

May 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

Friday May 21, 2021 at 9am via ZOOM

Board Present: Joseph Harbaugh (Chair), Lester Abberger, Danny Berenberg, Frank Biafora, Peggy Bulger, Reggie Ellis, Casey Fletcher, Makiba Foster, Jose Garcia-Pedrosa, Maria Goldberg, David Jackson, Sue Kim, George Lange, Tom Luzier, Linda Marcelli, Janet Snyder Matthews, Glenda Walters, Dan Denton, Olympia Duhart

Staff Present: Nashid Madyun, Patricia Putman, Brenda O'Hara, Keith Simmons, Lindsey Morrison, Mara Utterback, Jacki Levine, Lena Juarez

Absent: Kurt Browning

Meeting brought to order by Harbaugh at 9am and requested a **motion to approve the minutes of the September 2020 board meeting. Motion made by Harbaugh. Motion passed unanimously.**

State Funding Update: Juarez

- \$500,000 in State budget
- 101.5 Billion Dollar Budget this year, with 10 Billion coming from ARP
- Harbaugh: First time our organization partners have sent letters asking Governor to support FH
- Marcelli: When will we know if we received funding?
 - Abberger: Probably around mid June
- Bulger: Should we write Thank You letters to the Orgs that sent in letters?
 - Harbaugh: Yes

Federal Funding Update: Putman

- We received 1.5 million from NEH
 - This is 90% of our operating budget
- Federation of State Humanities Councils
 - Lobbying 225 million for NEH
 - 70 million will go to State Councils
- No updates from Biden until Summer
- \$900,000 was awarded through CARES Act last year
 - 100 grants, \$875,000 in funding
- American Rescue Plan (ARP):
 - Plan to receive 2 million to distribute by November
- Annual Appropriation from NEH is based on population size
 - 14% increase in FL population, which explains the increase in ARP funds

- Will have more time to get money out
- Sent a survey out to organizations that asked about their most urgent needs
 - 75% said general operating support
- Will roll out a plan starting next week
- More updates to Board within the next couple weeks

Harbaugh:

- We are seeking a 1 year contract employee to help get these ARP funds out
- Putman: We are using our current pool of evaluators for ARP
 - Once announced, we can't start reviewing for at least 30 days.

Harbaugh introduces our two new Board members: Dan Denton and Olympia Duhart

Finance Committee: O'Hara and Bendeck

- Bendeck:
 - IRS Form 990 has been reviewed and distributed to everyone

Motion to present IRS Form 990 for filing to the IRS made and seconded by Finance Committee. All in favor. Motion Passed.

- April 30th Financial Statements: O'Hara
 - Changed investment advisor to Manning & Napier last year and have seen a 13% increase since November 2020
 - NEH Funding: 1.58 Million
 - Used 800,000
 - Estimated \$300,000 carryover
 - We have no debt
 - Small vendor payables
 - Net Assets:
 - Majority unrestricted
 - Restricted funds for rent
 - Harbaugh: Stresses that Board needs to send in their In-Kind paperwork for matching
 - Our match is down because of Covid.
 - We moved to larger NPR grants because they have higher match potential
 - O'Hara: This year, we need to match 158 million
 - We are underspending because of less staff, less travel, etc.
 - There has been an increase in donations at this point compared to last year

Motion to pass April 30th 2021 Financial Statements made and seconded by Finance Committee. All in favor. Motion Passed.

Bendeck: Tampa Bay Community Foundation

- We have \$92,000 in funds with them
- This was to help foster a relationship
- Never saw any growth

Motion to move funds from Tampa Bay Community Foundation to Manning & Napier made and seconded by Finance Committee. All in favor. Motion Passed.

Bendeck: Planned Giving Committee

- Gift acceptance policy approved at last meeting
- Last FORUM had a Planned Giving Ad
- Website has materials with information
- Finance Committee meeting again soon to discuss other ideas
- We need outside people to advise us on how to move forward
- If any of the Board knows anyone that can help, please send them to the committee

Programs Committee: Bulger

- Reminds Board to attend virtual programs. They can use that as In-Kind Time
- Harbaugh asks if the Board can talk before the program?
 - Bulger says we would have to ask the organization that is hosting it.
- ARP will be a huge effort
- Several new funding opportunities:
 - Community Project Grants: 4 deadlines a year
 - Great number of program proposals for bringing dialogue in to programming
 - Humanities Center Grants:
 - College and University Humanities departments for programming
 - Deadline is May 26th.
 - Broadcasting Hope:
 - \$20,000 grants for FL Public Media Stations
 - Has resources to match
 - Good way to get our name out
 - Deadline is June 30th
 - Emergency Planning & Response Webinar
 - Progressing well
 - Already completed webinar
 - Creating website for all these materials
 - GrantEd: Resources that Empower
 - On Florida Humanities website
 - Live grant webinars

- In 6-12 months, will experience growth
 - Executive Director Discretionary Fund:
 - \$25,000 for grants that don't necessarily fall within our guidelines
- Florida Talks:
 - Up to \$1,000 for speakers
 - Deadline June 25th
 - Virtual, in person, and hybrid
- MoMS:
 - Water/Ways Exhibit
 - Statewide tour starts in June
 - Going to 7 communities in Florida
 - Ends in June 2022
 - Need local sponsors to help with funding
- English for Families:
 - Has expanded to Tampa/Hillsborough and Broward library systems
- Civic Engagement Programs:
 - Democracy Reignited
 - Red/Blue Workshop Series
 - Under Braver Angels
 - Danielle Allen event scheduled in Fall

Communications Committee: Garcia-Pedrosa

- FORUM
 - Newest issue was about Water
 - Up for 14 different awards this Summer
 - Main vehicle for communication
 - Levine: The next issue will be about Notable Women, and Florida Book Awards
 - Fall Issue is Impact of Newspapers in Florida
- Website & FORUM
 - We need to get people on the website (refer in FORUM)
 - Cross pollinate them
 - Working on possibility of forwarding a specific article in email, not full magazine
- Article by Professor Haydock (Spelling?)
 - Colleges marketing humanities all wrong
 - His proposal is to create modules for learning specific areas in humanities instead of majoring
 - Might be a discussion to have
 - Professor says there's been a decrease in the amount of students majoring in Humanities and also a decrease in the number of courses offered.

- Article: Wasn't able to get enough information on this during the meeting and the meeting video isn't opening. Hoping Keith has notes on this from the committee meeting:

Governance Committee: Luzier

- No update on Governor Board recommendations
- Between Board meetings, what we will focus on for open Board seats.
- Harbaugh: What talents should we focus on?
 - Governance will create a matrix for this

Harbaugh Remarks:

- Congrats to Jackson. Will be leaving for new position in NC
- Half of the Board has given
- Encourages the Board to become Sustainers (already have a handful)
 - \$35,000 goal for Board Giving
- Under Nashid, we will develop a Giving Plan
- Give Brenda In-Kind Paperwork

Motion to adjourn May 2021 Board meeting. Jackson moved and Ellis seconded. All in favor. Motion Passed.