



Cleveland Transformation Alliance

Minutes of the Board of Directors

August 16, 2021 | 5:30 PM

Cleveland Metropolitan School District

Conference Room and Via Webex

In Attendance

Baumgartner, Mark
Bingham, Anne
Downing, Diane
Friedman, Lee
Gibson, Richard

Gordon, Eric
Heard, Robert
King, Brooke
Marbury, Shana
Mullin, Ann

Payton, Kevin
Price, Monyka
Randel, Erin
Ruiz, Victor
Tenney, Turkessa

Absent

Jackson, Mayor Frank
Jordan, Sharon Sobol
Klupinski, Stephanie

Napoli, Augie
Patterson, Jeffery
Reyes, Jose

Roskamm, Alan
Williams, Helen
Zachariah, Sajit

Other Attendees

Margolis, Jen
Parks, Lena
Ricchiuto, Jack
Tahan, Colleen
Zitzner, John

Cleveland Transformation Alliance Staff

Marnecheck, Meghann
Stacy, Eli

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Dr. Monyka Price called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM. Dr. Price welcomed the Board and went over the agenda items for the meeting.

At 5:38 PM, Dr. Price opened the floor for discussion to approve the June 14, 2021 Board Meeting minutes. Hearing no further comment, Dr. Price asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Ann Mullin made the motion to accept the minutes. Then, Ms. Turkessa Tenney



seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes for the June 14, 2021 Board Meeting.

2020 Audit Presentation

At 5:40 PM, Ms. Lena Parks from Barnes Wendling gave the 2020 Audit Report Presentation. Ms. Parks stated that most changes surrounded the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) reporting and auditing standards updates.

Ms. Mullin asked Mr. Parks if the Cleveland Foundation was deemed a private foundation, like the Gund Foundation in the report. In response, Ms. Parks stated that, for audit purposes, the Cleveland Foundation was a private foundation in the report. Ms. Ann Mullin asked for Ms. Parks to address the 81% concentration of private foundation funding. Elaborating, Ms. Mullin asked if the Transformation Alliance was at risk. Ms. Parks stated that the Cleveland Transformation Alliance was at risk because most CTA's funding comes from two private foundations. If it lost foundation funding, Ms. Parks said CTA would be at risk, not the foundations.

Ms. Mullin asked about the means test on the 1990 Form, and Ms. Parks noted that Barnes Wendling remained aware of compliance.

Ms. Brooke King asked about the 1st PPP Loans status. Ms. Meghann Marnecheck explained the Small Business Administration (SBA) forgave the first PPP Loan. CTA submitted a request to the SBA to forgive the second PPP Loan and was waiting for the response.

Ms. Parks stated that CTA's internal controls were not deficient. Also, CTA followed Barnes Wendling's previous recommendations to secure CTA's internal controls further.

Ms. Parks stated she would work with CTA to ensure that it was compliant in reporting future in-kind gifts.

Dr. Price highlighted the need for CTA to diversify its funding beyond foundation support.

At 5:55 PM, Dr. Price asked if there was further discussion or comment. Hearing no further comment, Dr. Price asked for a motion to approve the resolution to accept CTA's 2020 Audit Report. Ms. Lee Friedman made the motion to approve the resolution. Then, Ms. Anne Bingham seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the resolution to accept CTA's 2020 Audit Report.



2nd Quarter Budget Update and Projection

At 5:57 PM, Ms. Marnecheck went over the 2nd Quarter Budget Update and Projection.

Ms. Marnecheck advised the Board that the Cleveland Plan Progress Committee was in the process of determining the best way to distribute the report to the community.

Furthermore, Ms. Marnecheck noted that the \$97,183 net assets projection did not include the \$175,000 operation grant from the Gund Foundation allotted in 2020.

Ms. Marnecheck instructed the Board that the 2nd Quarter Budget Update and Projection did not need a Board vote, but the presentation was purely informational.

Resolution to Enter Into a Contract with Sangfroid Strategy

At 6:02 PM, Ms. Marnecheck presented Sangfroid Strategy's scope of work and timeline for developing a CTA Parent Ambassador Network.

Mr. Eric Gordon stated he believed CTA should ensure that CMSD's and CTA's programmatic terms do not overlap and potentially cause confusion.

Ms. Mullin stated that Sangfroid Strategy needed to understand the informal parental engagement networks to tap into different parental voices.

Ms. Erin Randel stated she would abstain from the vote because of her role with Cle PLAN.

At 6:07 PM, Dr. Price asked if there was further discussion or comment. Hearing no further comment, Dr. Price asked for a motion for CTA to enter into an agreement with Sangfroid Strategy to develop a CTA Parent Ambassador Network. Ms. Brooke King made the motion to approve the resolution. Then, Pastor Richard Gibson seconded the motion. 14 Board Members approved the resolution to enter into an agreement with Sangfroid Strategy to develop a CTA Parent Ambassador Network. Ms. Randel abstained from the vote.

Executive Director's Report

At 6:09 PM, Ms. Marnecheck gave her Executive Report. Ms. Marnecheck updated the Board that she was requesting their input to finalize the Cleveland Plan Refresh document. Moreover, Ms. Mary Halm, the Transformation Alliance's new Cleveland Foundation Fellow, would be starting on September 1, 2021.



Ms. Marnecheck noted the request to revisit the CMSD Partnership Criteria approved in 2018 and advised the Board, due to budgetary and organizational capacity concerns, that she intended to hold the discussion in 2022.

Strategic Planning Discussion

At 6:11 PM, Ms. Jen Margolis and Mr. Jack Ricchiuto went over the Strategic Planning presentation.

Ms. Mullin asked if Thrive at Work was speaking with all of the Board Members. Ms. Margolis stated they would put out a request at the end of the meeting to request Board Member feedback. Ms. Mullin encouraged Thrive at Work to ask the Board Members to participate explicitly.

Ms. Friedman asked if the strategic planning work was premature due to CTA's Cleveland Plan Refresh work not being complete.

Mr. Gordon stated coordination had to occur between the Cleveland Plan Refresh and the strategic planning conversations. Moreover, Mr. Gordon said that as long as the Board did not proceed beyond idea generation into initiative implementation, they would be fine during the meeting.

Mr. Ricchiuto added that even if there were issues with the strategic plan, CTA would need to keep it refreshed every two quarters.

Ms. Margolis requested the Board break up into working groups around the room.

Other Board Concerns

At 6:54 PM, Ms. Mullin asked CTA to think about the legalities of a Mayoral transition of power and best communicate with the two final Mayoral candidates and Mayor-Elect. Dr. Price stated that Ms. Marnecheck, Mr. Gordon, and Mr. Kevin Burtzlaff had a similar conversation, but Ms. Mullin raised some excellent points they could explore.

Ms. Randel asked if CTA could host an education forum with the two final Mayoral candidates. In response, Dr. Price stated that it would not be proper for CTA to host a discussion because the Honorable Mayor Frank Jackson was the Chair of CTA's Board.



Adjournment

Dr. Price asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Diane Downing motioned to adjourn, and Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. Dr. Price adjourned the meeting at 7:02 PM.