

**Family and Children’s Trust Fund (FACT) Board of Trustees
June 2015 DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

Members Attending

Candace Bryan Abbey
Robin Foreman-Wheeler
Frank Blechman
Dawn Chillon
Betty Wade Coyle
Kevin Keane
Kay Kovacs
Judy Kurtz
Mary Riley
Margaret Schultze
Lisa Specter-Dunaway

Members Not Attending

Pam Kennedy
John Oliver
Yasmine Taeb
Anne Atkinson

Also attending

Rebecca Hjelm, FACT
Michelle L’Hommedieu, Office of the Attorney General

June 3, 2015

Call to Order, Review of Agenda & Mission Moment

Ms. Specter-Dunaway called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM. It was announced that Ms. Atkinson, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Oliver and Ms. Taeb were unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts and that Ms. McClellan had resigned from the Board. Ms. Foreman-Wheeler was thanked for taking minutes in Ms. Atkinson’s absence. The Board was asked to consider prospective members with particular attention to adding geographic diversity, racial diversity, males, and expertise in older adults. Ms. Specter-Dunaway conducted a review of the agenda including board education around the topic of trauma, an update on the development of FACT’s website, the selection of FY2016 officers and committee chairs, and the adoption of the FY2016 budget.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Specter-Dunaway presented the March 2015 minutes, which had been sent to Board members in advance of the meeting via e-mail. Typographical corrections were made and ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Abbey) and seconded (Mr. Blechman) the March 2015 minutes, as amended, were approved with all present voting in favor.

Understanding the Impact of Trauma

Chairman Specter-Dunaway reminded the Board of the need to organize our work around key focus areas and provide more connectivity between our marketing efforts, grants and other program activities.

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The Board heard a presentation from Dr. Allison Sampson-Jackson, CEO of Integrated Solutions on *Building a Trauma Informed Culture: Engaging What is Strong, Not What is Wrong*. Dr. Sampson-Jackson noted the impact trauma, especially prior to the age of 18, has on the brain and how it makes it difficult to put feelings into words, articulate needs and ask for help; how Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) screening is used to assess trauma and the increased likelihood of suicide, alcoholism, teen pregnancy, violence and other issues when a child has a score of four or more; the importance of building parental resilience since a child with an ACES score of four or more likely has a parent with a higher score; and evidence that adversity influences DNA, disrupts brain development, leads to social, emotional and cognitive impairment, risky health behaviors, disease and disability, and early death; the importance of using a systems approach in which the departments of social services, behavioral health, justice, parks & recreation, health and school systems work together to address trauma; and the steps to implement systems change in culture and practice. Dr. Sampson-Jackson highlighted the success of the systems approach in Washington and the work that has begun in the City of Richmond.

Strategic Planning Discussion

During a working lunch Chairman Specter-Dunaway and Dr. Sampson-Jackson led the Board in a discussion/brainstorming session. Considering FACT's five strategic goals (serve as data clearinghouse on family violence throughout Virginia, support organizations and communities and building community capacity, conduct comprehensive fundraising efforts to support prevention and treatment of family violence statewide, enhance marketing efforts to promote FACT's mission and service to the community and ensure FACT is a high quality and high performing organization) and the information Ms. Mathews has shared on the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework training, Community Café model and Child Neglect Initiative, as well as Ms. Schultze's commitment to fund an additional 30-hour per week marketing position for FACT through the VDSS budget, the Board discussed the following questions:

- 1) In what ways can FACT lead and/or support trauma-informed care as a systems level?
- 2) In what ways can FACT lead and/or support trauma-informed care at a community level?
- 3) Does FACT have the capacity to execute these things? If not, how can we reinvent ourselves to accomplish these goals?

The Grants Committee was tasked with exploring options and presenting two proposals at the September meeting for FACT to begin integrating trauma-informed care into grantmaking. Ms. Specter-Dunaway asked board members who are not on the Grants Committee to contact her if they are interested in participating in the process.

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Treasurer's Report and FY14 Audit

Ms. Riley reviewed the balance sheet and profit and loss statement through March 31, 2015, noting the decrease in expenses due to the FACT Report being done internally. ON MOTION DULY MADE (Mr. Blechman) and seconded (Ms. Abbey) the financial statements were accepted with all present voting in favor.

Ad Hoc Requests

Ms. Specter-Dunaway presented an ad hoc grant request for \$2,000 from the Virginia Victim Assistance Network for its annual conference in Williamsburg in November. ON MOTION DULY MADE (Mr. Keane) and seconded (Ms. Kurtz) a \$2,000 grant was approved with all present voting in favor.

Ms. Coyle suggested that the Grants Committee consider making a trauma-informed component a requirement for trainings funded through the ad hoc grants process.

FACT Chair Report

Child Welfare Certificate of Appreciation Awards

Ms. Specter-Dunaway provided a recap of the FACT Child Welfare Certificate of Appreciation Awards presented on April 13th at the Child Abuse and Neglect conference in Richmond. Ms. Kurtz, Ms. Coyle and Commissioner Schulze participated in the presentations. Ms. Kurtz suggested having FACT materials on every table at the event in the future.

FY16 Nominating Committee

Ms. Specter-Dunaway noted that Ms. Foreman-Wheeler, Ms. Atkinson, and Mr. Keane served on the nominating committee. Mr. Keane, as chair of the committee, presented the following slate of officers for FY16:

Board Chair – Lisa Specter-Dunaway

Vice Chair – Kevin Keane

Treasurer – Mary Riley

Secretary – Anne Atkinson

Ms. Specter-Dunaway asked for additional nominations from the floor, but there were none. ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Coyle) and seconded (Ms. Kurtz) nominations were closed. UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE and seconded (Ms. Coyle), the slate of officers was approved as recommended with all present voting in favor.

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Ms. Specter-Dunaway announced the appointed of the following committee chairs:

Fund Development – Kay Kovacs

Grants – Judy Kurtz

Child Abuse and Neglect – Betty Wade Coyle

Website Update

Ms. Hjelm updated the board on the latest additions to the FACT website highlighting the blog, additional resources, map feature showing how grants were allocated geographically by year, and how information is organized to be easily accessible.

FY16 Budget

Ms. Specter-Dunaway presented the draft FY16 budget highlighting that estimates for income tax check-off and license plate revenues were based on FY15 and FY14, respectively. Ad hoc grant expenditures were based on what has been awarded in previous years. We hope to save money on the audit. The social indicators report expenses are approximately \$50,000 less since we only have printing costs now that Ms. Hjelm has been hired through VDSS. The special projects line item gives FACT flexibility to focus on aspects of program development that will align with the strategic plan. The marketing materials line item is a placeholder as Mr. Keane's work on FACT's marketing plan evolves. Mr. Keane noted that between \$5,000 and \$10,000 may be needed for the design of FACT's new logo. Ms. Specter-Dunaway reiterated that the Board should consider the proposed budget as an interim budget that can be refined in September.

Ms. Coyle made a motion that the draft budget be approved with the understanding that it is an interim budget that can be changed in September. Ms. Abbey moved to amend the motion to include increasing the marketing line item from \$5,000 to \$15,000. ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Abbey) and seconded (Mr. Blechman), moved to adopt the proposed budget as amended to include a \$10,000 increase in marketing expenses. Motion passed with Mr. Blechman opposed, all other Board members supporting, and no abstentions. Ms. Chillon left the meeting during the discussion and was not present for the vote.

Ms. Specter-Dunaway summarized the concerns raised during the budget discussion including the preference for a balanced budget, a philosophy on carryover and budgeting principles, and the status of FY 15 license plate income and noted that they would be addressed at a future meeting.

Commissioner's Comments

Ms. Schultze reported that Paul McWhinney, Deputy Commissioner for Programs will be retiring, and she does not plan to backfill that position. Two of Mr. McWhinney's direct reports (Director of Benefits, Director of Family Services) will now report to Ms. Schultze and the other (Director of Child Care) will report to Jack Frazier.

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Ms. Schultze reported that Governor McAuliffe signed the Child Care Safety bill on May 26, 2015. Attendees included state legislators, child care advocates, and families of children who have died in unlicensed child care in Virginia. Although the bill requires fingerprint-based background checks for licensed child care providers, the Department of Social Services is planning improvements to strengthen that legislation next year to require fingerprinting for all child care providers, as well as legislation related Fostering Connections (formerly Foster Care 21).

Ms. Schultze reported receiving a request from the National Governors Association for feedback on the Child Welfare Finance Reform Bill, which will allow a portion of Title IV-E funds to be used for prevention.

Ms. Schultze also reported the Commonwealth Council on Childhood Success has completed its work and issued a report to the Governor, which is available online. A link to the report will be sent to the Board.

Ms. Schultze thanked the Board and the newly elected officers for their service and commitment to FACT.

Debrief & Adjourn

Chairman Specter-Dunaway asked members who had not yet made contributions to FACT in FY15 to do so by June 30 and noted the tentative meeting schedule for FY16. Members were asked to reflect on the information presented by Dr. Sampson-Jackson. ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Riley) and seconded (Mr. Blechman) moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Foreman-Wheeler