Kalamazoo Foundation for Excellence

MINUTES
FFE Board of Directors

Monday, October 28, 2024 2:00 PM

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

A. CALL TO ORDER - by President Sandra Calderon-Huezo – 2:02pm

ROLL CALL

Staff present: Legal Counsel/Recording Secretary - Richard Cherry & Jacob Eccleston from Miller Johnson; FFE Executive Director ("ED") - Steve Brown; Chief Financial Officer – Steve Vicenzi

Guests present: Bobby Hopewell, Rebekah Kik, and Christina Anderson

PRESENT- Anderson, Bogan, Bostrom, Calderon-Huezo, McKague, Parker, Ritsema, Salas, and Vazquez-Altore

ABSENT- Balkema (Excused), Carrel (Excused), Decker (Excused), Hoffman, Lonberg (Excused), and Taylor

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - ACTION: Director Anderson moved to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by Director Bostrom. The agenda of the October 28, 2024 meeting was approved by unanimous voice vote. There was no discussion.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Director Bogan moved to approve the September 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes with minor modification that Director Bogan was present at the meeting but came late. Motion was seconded by Director McKague. The minutes of the September 23, 2024 meeting were approved by unanimous voice vote. There was no discussion.

C. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Imagine Kalamazoo 2035 Strategic Planning Engagement
   - Presentation by Rebekah Kik and Christina Anderson from the City of Kalamazoo
   - Kicking off strategic plan with a book read – Happy City
   - Working on engaging residents with meetings on the go

- Have annual celebrations of the strategic plan to show how much progress has been made and what is coming next
- Only one more year remaining in the 2025 strategic plan
- Have adopted 9 neighborhood plans, 25 Historic Housing Workshops & Tours, 60+ Neighborhood Projects
- Continuing to improve transportation within the City
- 3 step process for creating the 2035 Strategic Plan
  - Imagine It
  - Plan It
  - Design It
- Working to get more input from young people and college students to retain young people
- Requested the Foundation for Excellence Board Member's help in promoting the request for input

D. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approve the 2025 Public Meeting Schedule

ACTION: Director Bogan moved to approve the 2025 Public Meeting Schedule. Motion was seconded by Director Anderson and unanimously approved by voice vote at 2:57 PM.

2. Approve Amending the At-Large Director Eligibility

ACTION: Director Anderson moved to approve amending the At-Large Director Eligibility. Motion was seconded by Director Bogan and unanimously approved by roll call vote at 2:58 PM.

3. Approve Amending Officer Eligibility in the Bylaws and Articles

ACTION: Director McKague moved to approve amending Officer Eligibility in the Bylaws and Articles. Motion was seconded by Director Vazquez-Altore and unanimously approved by roll call vote at 2:59 PM.

4. Approve an Updated Endowment Investment Allocation
   - CFO Vicenzi reviewed the reasons for why the endowment investment allocation needed to be updated
   - Director Anderson asked whether this pertained to all investments, but CFO Vicenzi indicated it only pertained to Endowment Investment Allocations

ACTION: Director Anderson moved to approve an updated Endowment Investment Allocation. Motion was seconded by Director Ritsema and unanimously approved by roll call vote at 3:02 PM.

5. Approve the 2025 Budget

ACTION: Director Bostrom moved to approve the 2025 Budget. Motion was seconded by Director Parker and unanimously approved by roll call vote at 3:04 PM.

6. Approve the 2025 Aspirational Grant Agreement with the City of Kalamazoo

ACTION: Director McKague moved to approve the 2025 Aspirational Grant Agreement with the City of Kalamazoo. Motion was seconded by Director Bostrom and approved by roll call vote at 3:06 PM with eight yays and Director Ritsema abstained due to the fact he is a signatory for the agreement.

7. Approve Renewal of the Annual Service Agreement with the City of Kalamazoo

ACTION: Director Bostrom moved to approve the renewal of the Annual Service Agreement with the City of Kalamazoo. Motion was seconded by Director Salas and approved by roll call vote at 3:08 PM with eight yays and Director Ritsema abstained due to the fact he is a signatory for the agreement.

8. Approve Renewal of Legal Services Agreement with Miller Johnson Attorneys

ACTION: Director Anderson moved to approve Renewal of Legal Services Agreement with Miller Johnson Attorneys. Motion was seconded by Director Vazquez-Altore and unanimously approved by roll call vote at 3:09 PM.

9. Approve Renewal of Liability and Director and Officer Insurance through the Nonprofit Insurance Alliance
   - ED Brown noted that the Insurance amounts are not yet, known but are expected to increase slightly with inflation.

ACTION: Director Bostrom moved to approve Renewal of Liability and Director and Officer Insurance through the Nonprofit Insurance Alliance, not to exceed $1,500.00 dollars in total and baring any material changes. Motion was seconded by Director McKague and unanimously approved by roll call vote at 3:11 PM.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No members of the Public present.

F. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

No Board Member Comments

G. ADJOURNMENT – 3:12pm

Richard O. Cherry

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Richard O. Cherry
Recording Secretary