



**Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Sheraton on Capitol Square  
75 E. State Street  
April 12, 2019  
Columbus, Ohio 43215**

**Members Present:** Janice Warner, President; David Brightbill, First Vice-President; Melissa Pearce, Second Vice-President; Joshua Anderson; Andrew J. Devany; David Shea; Douglas Bennett; Ken Kempton; Alaire Mancz; Gary Ricer; Steve Sturgill; Kellie Ailes; Andrew Binegar; Alvin Norris; Bambi Baughn; Jeffrey Diver; Rodney Reasonover; Cheryl Grice; Sheila Triplett.

**Members Excused:** Ruthann House, Treasurer; Julia Wise, Secretary; Deb Gerken; Judith Barris.

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

**Guests Present:** Jim Mermis, The Junto Company; Paul Kudlak, The Junto Company; Nick Sunday, Veterans Comprehensive Assistance Program; Cherish Cronmiller, Miami Valley Community Action Partnership; Larry Price, L. Price and Associates; Lora Rawson, Gallia-Meigs CAA; Tom Andrews, CAA of Columbiana County; Ron Rees, Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development; Keith Pitts, Community Action Agency of Pike County.

Ms. Warner called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. A quorum was established.

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

Mr. Ricer motioned to approve the March 2019 minutes. Mr. Reasonover seconded. The motion passed.

**Finance Report: Ruthann House**

Mr. Sturgill motioned to accept the financial reports as presented. Mr. Kempton seconded. The motion passed.

**President's Report: Janice Warner**

None.

**Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Cole distributed the annual conflict of interest forms to the board and requested they be signed and returned.



### **Partnership Report: Joe Devaney**

Mr. Devaney reported the Partnership received \$420,000 in grants for 2019 and could receive an equal amount in 2020. He stated the D.C. office was becoming concerned that 90% of Community Action programs are not able to meet at least 70% of the standards, but this is not a concern for agencies in Region V.

Mr. Devaney reported the Management and Leadership Training Conference in New Orleans was the most financially successful in recent memory. Membership is up 10%, and the conference made \$35,000 this year. He announced the Partnership is trying a pilot program where state associations pay Partnership dues, at a 10% reduction rate, for all of their state's Community Action Agencies. This program would be in conjunction with state association dues.

Mr. Devaney reported a Certified Community Action Professional program which includes a test based on the Standards had been proposed by the Community Action Excellence Committee. The committee estimates 70 participants could take the online test in June of this year.

Mr. Devaney announced the Partnership Pathways program would offer online training prior to the Convention in Chicago. He reported 2020 Census training would be conducted at the Chicago Conference and other state conferences also.

The Partnership board had also given the Community Action Financial Institute authority to propose changes in regard to their outstanding loans and future work as a training organization. The board also authorized Partnership staff to coordinate with staff at the Puerto Rico program on having the 2020 Management and Leadership Training Conference at the Sheraton Puerto Rico Hotel the week of January 6 – 12, 2020.

Mr. Devaney reported the Conference on Immigration took place April 3-5, 2019 and Mr. Summer gave an excellent review in his report on the information.

Mr. Devaney reported the Partnership board met with Head Start associate Dr. Glenda Allen-Jones, and Mr. Clarence Carter, Acting Secretary of the Office of Community Services. The need to bring organizations together on the local and state levels to solve issues relating to poverty, agencies working in silos, and numerous federal guidelines that inhibit action were discussed.

Mr. Devaney reported The Partnership had posted three staff positions: a census worker, a communications worker, and a Public Policy person. These positions would be filled prior to the CAPLAW Conference and the Partnership June board meeting being held in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Strategic Visioning Committee discussed Carbon Offsets.

Mr. Devaney reported the board voted to have WIPFLI conduct the Partnership salary study, and they also approved a three-year contract extension for Ms. Harlow, Partnership executive director.

### **CAPLAW Report: David Brightbill**

None.



### **NCAF Report**

Ms. Warner reported Mr. Bradley continued to work with Congress on CSBG, Opioid, and weatherization issues and would meet with the Missouri Community Action Network board during the August Partnership Conference. She announced that Mr. Harold Rice, CEO of The Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc. would be the At Large board member replacing retiring member Mr. Tay Waltenbaugh. Ms. Warner encouraged board members to join the 500 Club.

### **Legislative Committee Report: David Brightbill**

No report.

### **Public Relations Report: Janice Warner**

Ms. Warner deferred to Ms. Clausen who stated she was working to finalize projects with the Partnership, including an Advocacy Toolkit. She also reported she would present a branding workshop at the Mahoning-Youngstown Community Action Partnership the week of April 15th and that she would be in Lake County in June for a communications and branding workshop.

### **Training and Development Report: Rodney Reasonover**

No report.

### **Membership Committee Report: Melissa Pearce**

Ms. Pearce reported the committee would establish guidelines to define members in good standing. She also stated the Exemplary Programs and Best Practice Awards would be reviewed, and the establishment of a People's Choice Awards is being considered.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

Mr. Norris led a discussion on third-party electric companies, and stated seniors and customers in suburban areas are being adversely affected.

### **Open Dialogue**

None.

### **Adjourn:**

Ms. Diver motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Grice seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

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Julia Wise, Secretary

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Date