



Executive Board

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 16, 2023, 10 am

Present | Bill Siedhoff, Cynthia Crim, Sr. Mary Ann Nestel, Ann Bannes, Karl Wilson

Excused | Skip Batchelor

Other Attendees | Jamie Opsal, Stephanie Herbers, Katie Ratkowski, Matt McBride, Susan Kabat

Review and Approval of Minutes (*Bill Siedhoff*)

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

Financial Review – FY24 1st Quarter (*Susan Kabat*)

Susan presented preliminary FY24, 1st quarter financial statements. Expenses have exceeded revenues at this point of the year because revenue follows the calendar year and is expected to begin arriving in December. Program investments are at 32% of the fiscal year budget, with many grant payments being made in the beginning of the fiscal year. Operating expenses are 21%, which is expected for the first quarter. Susan mentioned the interest revenue that is significantly higher than budgeted. She suggested considering revising the budget in early in the new year to account for the increase.

Sr. Mary Ann Nestel made a motion to approve the FY24 1st quarter financial report as presented, Ann Bannes seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Program and Grants Committee (*Ann Bannes*)

FY24 Grantmaking Update | Stephanie Herbers presented a snapshot of where Senior Fund is to date with grantmaking in the current fiscal year. There are currently 34 active grants with 31 organizations. Staff anticipate that the number will increase with new Emergency and Vehicle Matching grants since those requests are accepted on a rolling basis. Currently 79% of budgeted grant funds have been committed. There is about \$130,000 remaining in the budget for Fund Defined grants due to carryover and other budget adjustments for individual grants; this will be unspent during the fiscal year unless it is reallocated.

Emergency & Vehicle Matching Grant Requests | The Program and Grants Committee reviewed three requests for funding at their November 14 meeting:

Notetaker: Katie Ratkowski

LifeWise STL requested an emergency grant for unexpected expenses that arose during their roof replacement in the annex, which houses senior service staff and programs. They planned for the roof replacement, but the additional expenses totaled \$27,500. LifeWise STL requested \$20,000 to go towards the unexpected costs. The Program and Grants Committee recommended \$10,000 to offset the emergency expenses.

City Seniors submitted a vehicle matching grant request for a 5310 local match requirement for new vehicle. They are expecting to receive four minivans through the 5310 program and have received funding or applied for local matches for three out of four replacement vehicles. The Program and Grants Committee recommended \$17,351, which would cover 20% of the cost of the new vehicle.

Five Star Senior Center submitted a vehicle matching grant request for a 5310 local match requirement for a used vehicle. Another agency wants to transfer ownership of their vehicle, and the age still falls within 5310's minimum use period. The new vehicle would replace one that Five Star is currently using daily and needs a significant amount of maintenance, with three repairs in the past two-month period. The Program and Grants Committee recommended \$7,780 which would fulfill the 20% local match requirement.

Ann Bannes made a motion to approve an emergency grant for LifeWise STL and two vehicle matching grants to City Seniors and Five Star Senior Center, at the amounts recommended by the Program and Grants Committee; Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded. Board unanimously approved.

A.T. Still Contract | Senior Fund recently entered into a new three-year contract to provide oral health services to older city residents. The previous grant met its goal and served over 350 seniors but had accumulated under-spending of \$152,760, or 17% of their total FY21-23 grant award. This was due to several reasons, including the COVID pandemic and staff changes. Jamie Opsal presented to the Program and Grants Committee a recommendation of allowing A.T. Still to retain the funds remaining from the FY21-23 grant and update their budget for their FY24-26 grant, which would change their budgeted amounts for each grant year but would not change the total amount of their new grant award. The organization will not receive a new payment until after they have spent the retained funds. Given that the organization is in good standing with the Senior Fund and the services supported in the new grant period are the same for which the FY21-23 grant award was approved, Program and Grants Committee were in agreement with the recommendation.

Ann Bannes made a motion to allow A.T. Still to retain \$152,760 of unspent funds from their FY 21-23 grant and adjust the budget for their current FY 24-26 oral health grant to account for carry-over of the funds and adjust their annual budget for the grant period, Cynthia Crim seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Executive Director Report (*Jamie Opsal*)

Board Member Recruitment Process | Sr. Mary Ann Nestel, Skip Batchelor, and Jamie interviewed Mary Wheeler-Jones as a candidate for the open board member position and they would recommend her to be appointed. She is a lifelong St. Louis City resident and has extensive experience serving older adults and working in the city, including work with the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging and the Board of Election Commissioners. Additional board members shared their positive experiences working with her. Jamie spoke with Mary's Alderwoman, who indicated they would support her recommendation for appointment.

Sr. Mary Ann Nestel made a motion to recommend Mary Wheeler-Jones to be appointed as a board member to the Mayor, Ann Bannes seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Office Open House | Senior Fund will host an open house with Saint Louis MHB on December 21 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Invitations will go out tomorrow.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am by a motion made by Sr. Mary Ann Nestel and seconded by Cynthia Crim; all were in favor.

*Next full board meeting will be **January 25 at 10am.***