



Executive Board

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 26, 2019, 10am

Present | Sr. Mary Ann Nestel, Karl Wilson, Bill Siedhoff, Chauncey 'Skip' Batchelor, Ann Bannes

Other Attendees | Jamie Opsal, Stephanie Herbers, Bill Kuehling, Stacey Easterling

Public Hearing on Property Tax Rates

A notice was posted in the St. Louis American and listed as an item on the meeting's agenda, which was posted on the Senior Fund's website. Bill Siedhoff read the resolution. For FY2020 the Board has determined that the rate of taxation will be reduced from the presently authorized five cents (\$0.05) on each \$100 assessed valuation of property to \$0.0487 based on the provisions of Article X, Section 22 of the Missouri Constitution and Section 137.073 R.S.Mo.

There were no public members in attendance.

Sr. Mary Ann Nestel made a motion to approve the resolution for the adjusted tax rate for fiscal year 2020, Skip Batchelor seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Welcome and Review of Minutes *(Bill Siedhoff)*

Skip Batchelor made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Chair Updates *(Bill Siedhoff)*

Legislative Update | Bill and Jamie met with Representative Barringer to review statute and strategy for aligning with other tax funds; will meet with area legislators and pursue adjusting statute to align with other tax funds in the next legislative session.

Senior Levy Fund Meeting | Bill, Jamie, and Stephanie attended the meeting with representatives from many of the other senior levy funds. Meeting was an opportunity to hear what was going on in other counties and identify opportunities to coordinate efforts. Jamie and Stephanie also attended the Ma4 annual meeting, which is attended by representatives from all the area agencies on aging in the state and other aging services partners.

Seniors Count | The Seniors Count executive committee for St. Louis County has been meeting to discuss next steps for pursuing an increase in funding for older adult services in

Notetaker: Stephanie Herbers

the county. The need for more funding is clear, they are still determining the best approach and timing of when to pursue.

St. Louis Office for Developmental Disability Resources | The Department of Mental Health has delayed funding for services for adults with developmental disabilities due to reduction in appropriations. This is affecting services for many city residents.

Report on MO Aging Advocacy Readiness (Stacey Easterling)

Stacey Easterling presented on work she conducted for the Senior Fund and Marillac Mission Fund to assess the current environment in the region regarding advocacy for older adults. A report was shared that outlined themes regarding current environment as well as recommendations. There is a momentum in the aging field in Missouri to expand advocacy on behalf of older adults and interest in a broader network that connects existing coalitions focused on various issues.

Next steps based on this report are to be determined.

Program and Grants Committee (Karl Wilson)

St. Andrew's Homemaker Chore Services Proposal | Discussed summary of St. Andrew's proposal to provide homemaker chore services to City residents with financial support by the Senior Fund. The Fund supported one organization in initial funding round and still had funding budgeted for this focus area that was not designated to a specific organization. St. Andrew's currently has a grant from the St. Louis Area Agency for \$9,000 to serve a few City residents; support from the Senior Fund would allow them to expand their services and offer free homemaker chore support for a certain number of hours per week.

Karl Wilson made a motion to approve a grant award of \$100,000 in FY20 to St. Andrew's Senior Solutions, Ann Bannes seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Match Funding Requests | East West Gateway announced the next funding round for 5310 Transportation Funding; this is funding that supports vehicle purchases and operating expenses for transportation services for adults with disabilities and seniors. This federal funding grant program requires a 20% local match. The Senior Fund's staff reached out to organizations providing transportation services to City residents inviting them to submit a request for match support. The Senior Fund received requests from five agencies; staff recommend supporting the match for one vehicle per agency.

Karl Wilson made a motion to support the match funding requests up to \$58,564, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Program Investment Categories | The Program and Grants Committee, along with Senior Fund staff, recommended creating three new program investment categories, in addition to the existing grant category for specific focus areas, beginning in FY20. Recommendations based on needs identified by community partners and broader community; they would help delineate specific opportunities within our budgets. A summary of these funding categories was presented. This would create four funding categories for program investments.

- 1) Fund Defined Grants (Current Category) – Funding to support work in specific focus areas determined by the Senior Fund Board based on community needs assessments and other sources. Funding cap will be determined by focus area. Generally, grants would be offered for up to \$100,000 per year. Information used to determine focus areas will be re-evaluated every 3-4 years. This category would follow same application process that has been used in the FY20 funding round (i.e., letter of intent and then invited application).
- 2) Applicant Defined Grants (New Category) – Funding for program support, pilot/innovation projects, or capacity building efforts that align with the Senior Fund’s mission and respond to a community need. This category would allow applicants to request funding for up to one year, up to \$75,000. Application process would not require a letter of intent and would use a slightly shorter application than Fund Defined grants. Over time, consistent requests could inform Fund Defined grant focus areas or a new funding opportunity.
- 3) Collaborative Projects (New Category) – Funding budgeted for collaborations with other funding partners, matching fund requests from grantees pursuing state or national funding opportunities (generally up to \$15,000 per match), contracts pursued by the Senior Fund to enhance current grants/program investments/existing services, such as training and consultants. This would be funding allocated for contracts and pooled funding opportunities initiated by the Senior Fund (or other funders).
- 4) Emergency Funds (New Category) – Funding budgeted for emergency needs of senior centers and other nonprofits serving City older residents. Funding would be budgeted as a reserve that only receives new allocations if spent. Could be used for incidents like extreme weather events that increase short-term need for services or other unexpected events that affect services. Up to \$25,000 per request would be allocated.

Karl Wilson made a motion to approve the funding categories, Skip Batchelor seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Timeframe of Fund Defined Grants | It was recommended that the number of years an organization can apply for in the Fund Defined grants category be changed from one-year grants with an opportunity to renew, to up to three-year grants with one-year renewable contracts. This change would mean that organizations could submit proposals for up to three-year grants for priority focus areas determined by the Board; annual renewals would be approved by the Board at the end of each year after a review of program reports.

Karl Wilson made a motion to allow proposals for up to three years of funding support for Fund Defined grants, Ann Bannes seconded. Board unanimously approved.

Funding Limits for Upcoming Program Investments | Based on Fund fiscal projections, Karl presented proposed funding limits for FY21 Fund Defined grants and FY20 Applicant Defined grants. These categories would be opened for new proposals in October 2019 if approved by the Board. The funding limit for FY21 Fund Defined grants was proposed at \$1.95M. This includes funding budgeted for existing grant awards, renewals to be determined in Spring 2020, in addition to up to \$600,000 for new awards for three focus areas: economic security, homemaker chore seasonal exterior maintenance, and oral health. The funding limit proposed for FY20 Applicant Defined grants was \$400,000.

Karl Wilson made a motion to approve funding limits for both funding categories as presented, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Executive Director Report (Jamie Opsal)

Invitations for Grantee Recognition Event | Jamie is sending out invitations to representatives of funded partner organizations and the Board of Aldermen's Health and Human Services Committee and other City officials. The event will be held on Wednesday, October 30 at 5pm at Food Outreach.

Follow-up on Aging Advocacy Network Report | Discussed the report presented by Stacey Easterling.

Ann Bannes made a motion to give decision-making power to Jamie in terms of follow-up with Stacey and determining appropriate next steps, Skip Batchelor seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Meeting Adjourned 11:40am

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 21, 10am, at Missouri Foundation for Health.