

DRAFT MINUTES, VA FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND (VA-FACT) Board of Trustees Meeting, June 29th, 2020

Participation:

Trustees Present: Mary Riley (Chair), Allison Lawrence (Vice Chair), Frank Blechman (Secretary), Judy Kurtz (Treasurer), Carter Batey, Yvonne Bibbs, Robert Bolling, Linda Gilliam, Jennifer Gillyard, Lilliana Hernandez, Tarina Keene, Virginia Powell, Duke Storen (Commissioner).

Trustees Absent: Beverly Crowder, Kay Kovacs, Yasmin Taeb,

Staff Present: Nicole Poulin (Executive Director), Michelle L'Hommedieu (Attorney).

Opening: Chairperson Riley called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM via an electronic conference system.

Decisions and Actions: The following actions were approved by the Board unanimously unless otherwise noted.

Minutes: The minutes of the December 2019 Board meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Allison Lawrence, seconded by Judy Kurtz, with no abstentions.

Nominating Committee: Chairman Robert Bolling reported that the committee has been unable to meet and does not have a slate to present. He presented a motion that the term of current officers be extended for up to a year given the extraordinary circumstances. Bibbs seconded the motion, there were no abstentions and it was approved.

CAN Committee: Committee Chair Ginny Powell reported that the group has renewed concern about the issues raised in 2019, and has four new concerns some of which are based on the disruption caused by the COVID environment. Powell moved and Gillyard seconded the motion to approve the report, there were no abstentions it was approved.

Grants Committee: Chair Judy Kurtz reported on a request for \$2,000 in an ad hoc grant to ImpACT Virginia to support their January 2021 conference. Gillyard moved and Lawrence seconded the motion to approve the grant with a proviso that the budget would be modified if the conference becomes virtual. There were no abstentions. The motion passed.

Kurtz and Poulin then reported on the idea to create an emergency small grant fund of \$50,000 to help small non-profits and local governments make small direct emergency grants to individuals and families in this crisis. Bolling moved and Powell seconded. This was approved with one abstention (Blechman).

Executive Session: Kurtz provided the following statement: The FACT Grants Committee would now like to go into closed session with all persons present for the limited purpose set out in Virginia Code 2.2-3711 (A)(za) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to discuss funding decisions and recommendations made by the Grants Committee for the 2020-2022 FACT Grant period. Powell moved to go into Executive Session for the purposes stated and Lawrence seconded that the Board move into Executive Session to discuss the allocation of major grants, as permitted under state law. There were no abstentions. The Board continued in Executive Session.

When the Board later returned from Executive Session, Kurtz provided the following statement: Whereas, the Family and Children's Trust Fund has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Freedom of Information Act; and Whereas, Section 2.2 - 3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Family and Children's Trust Fund that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Family and Children's Trust Fund hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters were identified in the motion convening the Closed Meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Family and Children's Trust Fund.

All members affirmed the statement.

DRAFT MINUTES, VA FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND (VA-FACT) Board of Trustees Meeting, June 29th, 2020

Powell then moved and Hernandez seconded a motion to approve \$300,000 in seven grants over a period from August 1, 2010, to July 31, 2022. This was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Kurtz reported that the proposed budget for FY2021 includes \$30,000 for fundraising assistance, \$7,000 for strategic planning help, and the \$50,000 approved earlier for small grants,. Powell moved and Gillyard seconded a motion to approve the budget as proposed. This was adopted.

Adjournment: moved & everyone seconded a motion to adjourn at 5:00 PM.

Discussions: The following reports and discussions did not conclude with formal proposals for action. However, they do highlight areas of substantive discussion on which the Board may want to act in the future.

Chair's Report: Not all Board members have made contributions this year. Please get that in before tomorrow night.

The legislative breakfast that we planned for this Spring did not happen. Maybe next year.

VDSS Report: Commissioner Duke Storen reported that since we met in December, much has changed.

The coronavirus pandemic has changed the demand for services and the way social services agencies deliver them. Protests over equal justice have changed the way our work is viewed by others. Both crises have increased stress on individuals and families, increasing the risk of violence.

However, the move to decentralized work and virtual meetings has been very good; increasing efficiency and making services actually more responsive. There is also new federal money for violence prevention and emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and increased program flexibility.

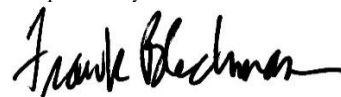
State social services budget increases allocated by the General Assembly this session are now on hold (for new staff, prevention programs, the Systems of Care and IT), pending revised revenue calculations. A special legislative session in August may remove some of the holds, but not likely all of them.

Staff Report: The full report of the Executive Director was provided in the meeting package. Highlights included:

- A state hiring freeze has delayed our ability to replace our research assistant and to fill several other pending positions.
- Nonetheless, our work coordinating with others continues very productively.
- Thanks to those who took part in advocacy day at the legislature.

Wrap up: Thanks to departing members. We do have vacancies to fill. Recruitment is needed. Dates and forms for future meetings are not yet set.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Blechman, FACT Secretary