BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Present:

Board members: Mickey Lahmann, Deborah Jayne, Kevin Partlow, Bob Butts, John Skinder, Matt Gerard, Mary Sue Wilson

Also present: Director/Staff: Jody Suhrbier, Joe Sanders

1. Convene & Welcome – Mickey 5:30

Informal discussion about vaccine appointments. Member sharing in the ZOOM chat box– why are you serving on the board of the DRC? Ensure longevity of organization, service, give back to community after being impressed by quality of mediation & training, make a difference for those from different cultures, believe in the mission, promote civic harmony, & serve.

1. **Action:** Approve Consent Agenda – Mickey 5:35

Jody shared highlights from Financial Dashboard, including year-end observations. Finished in the black! Congratulations team! Jody also shared highlights of the year end operations plan. Phone schedule only half days, but very busy. Booking out at 5 weeks right now. Plan to bring on more conciliators and mediators who are comfortable providing service on line.

Consent agenda motion (Dec 20 meeting minutes, Financial Dashboard (12/20) & Operations Report Summary (12/20) considered by the board. Mary Sue moved to approve the consent agenda, John seconded. Motion passed.

1. **Action:** Modify Statement re: Changing Bank Signatories – Mickey 5:40

As noted in December, the Board voted and passed an action to remove Kitty Parker as a signatory to the Dispute Resolution Center’s Board of Directors and add Deborah Jayne, Treasurer, to the Dispute Resolution Center’s Board of Directors for Olympia Federal Savings main DRC business account #0211170212.

BOARD ACTION: Kevin made a motion, and Matt seconded, to remove Mary Barrett as a signatory to the Dispute Resolution Center’s Board of Directors and add Mickey Lahmann, Chair, to the Dispute Resolution Center’s Board of Directors for Olympia Federal Savings Board of Directors DRC Discretionary Fund account ending in #8924. Motion passed.

1. **Action:** Discuss & Vote on Proposed Board Members – Mickey 5:45

On behalf of the recruitment committee, Bob summarized the committee’s recommendations. (Bob recently took on role of chair of committee when Carla stepped down.) The committee received materials, interviewed and checked references on two board member applicants, Alicia Varvaro and Jacob Reeves. Alicia works at Twin Star Credit Union. Jacob is a Junior at Olympia H.S., and would be our first youth representative.

Deborah moved to approve, Matt seconded. The board voted on each applicant, one at a time. Both applicants unanimously approved.

Mary Sue will be Alicia’s board buddy. Matt will be Jacob’s board buddy.

As we continue to work on recruitment, Mickey invited each board member to identify two people for consideration as possible board members and forward your names to Bob, as committee co-chair.

1. Capacity & Community Engagement News – Joe 6:00

Year-end appeal report – broke last year’s record by 45%. Increases in dollars and in numbers of donors.

Kitty, Mary & Terry are personally phoning 140 volunteers to invite them to the Feb 1 (5:30) & Feb 2 (noon) events. Event is to share campaign vision, timing, get buy-in, and then recruit “champions” (like table captains for the Toast), or legislative advocacy, or other.

What is asked of board members – can each be a champion? Note: ethics restrictions on judges.

“House” parties – set up virtual event, invite guests, committee presents the vision and makes the ask.

Mickey, Deborah & Matt will likely attend both. Kevin will attend Feb 1. Bob will attend Feb 1.

Joe led discussion about Peacemaker 2021 award effort. Committee – Mickey, Bob, and maybe one of two new board members to serve on this ad hoc committee.

1. Equity Presentation & Discussion: ResWA perspective - Jody 6:20

ResWA examination of work of DRCs – looking at data about who are we serving? Who are we missing (due to access barriers)? Overview of study with focus on minority populations in our state. Hispanic/Latinx is largest minority in state and county. CIELO = Thurson, Lewis, Mason education/advocacy, counseling, crime victim support, primarily support Hispanic/Latinx populations. Anahi Machiavelli [?]

Discussed whether to dive deeper into Thurston County data – so we understand the makeup of our county. Consider collecting data for clients, volunteers, etc. – so we can examine how we are serving our population and, if not serving our minority groups, what are the barriers. Matt offered to help on the next step (Thurston county specific data info/examine our service profile).

1. Celebrations! – SPSCC 40-hr Launch, NTPS Partnerships, etc. – All 6:50

SPSCC paralegal advisory committee – DRC has partnered with program to provide mediation training for paralegal students.

North Thurston restorative justice center concepts – initiator Sue Feldman (long-time volunteer), looking to support programs for adults and youth. In conversation: Lucia, Mickey, Jody and Sue. Looking at: CTE (career & technical education requirements) credit class in conflict management, and peer mediation program for youth.

Adjourned at 7:05 pm.

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***We envision a South Sound community that has and uses healthy and respectful***

***conflict resolution skills.***

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