



Minutes- Board Meeting October 14, 2021 5-8 pm on Zoom

Present: Eric Andrews, John Cooley, Tyler Hoff, Beth Hudson Keller, Abigail Meletti, Nikki Mosgrove, Lisa Ogletree, Conrad Person, Jim Whitely, Beth Yingling, Susan Hoskins (Executive Director)

Jim welcomed the board explaining a change of agenda order.

FINANCE: Eric reported that the Finance Committee met last week. They reviewed the audit with Marylee Evangelista CPA and accepted it with no corrections. A brief called meeting to approve/accept the audit, 990PF and the draft budget was proposed and approved for later this month, to allow review time. Marylee also recommended drafting a cryptocurrency policy (“FFA does not hold nor accept cryptocurrency”) which will also be considered at that meeting after Eric speaks to Amelia at JPMorgan. The finance committee also discussed the “distributable amount” and agreed to a target of \$300,000 in grants for this Fall cycle, bringing the total to \$650,000 or 5.5% of assets.

Eric spoke about a conference he and Jim attended on Mission Aligned Investing, for which there is growing demand. He introduced the term “greenwashing” which is when a fund appears to be green on the surface but is not underneath. A deeper discussion will be planned for the February meeting, following a conversation with JPMorgan. The Ziegler investment and fund at Friends Fiduciary are examples of this commitment. The Ziegler Linkage II fund made its first payout, and the first call for Ziegler Linkage III was paid.

Susan will send a doodle poll for the brief called meeting.

GOVERNANCE: Lisa reported that the governance committee has not met, but plans to do so in November (Susan will send a doodle poll). Agenda items include succession planning for officers, planning the February meeting (deeper dive on investments, granting and strategic priorities) and the June meeting, proposed as a gathering of Quaker organizations to share how they serve aging adults. The grantee feedback forms were impressive and positive, noting FFA’s efforts to be transparent and collaborative. The board self-evaluation was also mostly rated highly, although some noted a need for efforts to recruit board members who represent those served, Latinx, low-income.

WELCOME: Feedback on the new system of posting materials on the board website was very positive, noting ease of navigation and creating a library of past materials. Jim emphasized that difficult decisions will need to be made with more requests than funds designated this cycle. He also recommended that everyone read the articles on risk management linked in the Executive Director report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: Susan sought feedback on the three forms have been created and tested this cycle:

- Short form for returning grantees: Some followed it well while others did not, continue to use and work with grantees to streamline applications. Questions are good.

- Grantee information form with LOI: Good process, continue to use it. The LOI is simply for an organization to present an idea to see if the board might support it, not to get lots of detail which comes with an application. Susan was supported in setting deadlines for receiving LOIs and to do more pre-screening, reporting on those screened in the Director Report.
- Mid-year report summaries: Feedback was very positive, summary is concise. Both grantees and board members who attended these zoom meetings were very enthusiastic about the oral report process.

GRANTING:

Returning:

AFSC: \$50,000 approved to continue support for social work services. Advocacy (referenced in application) for a client is not considered lobbying, which involves supporting specific legislation and political campaigns. How many seniors will be served? Report was informative. May need to start conversation on reducing future funding and AFSC assuming more of cost.

ARCH: \$64,000 approved to support NYYM ARCH program. Callie has made significant adjustments which may benefit a wider community of Friends. She is also more deeply integrated into NYYM. Originally (2009) FFA funded 100%, now less than half.

ARTZ Philadelphia: \$25,000 approved (less than \$32,500 requested) for ARTZ in the Neighborhood. Great model of engaging participants in planning and collaborating with several partners and funders. Hope to see more ideas turn into outputs.

Center in the Park: \$11,000 approved for LGBTQ program. Got off to a good start last year with enthusiastic advisory group; another year will help solidify and fulfill more of the vision.

Friends Home & Village: \$14,000 approved (of \$47,835) to support Senior Planet program in Bucks Co. Tyler recused himself as he is volunteering in the program. The remainder of the request appeared to be to install wifi throughout the FHV campuses, which was seen as a capital project.

Friends Service Alliance: Request was denied. It was a large request (\$70,000) for consultants to explore expansion of internships and a new effort for one Administrator in Training, but some very fundamental preliminary issues had not been explored (budget, state endorsement, buy-in from participating organizations...) FSA will be invited to return in the Spring with a more detailed proposal for expansion of the internships at the same time as requesting funding for internships and leadership academy.

Jaisohn Foundation: \$15,000 approved to support expansion of senior center type activities into Adult Living Community housing to better reach Asian residents. The organization has provided leadership in forming a collaboration of several immigrant communities to promote vaccination and shown innovation in visioning ways to meet the needs of the community and establish sustainable funding.

Montgomery SAAC: \$20,000 (of \$30,000) approved to support social workers providing virtual caregiver support groups with targeted outreach to minority populations. The additional administrative and advertising costs seemed high and could be provided by SAAC.

Trinitas: \$28,000 was approved to support the readmission reduction program with pharmaceutical assistance and a community health worker. It was appreciated that benefits have been added to a minimal salary for the CHW, and to see the successful connection with Rutgers for an intern.

New:

Kindersmile: \$50,000 was approved to support the provision of dental services for seniors in Trenton.

People & Stories: Denied. There were too many questions about the objective and implementation of the program, especially on Zoom.

New Jersey Advocates for Aging Well: Denied. While the objective about connecting low income NJ seniors to the internet is supported, it was not clear that creating a resource center here was the most effective pathway. FFA will stay in communication with them and see if a more detailed proposal (such as working with Senior Planet) might be submitted next year.

Senior Community Services: \$15,000 was approved (of \$20,000) to support expansion of caregiver support services into minority communities in Delaware County. They will be encouraged to seek support from these communities for the most effective outreach strategies.

Youth Services Opportunity Project: \$30,000 was approved to support youth service projects with and for aging adults. This Quaker program has been around for many years and clearly suffered during the pandemic. Local connections are most promising for future in-person programs.

The total for these grants, less the return of unused funding from Mercy LIFE comes to \$300,175. There was a general sense that projects are more impactful on individuals than feasibility studies, research, or capital, and therefore preferred. There have also been efforts this year to find more grantees in NJ, as well as ones that are focused on and led by BIPOC communities.

Midyear Reports:

There was an open discussion on oral midyear reports with enthusiasm from those who participated. Barclay Friends is filling and engaging residents at all levels of care; Friends House is making good progress on becoming a Montessori community; JFCS is doing more peer-led programming and has achieved insurance reimbursement; Kendal at Home has an impressive inventory of programs; Lutheran Social Ministries gardens created deeper community; National Church Residences is undergoing challenging staff changes; Pendle Hill is planning to continue virtual programs as they have seen more inclusive attendance; RISE senior produce boxes have started going out as they serve an exploding number of families; Woolman Hill welcomed its first meeting retreat in the new renovation. The sense of community and purpose at Ujima Friends was contagious, and the impact of Witness to Innocence was touching. It was rewarding to hear how grantees were grateful for what they had learned from our calls and meetings with other grantee organizations.

Mercy LIFE West Philadelphia's GrandPads program was rejected by Trinityhealth management and they have not been able to approve a substitute. The funding should be returned.

Other: The Hickman submitted a Case for Support for a capital campaign to renovate the original Hickman building. FFA is not interested in supporting capital projects at this time.

Consent Agenda: The minutes of the June 5, 2021 board meeting and retreat were approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan W Hoskins LCSW, Executive Director