for inspiration, the committees list is a great place to get ideas of what areas we cover.
- Commitment to GUW: We look for candidates who have been involved on our committees or who have attended events or who are donors.
- Financial capacity: The goal is for 100% of board members to contribute to the annual campaign, so ability to give is an important factor to consider.
- Volunteer capacity: We want candidates who want to be involved with board work and volunteer their time. We look for candidates who we think would be good “team players” and want to volunteer on and/or chair committees.
- Community Involvement: Many of our board members are already involved in the community in one way or the other. We are also looking for people who want to learn more and become more involved – there’s no minimum requirement for experience.
- “Right fit”: We are looking for the right people who are the right fit. We are looking for your friends, colleagues, and neighbors. You all are our best resource in terms of new candidates – you have the firsthand experience of understanding this board and who would be an asset.

Timing & Process

Meetings start in the fall to select candidates for the following June – can vary year-to-year and depends on the number of board members we need to replace and the strength of the pipeline.

The Nominating Committee will identify and vet incoming members to the Board of Directors using the following procedure:



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- Step 1: Identify and discuss candidate with Nominating Committee and gain approval / consensus to speak with candidate about the GUW Board of Directors.
- Step 2: GUW representative to speak with candidate, gauging interest and providing materials about the GUW and Board of Directors and role.
- Step 3: If candidate elects to move forward, arrange meeting with CEO, Board Chair, etc.
- Step 4: Following CEO's meeting and feedback, candidate's name will go back to Nominating Committee for official committee vote.
- Step 5: All approved candidate names brought as part of the full slate to the board for vote at Annual Meeting.

Mentors: Nominating Committee is responsible for assigning each new Board member with a current Board member who will serve as their mentor

New Board Member Orientation will take place in the fall

Mario mentioned that he had dinner with someone who wanted to be on the board. Maybe not for this year but possibly in the future. What he did was send Grace his information.

Alyssa mentioned that if you meet someone bring David into the mix. Maybe they would want to be on a committee first prior to joining the Board.

Grace thanked all her committee members for all their hard work. She went onto read the bios of the nominees for the Board of Directors. They were:

- Pamela Fornero
- Sabrina Forsythe
- Clarena McBeth
- Antonio Miranda

The new members of the Advisory Board will be:

- Erin McCall
- Demetra Ganiak Soterakis
- Shahryar Oveissi

Mario thanked Grace for such a great presentation and passed it over to Fund Development & Marketing.

Fund Development & Marketing

Jeremy Nappi gave a brief update on the Campaign Status report. July 13th is our End of the Year.

Sole Sisters – Carey Wunsch Giannetti via ZOOM



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Carey thanked everyone for their support of the Sole Sisters Luncheon. There were 250 attendees and GUW made over \$250K. There were some great new vendors per the feedback from everyone and such a great committee this year. Thank you to Jamie and Emily who bought in the new vendors this year. Everyone enjoyed the speaker. This was the first live event since Covid, and it went extremely well.

Mario said a great big thank you from the Board to Carey and all the Sole Sisters.

Golf Tournament – Mario Forlini, Co-Chair

Mario Forlini, Co-Chair mentioned that the Golf Tournament will be on October 3rd at the Round Hill Country Club. Thank you again to Patrick for securing the county club. Right now, the Early Bird tickets are available. 36 people have already signed up and thank you to the Board Members who already have.

Brew Ha Ha – Karin McShane, Co-Chair

Karin McShane, Co-Chair spoke about Brew Ha Ha. It will be on September 23rd at Brunswick. There will be a committee meeting in June. There will be outdoor food trucks so please send along any food truck ideas you should have. It will be nice having the flexibility of holding the event inside and outside. Alyssa Keleshian mentioned that it would be a good idea to have a dessert truck, and everyone seemed to like that idea.

Mario asked if anyone had any questions about the events. No one had any.

Board Chair Mario Forlini made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alyssa Keleshian. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.