DRC Board Meeting Summary

6/15/22

Board Members Present: Mickey, Deborah, Kevin, Mary Sue, Alicia, Julie, Bob, Curt, Eloise, Mary Sue

Board Members Absent: John, Matt, Waeni

Staff Present: Jody, Joe

Convened at 5:30

1. Convene: Mickey – (5:30)

Mickey shared her reactions to the recent shooting at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Tx. As a career educator, Mickey spoke from the heart expressing her deep sadness as well as her search for how she and our organization might respond in a productive way. Others shared their feelings and thoughts. She invited us to share our thoughts in response to the questions placed in the chat. The questions focused on how we might act, think or be different; how we might reject the status quo, and what the DRC’s role might be. A copy of the chat is set forth at the end of this summary.

1. Consent agenda: Kevin moves, Julie seconded (5:41)

Consent agenda included: June agenda, May minutes, May financial dashboard, personnel policy, updated for adoption, community engagement update, Board Development Committee Report, & Strategic Planning Committee Report. The consent agenda did not include a policies committee report, it will be included next time.

Motion approved unanimously.

1. 2022-23 Board Calendar – Deborah (5:45)

Deborah described the board calendar three page document prepared to capture the concepts of interspersing shorter (1 hour) virtual meetings with longer (2 hours) in person meetings/social times, assuming public health concerns allowed for in person meetings. Another page set forth committee membership, scope, and meeting times. Discussion included adjustments to the one page grid that depicted month by month plan, so the years were removed. Julie moved to approve (with edit), Kevin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

1. Personnel policy (6:07 pm)

Mary Sue reported on the policy committee’s recommendation from its May meeting regarding housekeeping updates to the personnel policy. Deborah moved to approve, Alicia seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

1. 2021 990 – Curt (6:12)

Curt summarized the purpose of the annual review requirement because of DRC tax exempt status. Kevin moved to approve. Deborah seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Executive Director’s Report – Jody (6:15)

Jody referred board members to the written report in the portal, reminded folks to review in advance of the meeting. She then highlighted the following topics:

She participated in a 3 day RES WA retreat, during which a topic of discussion was state fund allocation.

ERP – record number of cases continue, Thurston County will exhaust rental assistance funding end of June.

Transition of staff and organization on the housing team.

1. Board development – Bob (6:23)

Bob identified 4 board candidates under consideration (Casandra Batdorf, Michael Furz, Robert Wilson-Hoss, & Jennifer Creighton). References will be checked. More info in July. Make decisions in September.

Annual volunteer picnic is August 10. Plan to attend, and help with set up, cleanup and celebrate the Peacemaker award and recognize volunteers. Board members will call and invite volunteers to attend.

1. Donor Centered Stewardship – Joe & Julie (6:38)

Joe and Julie shared what donor-centered stewardship is. Our giving has increased over the last 2 years, without any events. Donor-centered is based on people committed to the organization giving personally, rather than giving because of an event. They are motivated to give because of ownership/connectedness to the organization and its mission. 50% of those who gave in the last year, attended the Open House. Board’s role is to help people along their path of commitment to the organization.

Julie described the pyramid of engagement. It was noted that a long time supporter of the DRC got married and the couple asked guests to donate to the DRC in lieu of wedding gifts.

1. July 20 – Board social at Mickey’s – Mickey (6:58)

Mickey invited Board to her home July 20. Details to follow.

1. Closing – Deborah (7:00)

Meeting adjourned at 7:10

Copied below chat discussion from agenda item # 1.

17:39:11 From Mickey Lahmann to Everyone:

It’s up to us to step forward in our strategic efforts….

• How might we step ahead to think differently, act differently and be different?

• How might we act responsibility to not accept the status quo?

• In what ways might the DRC become even more value added in addressing this critical issue?

Ideas in chat:

19:04:11 From Deborah Jayne to Everyone:

Host a mediation in the park downtown event

19:04:11 From Curt Gavigan to Everyone:

be resilient and persevere in the mission

19:04:11 From marysuewilsonhorton@gmail.com to Everyone:

Encourage young people to get involved

19:04:11 From Alicia Varvaro to Everyone:

could we reach out to schools (and specifically the parents of the kids)/city councils/etc, and see if we could come and provide some information about what the DRC does? Education is powerful!

19:04:11 From Kevin Partlow to Everyone:

create sustaining DRCs in every school (age appropriate) in to help young people learn how to deal with and get through conflict

19:04:11 From Julie Watson to Everyone:

Helping youth heal cycles of intergenerational trauma & rise above hate and violence

19:04:11 From Mickey Lahmann to Everyone:

partnership with Thurston Gun Sense or like groups

19:04:11 From eloise Watts to Everyone:

I'm not sure if this could be possible but maybe the DRC and the board could host some community councils open to anyone, so anyone could come and give their ideas about action steps for the future. Or even maybe work with some schools in the district on our ideas/ thoughts.

19:04:13 From Jody Suhrbier / Thurston (she/her) to Everyone:

We must individually commit to healing ourselves if we are to see transformation in our families and communities.

19:04:16 From Bob Butts to Everyone:

Create a small group (Board, volunteers, staff) to create options to answer: "What action, if any, can the DRC take to address the cultural and political divides in our community?"

19:06:11 From Julie Watson to Everyone:

^^ I see a theme of youth/schools in many answers

19:09:42 From Julie Watson to Everyone:

I'll put my thought in the chat! I just wanted to share a vignette: My teacher friend had her 5th graders debate about which is better, DC or Marvel. But they had to do so civilly without insulting each other or the other side.

19:10:31 From Julie Watson to Everyone:

I read a great book recently: Zen and the art of saving the planet