Kalamazoo Foundation for Excellence

MINUTES
FFE Board of Directors

Monday, September 25, 2023 2:00 PM

Mayor's Riverfront Park – 251 Mills Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

A. CALL TO ORDER - by President Sandra Calderon-Huezo

ROLL CALL

Staff present: Legal Counsel/Recording Secretary - Richard Cherry & Julie Cosgrove from Miller Johnson; FFE Executive Director - Steve Brown; Chief Financial Officer – Steve Vicenzi

Guests present: Kerry Lyn Williams, Jamarui Bogan (Bogan Developments), Kayla Todd, Laura Lam

PRESENT - Calderon-Huezo, Ritsema, Balkema, Harrison, Hess, Hoffman, Lonberg, Yarbrough, Washington, Jr., Hopewell, Hamilton-Miller, Salas

ABSENT - Anderson, Carrell, Taylor, Bostrom

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Director Washington moved to adopt the Agenda as is. Motion was seconded by Director Hess.

Discussion then took place with Director Balkema regarding the absence of the April 24, 2023 minutes in the board packet.

ACTION: Director Washington moved to adopt the Agenda with the exception of approval of the minutes of the April 24, 2023 Board Meeting to be tabled. Motion was seconded by Director Hess. The motion to approve the agenda was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: On motion made by Director Washington and seconded by Director Hess, and by unanimous voice vote the approval of the minutes of the April 24, 2023 was tabled.

D. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. <u>2023 FFE-City Project Preliminary Impact Presentation</u>.

Kerry Lyn Williams presented to the Board her Staff Report regarding an update to the 2023 fiscal year activity and FFE investments in Kalamazoo. Review and discussion took place regarding the report, including the basis used for determining funds distribution and a detailed explanation of the updated progress chart presented with the report. Director Calderon-Huezo asked Ms. Williams about how the average citizen could engage with this process. Executive Director Brown explained that Community Planning and Parks is most active and once a request is implemented, there is opportunity for public input.

Founding Director Emeritus Hopewell asked about the peer review process. Director Balkema asked about the 322 Stockbridge project. Executive Director Brown explained that the City purchased this property for $2,000,000 – most of the property is in a 500-year floodplain – so they can choose what can be put on that property.

Executive Director Brown was asked to explain the Green Affordable Housing project and why the progress update was zero. He was requested to follow up and report back on this project.

Director Harrison asked how the funding is valued. CFO Vicenzi explained that funds carried forward were funds committed to the project. Executive Director Brown further explained that what is seen in the table under "FFE Funding" without exception is 100% funding of the request.

Chairwoman Calderon-Huero recognized a guest, Jamauri Bogan. Mr. Bogan presented to the Board regarding his involvement with the Business Development Fund which began in 2019, building affordable housing units. Mr. Bogan described his partnership with All things Possible in holding developer boot camps where incoming 9th grade students learn each day about different aspects of construction. They put on their hard hats and safety equipment, ask questions, etc. He wished to encourage leaders to actively listen to the voices of youth. Various directors were complementary of Mr. Bogan's involvement with the community and with Kalamazoo youth.

Kayla Todd presented to the Board regarding the All Things Possible program. Ms. Todd previously worked in the foster care system. She expressed appreciation for the work done by Mr. Bogan in providing opportunities for youth through the All Things Possible program. A discussion then took place regarding the difficulty many youth face in obtaining a driver's license due to the cost involved and the need for collaboration across youth services – what can we do to connect to other programs? Suggestion was made about offering free driver's training to students who pass the 9th grade.

Chairwoman Calderon-Huero brought the meeting back to the agenda items as time was now after 3:00 p.m.

2. 2024 Draft Budget Presentation

Executive Director Brown presented regarding the budget memorandum included in the Board meeting packets. City of Kalamazoo is making a request for funds to the Board. There was discussion regarding the various projects included in the City's request. No action is requested at this time.

E. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approve Amended 2023 and New 2024 Board and Committee Schedules

ACTION: Director Balkema moved to approve the Amended 2023 and New 2024 Board and Committee Schedules as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Ritsema and approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. Approve Midyear Budget Adjustment

ACTION: Director Balkema moved to approve the Midyear 2023 Budget Adjustment as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Washington and passed unanimously after roll call vote.

3. Approve Miller Johnson Attorneys Contract Renewal as FFE Legal Counsel

ACTION: Director Washington moved to approve the Miller Johnson Attorneys Contract Renewal as FFE Legal Counsel. The motion was seconded by Director Hamilton and passed unanimously after roll call vote.

4. Approve Directors and Officers and General Liability Insurance

ACTION: Director Ritsema moved to approve the General Liability and Director and Officers insurance as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Harrison and passed unanimously after voice vote.

5. Approve Endowment Developer Position Description and Compensation Range.

ACTION: Director Washington moved to approve the Endowment Developer Position Description and Compensation Range. The motion was seconded by Director Hamilton-Miller.

Discussion then took place regarding the job description (specifically that the person hired be located in Kalamazoo) and compensation range.

ACTION: Director Washington withdrew his motion and requested that the matter be moved to the October 30, 2023 agenda. Motion was supported by Director Hamilton-Miller and unanimously approved by voice vote.

6. Approve Foundation Coordinator Position Description and Compensation Package

Director Brown recommended a closed session or executive session regarding this agenda item. The item was moved to the October 30, 2023 meeting.

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Director Hopewell commented on Agenda item 5:
    - Will be working with diverse groups – watch who we hire.
    - Verifying IK35
    - No line in the state budget.
    - Need young professionals of color.

G. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Director Yarborough is welcomed to his first meeting.

H. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Richard O. Cherry

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Richard O. Cherry
Recording Secretary