Senior Fund of St. Louis City

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 16, 2026, 10 am

Attendees

Board of Directors	Present	Excused
Bill Siedhoff	X	
Cynthia Crim	X	
Karl Wilson	X	
Sr. Mary Ann Nestel	X	
Ann Bannes	X	
Mary Wheeler	X	
Skip Batchelor	X	

Other Attendees: Nicole Brueggeman (Senior Fund), Stephanie Herbers (Senior Fund), Katie Ratkowski (Senior Fund), Matthew McBride (Lashly Baer), Jane Kaniecki (SLU - Senior Fund Practicum Student)

Welcome and Community Introductions *(Bill Siedhoff)*
There was no request for public comment.

Review and Approval of Minutes *(Bill Siedhoff)*

Mary Wheeler made a motion to approve the June minutes as presented. Skip Batchelor seconded. All were in favor.

Practicum Student Presentation *(Jane Kaniecki)*
Stepanie introduced Jane Kaniecki, who has been working as the Senior Fund's practicum student. She shared a presentation on one of the topics she studied during the practicum experience.

Project Continuations *(Nicole Brueggeman & Katie Ratkowski)*
Community Care Hub Implementation | Shared an update on Community Care Hub planning progress to date, as well as an update on work towards other projects implemented in response to the Infrastructure for Aging Services initiative started last fall.

Notetaker: Katie Ratkowski & Jane Kaniecki

The Community Care Hub planning grant was approved in December 2025 with an end date of June 2026. Since the start date, St. Louis Integrated Health Network has engaged healthcare payors and service providers interested in participating in the St. Louis Community Care Hub. They have also secured additional funding support from a regional funder and a federal agency. Staff presented a request for continuation into FY2027. The proposed continuation, totaling $160,000, would continue to develop relationships with payors, and connect them to local service providers, while developing necessary infrastructure, governance and sustainability planning. A portion of the request would be used to support service providers participating in the pilot. All of the proposed funds were included in the approved budget, but the Board needs to approve the proposal to move forward.

> *Ann Bannes made a motion to approve additional funding to St. Louis Integrated Health Network for Community Care Hub support for up to $160,000. Cynthia Crim seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

Strategic Communications Project | In November 2025, Senior Fund approved awarding Novella a contract to develop recommendations for coordinated communications to elevate the needs of older adults in the City of St. Louis. This investment was carried out in response to the recommendations in the *Infrastructure for Aging Services* report. As a result of this contract, Novella carried out extensive interviews with partner agencies and subject matter experts, ultimately producing messaging toolkits to be used by Senior Fund and community partners. Staff presented a proposal from Novella for continuing Senior Fund’s support of strategic communications tools and training for community partners, as well as strategic support for Senior Fund communications. Board members requested an update on engagement in trainings by funded partners once implemented.

> *Sister Mary Ann Nestel made a motion to approve continuing funding Novella for Strategic Communications Support for one year, totaling $60,000. Mary Wheeler seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

Release of Strategic Communications Guides| The strategic communications toolkits produced by Novella were distributed at the May Board of Directors meeting for review. To share publicly, Board members must approve release.

> *Skip Batchelor made a motion to approve releasing the strategic communications guides. Cynthia Crim seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

New Projects *(Katie Ratkowski & Stephanie Herbers)*
Community Data Report | Staff presented a scope of work for a proposed project with the Center for Advancing Health Services, Policy, and Economics Research at Washington

University in St. Louis. This project contributes to Senior Fund's FY2027 plans to develop several community data reports to help inform our work and the work of other partners. The proposed Community Data Report would focus on how the upcoming Medicaid work requirements would impact people ages 60-64 in Missouri, the region, and St. Louis city. The proposed estimated budget was $9,766; there is $20,000 budgeted in the Learning and Dissemination budget line for FY2027. The center at WashU, directed by Dr. Tim McBride, is uniquely qualified to carry out this project and was responsible for producing the report that Senior Fund seeks to replicate with a focus on older adults.

> *Cynthia Crim made a motion to approve contracting with Washington University's Center for Advancing Health Services, Policy, and Economics Research as outlined in the presented scope of work. Ann Bannes seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

Capacity Building Strategy | Presented strategy for increasing aging services providers' capacity, in line with the findings of the Infrastructure for Aging Services Co-Design Report, completed in October 2025.

The strategy, called the St. Louis Partnership for Aging Services, would begin by assessing current grantee partners on organizational capacity needs and using the findings from that, and other available data to design programming to meet high need areas.

The first phase of the project focuses collecting baseline data and creating an assessment to pilot with a few grantee partners. The final assessment would be available for all grantees. After completing the organizational reviews, staff would share report results with participants and use the results to inform programmatic work done in future phases of the project.

> *Mary Wheeler made a motion to approve the overall STL Partnership for Aging Services strategy and allow staff to move forward with phase one of implementation. Ann Bannes seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

RFQ for Fractional Lead of STL Partnership for Aging Services | Staff presented a proposal for an RFQ for a Fractional Lead to work with staff on creating organizational assessments and actionable steps for the capacity building project. The contractor would work with staff for nine months.

There was a request that staff provide the board with updates on the project at monthly board meetings.

> *Ann Bannes made a motion to approve releasing an RFQ for the contracted fractional lead of the STL Partnership for Aging Services. Mary Wheeler seconded; Board unanimously approved.*

Updates *(Nicole Brueggeman)*

City's Tornado Recovery Funding | Nicole and Stephanie met with the United Way. They are expecting an award from FEMA, via the state, to continue support of disaster case management work through June 2027. Once an agreement is approved, United Way intends to continue contracts for existing case management agencies that are already engaged and providing disaster case management.

Congressional Funding for Senior Centers | There was no update at the time of the meeting on the movement of community project congressional funds recently awarded to Northside Youth and Senior Service Center and Southside Wellness Center. Nicole is following up with the City on the timeline and any barriers to moving forward with the awards.

2026 Meeting Schedule | Shared the meeting schedule for the remainder of 2026. The September meeting that was proposed for earlier will remain on Thursday, September 24.

Remarkably Ageless Award | Karl has been selected as an awardee at Evertrue's event, which will take place on September 12th at the Hilton Frontenac.

Motion to Adjourn

> *A motion was made to adjourn by Cynthia Crim, which was seconded by Skip Batchelor. All were in favor. The meeting was then adjourned at 11:35 AM.*

Next full Board of Directors meeting is currently scheduled for **August 27, 2026 at 10am.**