



## Executive Board

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### *Meeting Minutes*

Thursday, June 24, 2021, 10am

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

**Absent** | Cynthia Crim, Julia Allen

**Other Attendees** | Jamie Opsal, Stephanie Herbers, Bill Kuehling, Cynthia Berry

#### **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 May, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

#### **Board Chair Report** *(Bill Siedhoff)*

[Recognition of Jama Dodson](#) | At the time of her retirement from MHB, the board recognized Jama Dodson for her innovative thinking and collaborative spirit. Her invitation to the Senior Fund to share space with MHB, facilitated opportunities for information sharing and partnership, and reduced administrative expenses for the Senior Fund, which allowed more funds to be distributed into the community for services.

[Senior Fund Legislation](#) | Will recognize Senator Roberts and Representative Barringer this fall at either the September or October meeting to thank them for their sponsorship of legislation 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.

#### **Update on Ma4 Assessment Project for SLAAA** *(Cynthia Berry)*

Cynthia Berry presented highlights from a draft report of a project she is working on with the Senior Fund and SLAAA to analyze data from assessments completed with SLAAA clients January 2020 to March 2021. The objective of this work was to identify clients that may benefit from additional community referrals (e.g., dental care, hearing screenings, dementia-related support) and also provide general information on common needs of City residents served by SLAAA to help with future planning. This work created new reports for their database system that can be used by SLAAA in perpetuity for referral purposes. A summary

*Notetaker: Stephanie Herbers*

report of the assessment data should be finalized in late summer. Board members expressed interest in exploring differences related to race, age, income in terms of risk factors, areas of need, etc. Will discuss more once a final report is complete.

**Program and Grants Committee** (*Ann Bannes*)

Reviewed funding recommendations from Senior Fund staff, with support of the Program and Grants committee, for additional social isolation grants and a request from SLAAA for funding in FY2022.

Social Isolation Grants | Staff recommended not renewing a one-year grant up for renewal due to COVID-related challenges and restrictions on in-person workshops. Staff also recommended approval of inviting two organizations to apply for funding that would be reviewed and up for consideration for approval in September to carry out virtual programming that addresses social isolation.

*Karl Wilson made a motion to approve the recommendations for social isolation grants as presented, Sr. Mary Ann seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

Grant to Support St. Louis Area Agency on Aging (SLAAA) | Due to the inclusion of an allocation of \$180,000 for a potential SLAAA award in the Senior Fund's FY2022 budget to address the budget shortfall that the agency experienced last year, their significant role as a lead organization for the aging services network in St. Louis City, and their need in FY2022 for funding to support staff, nutrition and transportation services, it was recommended that the Board approve an award up to \$180,000 in FY2022 to be used for staff, home delivered meals and or transportation services. SLAAA's full ask for staffing support would be paid at the beginning of the fiscal year and additional dollars to support nutrition and transportation contract services, would be paid incrementally throughout the year based on confirmation that these services will not be supported by any new stimulus or other funding that may be received during the year.

*Bill Siedhoff made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

Funding to Support SLAAA Planning Project | Due to the lack of a clear, documented, long-term plan for SLAAA in regard to program priorities and the development of potential new funding sources, and the benefit of having a business plan to help inform the Senior Fund's role in supporting the Area Agency on Aging for St. Louis City, it was recommended that the Board approve an allocation of up to \$15,000 in FY2022 from the Collaborative Projects line item to contribute as a grant match for a grant proposal to be submitted to the Missouri Foundation for Health in July 2021 to support a consultant to work with SLAAA on a business and funding plan. It was also requested that the Board approve funding up to \$3,000 for a grant writer that will work with Senior Fund and SLAAA staff to assist with the application to the Missouri Foundation for Health's Opportunity Fund.

*Sr. Mary Ann Nestel made a motion to approve an allocation of up to \$15,000 to contribute toward SLAAA's planning process as part of a grant application to the Missouri Foundation for Health, Skip Batchelor seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

*Bill Siedhoff made a motion to approve funding for a grant writer up to \$3,000, Skip Batchelor seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

**Executive Director's Report** (*Jamie Opsal*)

[Behavioral Health and Aging Taskforce](#) | This working group was formed to address the disconnect between the Aging Network and the network of behavioral health providers in the St. Louis region. The group is co-chaired by a representative from the Senior Fund (Jamie Opsal), St. Louis MHB (Lisa Potts), and Behavioral Health Network (Sally Haywood). The group has met monthly since the beginning of the year and has reviewed models from other states, shared information about each other's agencies, discussed strengths and challenges related to behavioral health resources for older adults, and distributed a survey about services for older adults and interest in workforce development to providers in the area. The co-chairs are working on a recommendations report that will be reviewed by taskforce members before finalizing.

[St. Louis City Stimulus Advisory Committee Update](#) | \$500 million is expected in direct financial assistance from the American Rescue Plan. Senior Fund staff have shared data on older adults with the advisory committee along with recommendations to address current needs of older City residents due to COVID and an offer to help with older adult representation on the committee. The upcoming HUDZ committee meeting is an upcoming opportunity for people to submit letters to the Board of Aldermen about use of the funds. Jamie will submit a letter from the Senior Fund.

*With no further business to discuss, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Skip Batchelor seconded; all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:17am.*

*Next Board Meeting: **September 23, 10am***