



Executive Board

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 22, 2020, 10am

Present | Bill Siedhoff, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel, Karl Wilson, Cynthia Crim, Ann Bannes, Skip Batchelor **Other Attendees** | Jamie Opsal, Stephanie Herbers, Bill Kuehling, Jeff Carnal

Welcome & Community Comments (*Bill Siedhoff*)

There were no community members present who wished to address the Board.

Review of Minutes (*Bill Siedhoff*)

Skip Batchelor made a motion to adopt the meeting minutes for September as presented, Ann Bannes seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Board Chair Report (*Bill Siedhoff*)

Legislative Update | Bill Siedhoff, Jamie Opsal, and Bill Kuehling recently met with Representative Barringer to review the Senior Fund's statute and discuss revisiting options for better aligning it with other tax funds.

Vacant Board Position | Still working on recruitment to replace Teresa Mayberry, who stepped down from the board earlier in the year for personal reasons. Jamie has reached out to other agencies about any formal processes they may follow. Considering releasing a public notice that can also be shared by board members, followed by an interview process that would be managed by the Governance committee. Will revisit the discussion on recruitment process at the next meeting.

Program and Grants Committee (*Karl Wilson*)

Emergency Needs Grants | We have awarded 14 grants to date for a total of \$100,558. Six out of the 14 (43%) are new funded partners for the Senior Fund. Average turnaround between submission and decision was 2 weeks. Grant agreements for all but two have been completed and checks were mailed out. We are currently pausing acceptance of new proposals until we determine if there are additional funds to expend. We know there are at least three orgs that would like to submit proposals should we begin accepting again. Will revisit this funding opportunity at the next board meeting.

Applicant Defined Grants | Last week, we received 31 applications for a total of \$1,187,917 in requests. We currently have \$400,000 budgeted. This compares to 32 applications for a total

Notetaker: Stephanie Herbers

of \$1.5M from last year's applicant defined grant opportunity. Grant requests ranged from \$6,000 to \$75,000 with a median ask of \$30,000. Fourteen organizations (45%) have not applied for an Applicant Defined grant previously. Review teams comprised of a staff member, board member, and one to two external community reviewers are being formed. Recommendations for funding will be presented at the November meeting.

[Collaborative Grants](#) | We have \$75,000 budgeted for this year to be used for work done in collaboration with other organizations that aligns with the Senior Fund's mission. Jamie has been working with the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging on a plan to assess the 1300+ client records in their Aging IS database. We want to bring in an evaluator to complete an exploratory analysis of the current records in the database and identify clients who may be at risk for specific issues related to falls, oral health, depression, social isolation, and cognition. Once that is completed, a student intern would work with SLAAA staff on a follow-up and referral process for clients that have been identified as potentially benefiting from resources available for City residents to see what needs have not been addressed or may need to be readdressed, and make referrals as appropriate. This collaboration would help ensure a core of older City residents are connected to needed resources and could also provide some additional insight into the needs of a key group of older City residents for determining future funding priorities.

Karl Wilson made a motion to appropriate up to \$10,000 to be used for a collaboration between the St Louis City Senior Fund and the St Louis Area Agency on Aging for the purposes of developing a plan toward data cleaning, analysis and reporting of the client in-home assessments completed in recent years and setting up a process for clients to be referred to relevant services. Ann Bannes seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Executive Director's Report (Jamie Opsal)

[Missouri Senior Report](#) | The University of Missouri's Center for Health Policy is planning to release an updated version of the Missouri Senior Report soon. The report is similar to the annual Kids Count report and will share state and county-level data related to older Missouri residents. There is no continuous funding for this like what Kids Count has with Annie E. Casey Foundation. The Center for Health Policy received a grant to support this year's update; hoping that AAAs and senior levy funds can contribute in future years. They are seeking endorsements by different organizations for the release and would like for the Senior Fund to be a supporting organization; Jamie has agreed to be listed. Clay County Senior Services, Ma4, and AARP are some of the additional organizations that will be listed as supporting partners.

Other Discussion

On the most recent Gateway Center for Giving call, they discussed planning for continuation of COVID 19, and potentially spikes in infections, going into the next year. Discussed the need for the Senior Fund to consider its response, particularly as it relates to economic and mental health needs of older residents.

With no further business to discuss, Skip Batchelor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ann Bannes seconded; all in favor. Meeting adjourned: 10:52am.