

Minutes for Children's Opportunity Alliance Board December 14, 2022

Call to Order

A board meeting of the Children's Opportunity Alliance was held on December 14, 2022 by Zoom. It began at 6:05 pm and was chaired by Kevin Beverly. Acting Secretary was Pat Ruppert.

Voting members in attendance:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Kevin Beverly | 9. BB Otero |
| 2. Vernessa Broddie | 10. Myrna Peralta |
| 3. Amy Cropp | 11. Sonia Pruneda-Hernandez |
| 4. Chandra Curtis | 12. Theresa Ramsaroop |
| 5. Hannah Hahn | 13. Pat Ruppert |
| 6. William Hegwood | 14. Wayne (Chris) Saxton |
| 7. Deborah Lambert | 15. Vivian Yao |
| 8. Nora Morales | |

Voting members not in attendance:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Raymond Crowel | 4. Nichelle Owens |
| 2. Tiffany Jones | 5. Sobia Qureshi |
| 3. Taniesha Woods Myles | 6. Dira Treadance |

Guests in attendance:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Michelle Harman | 3. Kimberly Rusnak |
| 2. Laura Jahromi | 4. Joan Schaffer |

Interim ED Report: Kimberly Rusnak

1. Transition to independence from The Community Foundation of Greater Washington: arrival of 501(c)(3) letter of determination, interviewing of HR firms, getting O&D insurance quotes, receiving DHHS written approval to spend \$280K, waiting for MCPS funding, waiting for remainder of \$425 from COF grants
2. Start of actual COA work: Consultant Laura Jahromi is doing landscape analysis, collaboration happening with Children's Funding Project, joint convening happening with Montgomery Moving Forward and NonProfit Montgomery
3. Accomplishment of COF commitments: Ralph Morales is managing COF grants, Kimberly Rusnak is managing 2nd year of MSDE grant at Rolling Terrace Elementary and Strathmore Elementary

COF/COA discussion

Discussion ensued about the ambiguity of the COF/COA relationship. Myrna Peralta wanted to go on record saying that it's important that COA is not just COF buried under a new name and a new legal status – if that is the case it has implications for the scope of work and accountability; there is a need for greater clarification on the relationship. Chair Kevin Beverly tabled the discussion till January board meeting.

Motion to approve COA working budget

A motion to approve the working budget as presented by Chair was made by Hannah Hahn. The motion carried by unanimous vote of 15 board members present.

Future meetings discussion

Tentative plan for 2023 board meetings: every other month (Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov) on the third Wednesday evening of the month, to be hybrid in-person/Zoom. In-person participation recommended when possible.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia M. Ruppert, Board Vice Chair and Acting Secretary
Date of approval: February 1, 2023