Minutes

Kids First Trust Fund Board

November 9, 2023

Present: on site: C. Shelton, D. Weinberg, D. Travis -- Via zoom: R. Hug, E. Kominowski, S.M. Finnell, and “soon to be appointed” new board member, Matt Wilson.

A board quorum WAS present.

**Call to Order:** Chair Weinberg called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM and welcomed soon to be appointed new board member Matt Wilson, executive director of the Boone County Mentoring Partnership.

**Recognition of Board Vice-Chair Candes Shelton:** Chair Weinberg noted that to his surprise and disappointment, that vice-chair Candes Shelton would not be returning to the board in 2024. He praised her hard work and dedication to the Board over a very long time and expressed his appreciation to her on behalf of himself and the Board.

Chair Weinberg then called upon Don Travis who read a letter of thanks and congratulation from Governor Eric Holcomb (attached). As part of the recognition, on behalf of the Governor, Mr. Travis also presented Candes Shelton with the Distinguished Hoosier Award, given to residents who “distinguish themselves by significant contributions to their communities, and whose qualities and actions endear them in the hearts and minds of Hoosiers”. (copy attached).

Chair Weinberg then called upon Richard Hug who also praised Candes Shelton and read the attached resolution of recognition. The resolution passed unanimously.

**Minutes:** The group approved the minutes of the September 21, 2023 meeting on a roll call vote 6-0 with the clarification noted below.

With regard to the financials section of the minutes, Don Travis noted that he had not previously reported the names and amounts of KFTF donors to the board. [Note: The wording “the group” in the final sentence of the financials section of the minutes refers to the Board rather than to the DCS finance professions in attendance at the meeting]

**Financials:** The group briefly reviewed the financial statements circulated before the meeting. Chair Weinberg noted that there were no major changes from previous reports. It was noted that the group is still interested in a report from DCS finance professionals about the Victim Assistance Fund contributions to KFTF and whether donations to KFTF are routinely acknowledged when received.

**PCAIN Update and Report:** Chair Weinberg noted that Jeff Wittman asked that his report be deferred until near the end of the meeting.

**2024 Meeting Schedule:** After some discussion it was agreed to keep the pattern of meetings used during 2023. Board meetings will be every other month on the third Thursday of the month from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM (Eastern). The next meeting will be on January 18, 2024. Subsequent meetings will be held in March, May, July, September, and December of 2024 on the third Thursday.

Chair Weinberg announced that the January meeting would serve as the annual meeting and that the group would consider its annual budget and elect officers for the year at that time. The group noted that the enabling law for KFTF required that the chair and vice-chair must not both be appointees of the Governor or the legislature.

**Planning Committee -- Prevention Framework Work group:** Chair Weinberg reported that this group had met on October 27. He reviewed the meeting notes (distributed with the agenda for the meeting and attached) and led a discussion of the preferences of the Board regarding the four possible areas of focus laid out by the committee. It was agreed that the Board should consider 1)providing financial support to framework pilots, probably in the form of providing stipends to backbone group leaders through PCAIN, 2) providing in-kind assistance to projects with summarizing the results of surveys and focus groups and accessing the community data from the sources suggested in the framework toolkit, and 3) assisting pilot projects with advocacy and messaging efforts.

**Planning Committee -- 501 C 3 Group:** Doug reported that this group had met again and was continuing to research the possibility of employing a firm such as Charitable Allies (suggested by Ed Kominowski) to aid in the process. It was noted that the fee of the firm would be $3500 to $5000 to provide comprehensive help in organizing the new entity, including the drafting of by-laws and the filing of the required paperwork with the appropriate state and federal taxing authorities. In addition, Rick Hug will meet with Rebecca Murray, the Wisconsin Children’s Trust executive at the Children’s Trust Fund Alliance meeting in Seattle in the following week. This meeting will seek to update Chair Weinberg’s earlier discussions with Ms. Murray about Wisconsin’s establishment of a similar entity several years ago. Rick will also follow up with a contact from the Lilly Endowment (Julie Whitman) in January about possible support for this effort.

**Governance Committee:** Rick Hug reported that the Governance Committee was working with the Planning committee effort to establish the 501c3 entity and had no other initiatives underway at this time.

**Communications Committee:** Rick Hug reported that the Alliance Communications Committee was working on part two of a webinar on the use of concrete supports to prevent child abuse and neglect. The keynote speaker for the 2023 Alliance Conference in Seattle, Claire Anderson, will also speak at the Committee webinar now scheduled for January 2024. Don Travis spoke about the importance of concrete support in the prevention effort and noted that Indiana was a leader in this area -- providing financial and other support to families in both its Family Preservation and Community Partners programs.

**PCAIN Report:** The group agreed to defer the PCAIN report to the next meeting.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:33 PM.

**Next meeting:** January 18, -- 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM (Eastern)