



**Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies
Board of Trustees Meeting
November 17, 2017
Sheraton on Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215**

Members Present: David Brightbill, First Vice-President; Gwen Robinson, Second Vice President; Ruthann House, Treasurer; Janice Warner, Secretary; Joshua Anderson; Andrew J. Devany; Deb Gerken; David Shea; Judith Barris; Ken Kempton; Steve Sturgill; Kellie Ailes; Andrew Binegar; Alvin Norris; Bambi Baughn; Cheryl Grice; Sheila Triplett.

Members Excused: Tom Reed, President; Douglas Bennett; Gary Obloy; Gary Ricer; Jeffery Diver; Rodney Reasonover.

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

Guests Present: Paul Kudlak, The Junto Company; Jim Mermis, The Junto Company; Larry Price, L. Price, and Associates; Tracey Ballas, Office of Community Assistance; Gloria Haven, CAC of Portage County; Carmen Kuula, Ashtabula County CAA; Luanne Valentine, CAO of Scioto County; Carrie Dotson, Lifeline, Inc.; Janet Yaros, Northwestern Ohio CAC; Randall Hunt, Office of Community Assistance; Megan Meadows, Office of Community Assistance.

Mr. Brightbill called the meeting to order at 9:21 a.m. A quorum was established.

Ms. Warner motioned to approve the agenda. Ms. Grice seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Devany motioned to approve the September 2017 minutes. Mr. Binegar seconded. The motion passed.

Finance Report: Ruthann House

Ms. House called for questions regarding the financial report which were reviewed in detail during the immediately preceding OCATO meeting.

Mr. Shea motioned to approve the financial report. Mr. Anderson seconded. The motion passed.

President's Report: Tom Reed

No report.

Executive Director's Report: Philip E. Cole

Mr. Cole reported VirtualCAP would not be continued past December 31, 2017, due to unsustainable funding and the program operating at a loss for multiple years. Mr. Cole also



reported he is evaluating the effectiveness of all consultant contracts and will issue a report on his findings in January.

Mr. Cole stated Mr. J.D. Vance drafted a letter of support for Community Action to be submitted to Congress. He also stated Our Ohio Renewal requested input from the Community Action Network. He suggested organizing a meeting with executive directors and Our Ohio Renewal group in December 2017 in Columbus, then developing a strategic plan. Mr. Cole stated Congress has continued to watch the progress in Ohio regarding the opioid epidemic and Minnesota Senator Betty McCullom has expressed an interest in touring southeastern Ohio to view agencies initiatives.

Mr. Cole is continuing the collaboration with Mr. David Wilhelm, partner and chief strategy officer of Hecate Energy, to bring renewable energy and jobs to Ohio. Mr. Cole also discussed the press release to the NFL regarding statements made by Papa Johns' CEO John Schnatter. Ms. Clausen reported work with Mr. Dan Alfaro of Mercury to target media.

Mr. Cole continued his report addressing the challenges of payday lending in Ohio. Ms. Grice, Ms. Ailes, and Ms. Warner discussed collaboration to develop a comprehensive financial literacy training for CAAs. Mr. Cole also announced the resignation of Mr. Dave Reinbolt from the Department of Energy. He concluded his report stating he had not yet received any updates regarding the Governor's Food Distribution Program yet.

Partnership Report: Joe Devany

Mr. Devany reported the Partnership received surveys assessing their effectiveness. Strengths included consistent messages regarding how the Partnership is addressing poverty and how they are providing informative presentations. The Partnership's work with national partners was also appreciated per the surveys received.

Mr. Devany updated the board on the revised poverty paper which will focus on veterans, the disabled, migrants, and those who faced challenges and overcame them through Community Action. The semi-final draft is due in early 2018. Mr. Devany also stated the Partnership is also looking for new and innovative ways to reach Millennials throughout Community Action. He concluded his report stating the Partnership annual training conference would take place in Houston, Texas January 9th through January 12th.

CAPLAW Report: David Brightbill

Mr. Brightbill reported the 2018 CAPLAW conference would be held June 20th through June 22nd in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He also reported his voluntary step-down from the President's seat, and it is now held by Ms. Gerilyn Neff. Mr. Brightbill remains on the board. The CAPLAW winter board meeting will take place in February 2018. A joint meeting including the four national association executive directors is scheduled to continue strengthening the partnership between organizations.

NCAF Report: Janice Warner

Ms. Warner reported the NCAF board is looking strategically at the purpose and future of the organization, including legislative, political, and legal. Ms. Warner stated Mr. Bradley is very passionate about the history of CAA, innovation, partnership, and identifying the network



“cheerleaders.” Concerns and needs of the CAA network were discussed which included fundraising.

Legislative Committee Report: David Brightbill

Mr. Brightbill deferred the report to Mr. Kudlak. Mr. Kudlak reported hearings had been held on House Bill 382 (the unemployment compensation bill). He believes it is not popular among the labor or employer communities though there are no public testimonies against or for the bill. It is likely no progress will be made until next year.

Public Relations Report: Janice Warner

Ms. Warner deferred the report to Ms. Clausen. Ms. Clausen reviewed her written report with the board and announced she is working with a presenter to develop a tool for agencies to help tell the CA story. She encouraged executive directors to send staff to the sessions being held on Wednesday, January 24th, during the Winter Legislative Conference. Ms. Clausen also updated the board on the Legacy Project. She stated she is working with Fayette County to streamline the editing process. She also stated the project is long-term and is expected to take 5 to 6 years to complete.

Training and Development Report: Rodney Reasonover

No report.

Membership Committee Report: Gwen Robinson

No report.

Old Business

Mr. Devaney shared statistics on how CAAs implemented the Standards over the past year. Forty-seven percent of participants across the country received a 70% rating. Ohio did very well submitting 90% of monitoring reports and received high marks.

New Business

None.

Open Dialogue

None.

Adjourn:

Ms. Warner called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 a.m. Mr. Sturgill seconded. The motion passed.

Janice W. Warner, Secretary

Date