

Executive Board

Meeting Minutes Thursday, February 22, 2024, 10 am

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

Other Attendees | Jamie Opsal, Katie Ratkowski, Stephanie Herbers, Matt McBride, Renita Duncan (Rubin Brown), Alisha Barnum (Rubin Brown), Sara Wessels (Community Member)

Review and Approval of Minutes (Bill Siedhoff)

Cynthia Crim made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes as presented, Ann Bannes seconded; Board unanimously approved.

Audit Presentation (Rubin Brown – Renita Duncan and Alisha Barnum)

Presented an overview of the FY2023 audit, which included an unmodified opinion on financial statements. Program expenses increased by \$310,000 and tax revenue increased because of an increase in real estate tax and new funding. Interest income increased \$76,000 because of increased interest in the current market. Overall there were not many changes from FY2022.

There was a question about the level of funds that should be kept on hand to remain stable, while still getting resources out to the community. The auditors said that they generally see organizations keep six months to a year's worth of cash on hand.

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

Financial Report (Susan Kabat)

Reviewed FY2024 2nd quarter financials; in December the Senior Fund began receiving the bulk of tax revenue collected for the year and was at 73% of budgeted amount December 31. As of January 31, Senior Fund collected 96% of the budgeted tax revenue. Expenses were at 37% of the budget as of 12/31. A large number of grant payments occurred in January with mid-year reports and meetings, so the expenses were at 68% of the budget last week.

Karl Wilson made a motion to accept the financial statements as presented, Ann Bannes seconded. Board unanimously approved.

Notetaker: Katie Ratkowski

Program and Grants Committee (Ann Bannes)

Vehicle Matching Grant Requests | Two organizations requested a matching grant for vehicles:

Mission: St. Louis purchased a 2021 Ford Transit cargo van in December 2023 and is seeking additional grant contributions to cover the cost. The van is replacing a 2019 truck that was paid for by a FY2020 Applicant Defined grant from the Senior Fund. They are keeping the 2019 truck for general organizational use and using the 2021 cargo van as a vehicle dedicated to the home repair program. Based on the five-year use expectations from the Senior Fund, and the amount of other funds received for the cargo van, the most the Senior Fund would approve would be \$8,673. The committee recommended delaying award until May, if funding remains in the Aging Network budget line item.

Midtown Community Services requested a 50% match for a minivan to be primarily used by seniors. They have not received a vehicle match grant from the Senior Fund before, and there is a fundraiser in March where they will try to get remaining funds for the vehicle. The committee recommended matching 20% at \$4,473 plus approving an award for a 1:1 match for any funding raised through March 31 up to \$6,709, for a total possible match of \$11,182.

Emergency Grant Request | Food outreach requested \$50,000 to replace their 20+ year old blast freezer, that is quoted at \$150,000. The freezer holds up to 60% of the meals Food Outreach produces for their clients at any given time. They have funding requests pending at other organizations. The committee recommended approving the requested amount, contingent upon Food Outreach not receiving a \$150,000 grant from the Affordable Housing Commission. If they do not receive the grant from Affordable Housing Commission, or receives \$100,000 or less from other sources, Senior Fund will reallocate funds from the Collaborative Grants budget line item to fund the expense.

Mary Wheeler Jones made a recommendation to approve the Program and Grants Committee's recommendations to support the three grants as presented; Sr. Mary Ann Nestel seconded. Board unanimously approved.

Executive Director Report (Jamie Opsal)

Northview Nursing Home and Heritage House Update | Gave update on Senior Fund spending on Heritage House and Northview Village emergencies. Staff members are meeting daily about the issues, and they helped with a housing fair on January 31. Eight partner organizations provided case management support to attendees.

\$132,703 of the \$140,000 allocated for Northview Village and Heritage House expenses is expected to be spent. About \$9,000 of those expenses are for Northview Village residents and case management. Senior Fund contracted with Housing Options Provided for the Elderly (HOPE) to assist Heritage House residents further with housing placement, deposits, and replacing water damaged items.

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The Consumer Voice is interested in providing a grant to Missouri to help establish better oversight into nursing home. Jamie is working to find a statewide organization and funding to support staffing.

DEI Advocacy Letter | Missouri Budget Project is requesting organizations to sign a letter opposing anti-DEI legislation. The Missouri state legislature has many bills proposed that would restrict training or providing initiatives that include or support diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Karl Wilson made a motion to approve signing the Missouri Budget Project's letter, Ann Bannes seconded. Board unanimously approved.

Master Plan on Aging | The governor signed a bill last year to create a Missouri Master Plan on Aging. His executive order created an advisory council, on which Jamie serves. The state is presenting the findings to the public as town halls to gather feedback from individuals who know about the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities. The city's meeting will be held on March 5 at 12:30 pm on O'Fallon Park Rec Complex. A virtual session will be held March 21.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am by a motion made by Skip Batchelor and seconded by Cynthia Crim; all were in favor.

Next full board meeting will be April 25 at 10am.