**Board of Directors**

**July 28, 2021**

**Present:** Teresa Czaplewski, Alyssa Fordham-Vagt, Janet Swanson, Bruce Gudlin, Mike Hemmingson, Jeff Osborne, Tracy Nielsen, Andrea Niesen, Jenna Taubel, Omar Nur

**Staff Present:** Scott Maloney, Crystal Smith, Brenda Chilman, Ashleigh Dowis, April Sutor

**Welcome:** Welcome and introductions at 12:04. Maloney shared that Tobia Hargrett submitted her resignation from the Board of Directors effective immediately.

**Consent Agenda:** Maloney shared that the HR Director resigned and the agency has been without HR staff for the past month. Maloney thanked Crystal Smith and Theresa Sennes for their extra work during the interim.

Maloney noted the survey sent to board members and shared that there will be 5 open board positions by February 2022. The nominating committee will use the survey information to in recruiting new board members.

Hemmingson made a motion to approve the a consent agenda, Nur seconded by ; the motion passed unanimously.

**Finance Committee Report**: Hemmingson reported on the most recent financial statements, agency gain just over $1million, which is phenomenal. Compared to budget, agency is substantially ahead due to both operating and non-operating gain (bequest of over $300,000).

FARR and Live Well grants (timing will result in about $100,000 gap in funding). Agency has approximately 8 months of cash reserves on hand.

Osborne made a motion to accept the financial report as presented, Neilsen seconded by ; the motion passed unanimously.

Investment policy – Gudlin shared that for quite some time the agency has been investigating the best way to utilize the additional reserves. The financial committee would like to designate an amount to keep on hand as operating reserve and anything beyond that amount would be invested. Maloney shared that in the 2022 budget the agency is planning for $20,000 in interest – compared to years ago which was about $40,000. Once approved the finance committee would send out a RFP and interview financial advisors and eventually moving reserve funds into investments.

Swanson made a motion to accept the investment policy, seconded by Hemmingson; the motion passed unanimously.

FARR program funding request – Gudlin shared that because of a change in a way the state is addressing the funding, we believe there will be a 6 month gap in funding (approximately $50,000 - $60,000). The finance committee would like to cover the gap in funding. Maloney noted cutting staff means the service would no longer be available. Discussion about the changes in how state is appropriating funds. Czaplewski made a motion to approve the FARR program funding gap, seconded by Nur; the motion passed unanimously.

**Once Upon a Playhouse:** Challenges based on the weather. Comparison to Denim & Diamonds event. Staff heavy event, worth reviewing the potential and agency investment. Discussion on the public relations benefits from event. Discussion on how the last couple years have just been different. Perhaps reinvent the event – 15 year anniversary presents an opportunity. Solicit feedback from past playhouse winners.

**Space Presentation / Discussion:** Maloney presented on current agency space needs. Currently 5 seats in hard walled offices (4 of which are doubled – 2 per office) and some cubicles. Agency can accommodate up to 17 seats (8 single offices) if shifts are made (including some working remotely from home). Shifting would also use a small conference room (and designated lactation room). Maloney reviewed projections on when the agency will be out room.

Maloney shared that we have an estimate for expansion under the canopy at the south office of approximately $500,000.

Maloney also shared proposal from Ron Braasch involving a piece of land in NW Rochester on 37th St. NW. Concept was that owner would sell 2 acres of the land and donate 1 acre. FSR would then sell both locations and build a new one. Internally, find great value in south location. Gudlin and Maloney discussed the timing as it relates to board determing space needs and decided to pass on the opportunity.

Maloney shared a third option involving a large non-profit center, with shared resources. There has been discussion in this community about a center. Maloney has been communicating with Olmsted County Board, County Government and Health, Housing Services on the old Seneca property (referred to as graham park). Maloney’s concept is for FSR and Families First to be primary tenants at a Community Non-profit center, which would include legislative appropriate, grants and capital campaign. Board discussion.

**Adjourn:**

Swanson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Fordham-Vagt; motion passed unanimously. Submitted on behalf of Tammy Shefelbine, Secretary