



Executive Board

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 25, 2021, 10am

Present | Bill Siedhoff, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel, Karl Wilson, Cynthia Crim, Ann Bannes, Skip Batchelor, Julia Allen

Absent | None

Other Attendees | Jamie Opsal, Stephanie Herbers, Susan Kabat, Bill Kuehling

Welcome and Introductions (*Bill Siedhoff*)

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

Review of Minutes (*Bill Siedhoff*)

Ann Bannes made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for January, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Chair Report (*Bill Siedhoff*)

State Legislation Update – HB 666 sponsored by Rep. Donna Baringer was discussed at a public hearing in the House Local Government committee this morning, February 25. Jamie Opsal submitted written testimony on behalf of the Senior Fund.

Retirement for David Sykora – David Sykora, executive director of the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging, is retiring next month. SLAAA is hosting a farewell event via Zoom on Friday, February 26 at 3pm for anyone that would like to join. They are also hosting a small, in-person gathering at Five Star Center at 4pm the same day.

Fiscal Committee (*Karl Wilson*)

Presentation of FY2022 Budget - Karl Wilson introduced the proposed budget for the Senior Fund's FY2022. Jamie Opsal presented an overview of some of the changes compared to the previous year. FY2021 budget included intentional spending down of the Senior Fund's net position that had accrued from the first fiscal year of the Fund. This resulted in a significant increase in program investments compared to the previous two fiscal years (FY19 and FY20). The Senior Fund will need to start slowly scaling back the amount of program investments over the next three fiscal years to ensure there is a sustainable amount in the Fund's bank account at any given time to cover expenses, particularly in the first two quarters of each year before the Fund begins receiving its annual revenue. In addition to a slight decrease in program investments, changes to the budget included adjustments to planned revenue based on the last two years of tax revenue received and a decrease in bank interest

Notetaker: Stephanie Herbers

due to changes in the market and a slight increase in the contract with MHB for office space and other administrative related expenses based on history of use. Once approved by the Senior Fund Board, the budget will be submitted to the St. Louis City Board of Aldermen for final approval.

Karl Wilson made a motion to approve the FY2022 budget as presented, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Program and Grants Committee (Karl Wilson)

SLAAA Funding Request – A resolution was presented to authorize increasing the funding awarded to the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging through their FY2021 Emergency Grant (Contract # 2020-48). In FY21, emergency grants have been approved to address recent losses in funding as well as emerging needs and challenges that have arisen due to COVID-19 related restrictions and preventative measures. To increase the grant award, funding that was appropriated in the FY2021 Senior Fund budget for a Missouri Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Assistance Program (MEHTAP) funding match, but was not yet awarded or distributed, will be reallocated to their current award through a contract amendment. Up to \$78,000 was budgeted to support a match for the transportation program funding. If approved the scope of the emergency grant would expand the use of funds to include transportation and technology related expenses, some of which could include MEHTAP match requirements, in addition to efforts related to home delivered meals.

Karl Wilson made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, Skip Batchelor seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Southside Wellness Funding Request – Southside Wellness and Southside Senior Center had requested to be reconsidered for a FY2021 Senior and Community Center grant. Jamie Opsal and Stephanie Herbers recently met with their staff and requested they submit additional supporting documents prior to the Board meeting to be reconsidered; to date the requested supporting documents have not been received. So this agenda item is tabled for further discussion at this time.

Executive Director's Report (Jamie Opsal)

Behavioral Health Services in City Nursing Homes – The collaborative project led by VOYCE is moving forward. This project is supported by funding from the Senior Fund, MHB, and St. Louis Community Foundation. The Senior Fund's grant contract with VOYCE was executed in January 2021.

Aging and Behavioral Health Task Force – Jamie is co-chairing a taskforce with Lisa Potts, MHB, in collaboration with the Behavioral Health Network Board to discuss opportunities for collaboration between the behavioral health system and the aging services network in the St. Louis region, particularly in St. Louis City. They will start meetings in March and plan to work with partners for six months.

Fund Defined Grants: A RFP for the new FY2022 grants focused on housing and economic security was released last week. It was sent out to a mailing list Senior Fund staff maintain that includes current grantees, past applicants, and individuals that have requested to receive

funding announcements. The RFP was also posted on the Fund's website:
<https://stlseniorfund.org/grants/funding-opportunities>.

Adjournment to Closed Session

Karl Wilson made a motion to close the meeting pursuant to Section 621.021(3), RSMo., to discuss personnel matters, Skip Batchelor seconded; All voted in favor, no opposition or abstention.

The open portion of the meeting was adjourned at 10:52am.

The next meeting will be held on March 25, 2021.