

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE REACH FOUNDATION
November 19, 2020**

Attendees:

Arif Ahmed
Guy Collier
Fabian Gayosso
Katie Ferro
Angela Harse
Tom Handley
Danielle Jones
Kevin Klamm
Jon Marshall

Jerrihlyn McGee
Todd Pleimann
Joe Reuben
Heather Samuel
Jim Sanders
Brenda Sharpe, ex-officio
Lynette Sparkman-Barnes
Lisa Thurlow

Not Present:

Wendy Neal

Guests:

Troy Findley, Summit Strategies
Matt Roney, Kit Bond Strategies
Becky Benak, REACH Staff
Mathew Davis, REACH Staff
Dawn Downes, REACH Staff

Carla Gibson, REACH Staff
Pattie Mansur, REACH Staff
Glory Olson, REACH Staff
Jo Yun, REACH Staff

Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jon Marshall at 4:01 p.m.

Strategic Discussion

Pattie Mansur introduced the Foundation's guests and long-term public policy consultants, Troy Findley, Summit Strategies and Matt Roney, Kit Bond Strategies.

Troy Findley provided an outlook on the 2021 Kansas Legislative Session and discussed how the recent presidential election; COVID 19 Pandemic, redistricting, the 2022 Kansas Gubernatorial race, and other considerations will shape the current session.

Matt Roney presented an outlook on the 2021 Missouri Legislative Session. He gave an overview of the recent ballot initiatives, including the passage of Medicaid Expansion, the failure to pass Amendment 1 for term limits for the secretary of state, state auditor, and attorney general; and the narrow passage of Amendment 3 for redistricting. He noted COVID-19, Medicaid Expansion implementation, State Revenue, Charter School Expansion, and Workforce Development will be issues to be addressed in the current session. A Q&A session followed these presentations.

Foundation Business Consent Items

Jon Marshall noted the items on the Consent Agenda including Board meeting minutes for September 17, 2020; August and September Financials; 2021 Outcome Investments; 2021 Budget; and the 2021 Policy Agenda. All items other than Board meeting minutes have been reviewed by their respective committees and are recommended for approval. Tom Handley moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda as presented and Danielle Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President's Report

Brenda thanked the board and staff for their support and work to shape the upcoming budget and policy agenda, and activities to support REACH's response to the COVID-19 crisis. She then provided an update on the Johnson County CARES Act Mental Health grants, for which REACH is serving as a subrecipient for the County. She noted that applications may be submitted by local mental health nonprofits for eligible expenses incurred prior to December 31, 2020. She reported that in addition to Federal requirements, Johnson County attached requirements which excluded personnel-related costs as an eligible expense. She noted that in mental health organizations, particularly non-profit organizations, personnel are the biggest asset and expense, and failure to include this as a COVID related expense has created a significant challenge in awarding REACH's allotment of funds. Brenda made a request to Johnson County to reconsider this position, which was positively received, and County staff are working on other potential options. REACH staff are continuing outreach efforts to identify other organizations which could benefit from these grants, to distribute the funds by the deadline to avoid returning funds to the County and ultimately the Federal Government.

Brenda reminded board members that there are still professional development opportunities available which are updated regularly and can be found on the board portal.

Finance Committee Report

Tom Handley reviewed the September 2020 Financial Dashboard and provided the 3rd Quarter 2020 Investment update. He noted that the investments have recovered from the significant drop in the first quarter, and investment returns were up in August, but September and October suffered negative returns. Year to date through October is at negative .06% but the investment balance to date is higher than was anticipated back in March and April at the start of the pandemic.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Program and Policy Committee Report

Lisa Thurlow provided the Program & Policy Committee update. Lisa referred to the list of 2021 Operating Partnership Grant awards and noted new grantee partner Kids Win Missouri has been added to this portfolio.

The Discretionary Grants were included in the packet for review. Lisa highlighted the one-time holiday gifts for organizations in each county of our service area who provide emergency assistance, and noted the need is especially great this year.

The next P&P meeting will be Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Executive Committee Report

Jon Marshall noted that the October 15th Executive Committee was cancelled due to lack of action items.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Glory Olson, Executive Assistant