



Ohio Association of
Community Action Agencies

**Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 20, 2017
Sheraton on Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215**

Members Present: Tom Reed, President; David Brightbill, First Vice-President; Ruthann House, Treasurer; Joshua Anderson; Andrew J. Devany; Deb Gerken; David Shea; Judith Barris; Douglas Bennett; Ken Kempton; Gary Obloy; Gary Ricer; Steve Sturgill; Kellie Ailes; Alvin Norris; Bambi Baughn; Jeffrey Diver; Rodney Reasonover; Robert Chilton.

Members Excused: Gwen Robinson Second-Vice President; Janice Warner, Secretary; Anita Maldonado; Malcolm Costa.

Staff Present: Philip E. Cole, Executive Director; Josh Summer, Development Director; Greg Bollenbacher, Fiscal Director; Kathryn A. Clausen, Communications Director; Lorie McClain, Program Manager; Neva Dunn, Office Manager, Jeannette M. Jarrett; Operations and Support Assistant.

Guests Present: Paul Kudlak, The Junto Company; Jim Mermis, The Junto Company; Larry Price, L. Price

Mr. Reed called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Ms. Dunn called the roll; a quorum was established.

Mr. Anderson motioned to approve the agenda. Mr. Sturgill seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Ricer motioned to approve the November minutes. Mr. Norris seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Reed presented the tentative meeting scheduled to the board noting the March meeting was moved back one week to accommodate the NCAF conference. July will be determined based on the summer conference and no meeting is pre-scheduled for August.

Finance Report: Ruthann House

Ms. House presented the proposed budget and financial reports to the board, which were reviewed by the Finance Committee in detail via conference call earlier in the week. Ms. House stated the budget remained similar to 2016 and that the financials are strong.

Ms. House discussed the VirtualCAP program. The program is currently running a deficit (\$17,000 in 2016, \$13,000 projected in 2017), which is being supplemented by the Association. Mr. Cole stated support was pledged by the Partnership and NASCSP yet has not been received. Mr. Cole was asked to send a letter to the Partnership and NASCSP to seek monetary support



commitments. Ms. House recommended the budget be approved with the caveat of reviewing it and the VirtualCAP program later in the year to determine feasible continuation. The board committed to continuing to operate the program with the budget deficit through June 30th.

Ms. House stated a motion was made out of committee to approve the financial report. Ms. Gerken seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. House stated a motion was made out of committee to approve the financial report. Mr. Reasonover seconded. The motion passed.

President's Report: Tom Reed

Mr. Reed discussed the recent Executive Committee meeting during which an evaluation for Mr. Cole was completed. Mr. Reed stated the committee continues to give excellent marks to Mr. Cole for his work at the Association and they look forward to his work toward future goals.

Executive Director's Report: Philip E. Cole

Mr. Cole reported the 132nd General Assembly has begun and stated the Governor's budget would be introduced at the end of January. Mr. Cole also discussed issues regarding payday lenders and the Pew Charitable Trust initiatives in Ohio to stop predatory lending; the effort was previously led by COHHIO. Discussion. The board tabled the issue while determining what other organizations will be involved.

The Housing Trust Fund is seeking support to increase the funds by \$15 million. Discussion. The board tabled the issue until the funding source for the increase is determined.

Mr. Cole reported that Mr. Bob Peterson will speak at the Winter Legislative Conference and will include comments regarding the Unemployment Compensation legislation. Mr. Cole has requested that the committee include a representative of low-income Ohioans. The ad hoc committee has until April 1st to present recommendations to go directly into the budget versus a bill that requires hearings.

Mr. Cole updated the board on the status of the Head Start publicly funded childcare changes to break up financial layering made by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services. The change has been delayed until the fall. Ms. House expressed support of partners who are willing to join the meetings with Mr. Kudlak if necessary and Senator Peggy Lehner if necessary to illustrate how this change will impact services.

Mr. Cole discussed conversations between Jai Chabria of Mercury and J.D. Vance, author of the book *Hillbilly Elegy*. Mercury is a 501(c)4 nonprofit founded to develop solutions to poverty and advocate legislative support of them. Mr. Cole expressed interest in working with Mercury. Discussion. The board consensus is to move forward with that working relationship.

Mr. Cole concluded his report with a reminder to all committee chairs they will be asked to give a report at the Membership Meeting held at the Winter Legislative Conference. He also stated Mr. Bradley would like to visit an agency on Thursday, January 26th while he is in town for the conference.



Partnership Report: Joe Devaney

Mr. Devany stated two proposals were presented to the Partnership for consideration in response to an RFP. One proposal was from the Brookings Institute and one from OACAA. OACAA's proposal was not selected. Mr. Cole stated he would like to seek funding to complete the proposal independently of the Partnership. The board supported exploring additional funding for the project.

Mr. Devany reported that the Partnership annual budget was reviewed and approved. The annual conference, which was held in Austin, Texas, was a financial and overall success and attendance was one of the highest ever. The 2017 convention will be held in Philadelphia, PA from August 29th through September 1st. The 2018 conference will be held in Denver, Colorado in late August. The Partnerships' financial statements continued to be strong, with the majority of revenue being generated from conventions. The Partnership is exploring partnerships for conventions with NCAP and NHSA due to that success.

Mr. Devany continued stating the Partnership had a membership of 779, the highest that has been recalled in recent history. Region V remains the region with the highest membership rate of eighty-percent participation. Mr. Devaney stated the CCAP Class of 2017 is projected to be the largest class of all with nearly one-hundred participants. He also stated the Partnership would hold a branding summit in April. He continued by stating the Partnership is completing a public housing survey in conjunction with HUD. CAAs will be contacted to participate; CAAs who also serve as the local housing authorities will be contacted as a priority.

Mr. Devany reported the Excellence Committee is working with two state groups identifying those agencies or participants to be chosen for the Excellence Award. He continued by stating the Partnership hosted White House Symposium to discuss rural poverty was held. Highland County Community Action Agency was a part of this project. Another year of funding has been granted for the program TTA. Mr. Devany updated the board on the Partnership's work with the Kellogg Foundation and the racial healing and transformation project. The goal is present this in the form of an ongoing grant to work with local CAAs in designated areas.

Mr. Devany concluded his report by stating National Head Start Association will have presenters at the Partnership conference in Philadelphia and that the Partnership is working with National Partners and their new Executive Director. NCAF, CAPLAW, and Partnerships are also working together on the Emerging Leaders project.

CAPLAW Report: David Brightbill

Mr. Brightbill reported the CAPLAW conference will be held June 7th through 9th, in Denver, Colorado. He encouraged all to attend.

Legislative Committee Report: David Brightbill

Mr. Brightbill asked Mr. Kudlak if he knew of any plans to extend the program end because of the delayed start. Mr. Kudlak had no recent news regarding and extension or additional funds. Mr. Kudlak stated an extension would require legislation because the deadline was written in the authorizing bill. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.



Public Relations Report: Janice Warner

Ms. Clausen reported that she and Ms. Warner are planning to attend the Partnership's branding conference in April. She also stated she would facilitate branding discussions at the PR Roundtable during the winter conference to get insight from the network. She requested the board to encourage staff attendance at the roundtable to be part of those discussions. Ms. Clausen also demonstrated the new conference app with the board and encouraged all board members to download the app if they had not already. She also stated the Legacy Project is slated to resume in the spring with Stark and Summit Counties. Ms. Clausen concluded the report by stating plans have begun for the one-day PR conference to be held in the fall in conjunction with the Fiscal/HR conference.

Training and Development Report: Rodney Reasonover

No report.

Exemplary Programs Report: Bambi Baughn

No report.

Membership Committee Report: Gwen Robinson

No report.

Personnel Committee: Joshua Anderson

Mr. Anderson reported that the committee reviewed a job description for an intern position. The committee suggested the pay range be between minimum-wage and \$15 per hour. Mr. Anderson also stated the committee continues to work on updating all staff job descriptions and will review a wage comparison study to ensure wage scales and rates are competitive.

Mr. Anderson stated a motion was made out of committee to approve the Intern job description. Mr. Sturgill seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Reed called for a motion to approve a two percent COLA adjustment for Ohio staff, excluding the executive director, retroactive to January 1, 2017. Mr. Anderson stated a motion was made out of committee. Mr. Sturgill seconded. The motion was approved.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Open Dialogue

None.

Adjourn:

Mr. Ricer called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 p.m. Mr. Sturgill seconded. The motion passed.



Respectfully submitted by,

Janice W. Warner, Secretary

Date