



Executive Board

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 27, 2021, 10am

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

Other Attendees | Jamie Opsal, Stephanie Herbers, Bill Kuehling, Katie Zitt

Welcome and Introductions *(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 approve the meeting minutes for March, Ann Bannes seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Board Chair Report *(Bill Siedhoff)*

FY2022 Officer Nominations – Presented list of proposed officers for FY22; officers are not changing from previous year. The following were presented for approval: Chair – Bill Siedhoff, Vice-Chair – Cynthia Crim, Secretary – Sr. Mary Ann Nestel, Treasurer – Karl Wilson.

Ann Bannes made a motion to approve the slate of officers as presented, Julia Allen seconded; all in favor, no opposed.

Resolution to Approve Legal Counsel – Presented resolution to approve the retention of Bill Kuehling Law LLC as legal counsel for the Senior Fund. Bill Kuehling has served as legal counsel for the Fund since its inception while he was employed at Thompson Coburn. Bill recently retired from the firm and is offering his services through his LLC. Based on his unique experience providing legal counsel to political subdivisions, including social service levy funds, and satisfaction with his previous legal representation, it is recommended that the Board approve engagement of Bill Kuehling Law LLC for general legal counsel. An engagement agreement was included with the resolution. There is no time limit in the engagement letter, but either side can terminate when they wish.

Notetaker: Stephanie Herbers

Skip Batchelor made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, Karl Wilson seconded; all in favor, no opposition.

Senior Fund Legislation Update – A bill in the MO House and one in the Senate have been filed this legislative session to adjust the state statute for the Senior Fund to align the budget approval process with other St. Louis City tax funds and allow for the Senior Fund to apply for grants without prior approval of the Board of Aldermen. Bills sponsored by Representative Donna Baringer and Senator Steven Roberts were filed this legislative session. The bill language was included as an amendment to a local government bill that was approved and submitted to the Governor for approval. Once signed, it will eliminate required approval by the Board of Aldermen for the Senior Fund’s annual budget or acceptance of grants, in line with the other St. Louis City levy funds. Annual budgets and acceptance of grants will still need to be reviewed and approved by the Senior Fund Board.

Karl Wilson made a motion to recognize the support of Rep. Baringer and Sen. Roberts at a future meeting, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded; all in favor.

Related to recognizing supporters of older adults and senior services in St. Louis City, Julia Allen suggested considering an annual award that the Senior Fund would present to advocates for older adults. Sr. Mary Ann Nestel volunteered to work with Jamie Opsal on a proposal for the purpose and process for an annual award to be reviewed by the Board at a future meeting.

Board Reappointments – The Mayor and Board of Aldermen recently approved a new 4-year term for Cynthia Crim and Bill Siedhoff. For some reason Ann Bannes and Julia Allen’s terms were not entered for the correct time period (i.e., they were filed as shorter terms). Jamie Opsal recently worked with them to resubmit paperwork to the Mayor’s Office; they hope to have the correction to their terms approved at an upcoming Board of Aldermen meeting.

3rd Quarter Report *(Katie Zitt)*

Reviewed balance sheet as of end of 3rd quarter and schedule of revenues and expenditures. Have received slightly more revenue than budgeted (104%). Paid out 86% of planned expenditures for community investments; anticipate expenditures will be closer to 100% by the end of the year. Total operating expenditures were 62% of budget. Report shows a deficit, but that amount is planned in order to spend down some of the Senior Fund’s net position.

Program and Grants Committee *(Karl Wilson)*

Resolution for Authorization of New Fund Defined Grants – Presented resolution authorizing funding of grants for three years by the Senior Fund. Grant awards were recommended based on contributions by the Program and Grants Committee, community reviewers, and staff who reviewed grant proposals in April – May 2021.

Twenty-five applications were submitted in response to a RFP for a total of approximately \$4.3M in funding requests; \$1.8M was planned for this funding cycle. At the Board's February 2021 meeting a total of up to \$600,000 was authorized for Year 1 of the new Fund Defined grant awards in the Senior Fund's FY2022 budget. The Program and Grants Committee recommended grants to 11 organizations for a total of up to \$566,357 in awards that will begin July 1, 2021. In addition, the committee recommended up to \$624,953 in appropriations for FY2023 and up to \$626,274 in appropriations in FY2024 to continue the second and third year of these grant awards. Continuation and amount of grant awards in Years 2 and 3 will be conditioned upon program and fiscal performance for each organization. The total amount of funding for all three years exceeds the original budget that was projected by \$17,584. This will need to be accounted for in the Senior Fund's FY2023 and FY2024 budgets. The resolution authorizes the Board chair and executive director to enter into contracts with the awarded organizations up to the amounts specified to carry out their proposals.

Ann Bannes made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, Julia Allen seconded; all in favor, no opposed.

Resolution for Authorization of Fund Defined Grant Renewals – Presented resolution authorizes renewals for current projects supported by Senior Fund as one-year grants in FY2021 for programs focused on social isolation and homemaker chore services. Grant renewal recommendations are based on interim and end of year reports, check-in meetings, grant spending to date, and review of renewal proposals submitted to Senior Fund staff. At the Board's February 2021 meeting a total of up to \$504,000 was authorized for grant renewal awards in the Fund Defined category. The Program and Grants Committee recommended an appropriation of up to \$437,068 for grant renewals in FY22 as follows: Social Isolation – Up to \$204,000 for 5 agencies; Homemaker Chore - Up to \$233,068 for 3 agencies. This leaves \$66,932 remaining from what was budgeted. Additional awards will be considered at the June 2021 board meeting. The resolution authorizes the Board chair and executive director to enter into contracts with the awarded organizations up to the amounts specified to carry out their proposals.

Sr. Mary Ann Nestel made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, Skip Batchelor seconded; all in favor, no opposed.

Executive Director's Report (*Jamie Opsal*)

Missouri Foundation for Health Opportunity Fund Grant – Senior Fund staff worked with partners to submit two concept papers to MFH in response to their call for proposals. One proposal was submitted in collaboration with St. Louis Area Agency on Aging to work with a consultant to develop a business plan for the AAA that accounts for their current budget, which has experienced a significant funding cut, and develops a plan for increasing funding over the next several years. The second concept paper was submitted in collaboration with

Clay and Platte County senior levy executive directors to support the development of the senior levy association. Both proposals were invited to submit full applications due in July. It was recommended that staff work with SLAAA on a resolution to present to the Board of Aldermen to prepare for needing acceptance of a potential grant award.

Behavioral Health and Aging Task Force – Due to feedback that better connections between behavioral health and aging network services is needed, Jamie Opsal worked with Lisa Potts (MHB) and Sally Haywood (Behavioral Health Network) to form a short-term taskforce to bring together providers to identify gaps in services and opportunities for collaboration. The taskforce has met several times so far and is getting ready to release a survey to behavioral health providers in the metro area to verify who provides services for older adults, what types of services they provide, funding sources, and workforce needs. Based on survey responses, and feedback from taskforce members the group will determine next steps.

Mayor's Stimulus Advisory Committee – Senior Fund staff have shared information to partners about the Mayor's Stimulus Advisory Committee surveys and other opportunities for public comment to hopefully increase a focus on older adults. Currently there is no one on the advisory committee that specifically focuses on older adults and aging network services. Staff also shared data on older adults served by Senior Fund partners, including common requests for assistance, and reached out to the Mayor's chief of staff to offer any assistance. Julia Allen has also offered to volunteer to assist with the committee. Staff will continue to pursue opportunities to advocate for resources for older City residents.

Other Business

Board Meetings – It has been proposed to consider either in-person meetings or meetings that offer in-person or virtual attendance for the remainder of the year since all staff and board members have been vaccinated. Will offer attendance in-person and virtually for the June meeting. In-person attendance will be at the Senior Fund office in the board room.

With no further business to discuss, Bill Siedhoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Cynthia Crim seconded; all in favor. Meeting ended 11:06am.

The next meeting will be held on June 24, 2021.