

## Advisory Board Meeting Minutes (November 2024)

11/12/2024

3-5:30 pm, virtual

Circle 3-4; meeting 4-5:30

**Chair: Kristy Snyder**

**Call to Order: 4:07**

### Proposals and Announcements:

Proposal to accept the October minutes. PASSED.

Proposal to accept meeting agenda. PASSED.

Announcements:

- No announcements.

### Updates from Ombudsperson Coonce (slide deck attached):

- First investigative reports completed. We will publish findings and recommendations on our website.
- Research plans: we did our first RFP for research into EFC. We want more qualitative and quantitative info into EFC.
- Case management system launch!
  - o OOFY connected with Fosters in 20% of cases.
- Ariana: FA did some research w/ U of M students last year; are you leveraging this?
  - o MC: will review; looking to make recommendations from the research for legislative priorities.
- Elena: how is OOFY approaching research? How are fosters being involved in research design? Check ins throughout? Are there values you're looking for?
  - o HP did the RFP; we are trying to spend our funds which is impacting the speed. Later on, we will utilize our board but had to move more quickly this time.
  - o EL: research places don't always have the community in mind while doing their work; EL suggests an advisory board lens on the RFP process.

- LK: a lot of research orgs are white focused, be mindful of who we're hiring. Is the staff going to pick the RFP or board?
- MC: it will be similar to hiring process, will seek input about the RFP. HP is the lead on this project so will pass questions on to her.
- Continued Priorities:
  - Youth/foster outreach: increasing staff capacity with 2 temporary positions. Interviews for those positions will want ad board input; first week in December for interview.
  - Photo and video projects
    - Will be in touch about a makeup day for photos.
    - Will be opportunity for board input in media/video projects.
  - Foster youth rights: current and future.
    - Expanded info about current rights in process. Phase 1 is getting it on website. Phase 2 will be more dynamic content.
    - Continue to work on a foster youth bill of rights.
    - Current foster youth rights scattered between about 6 different statutes. There's lots of gaps. It's hard to navigate and find rights.
  - Board members should contact Kristy and/or Jasmine (pick 1) with questions/concerns for guide team to discuss.
  - Izzy: can we share about the foster youth bill of rights? MC: yes, and people can come to our sessions in Dec.
- Looking ahead:
  - FY BOR
  - Maximize team capacity: temp positions, reclassifying positions.
    - Let Misty know about interviewing candidates in Dec.
  - Legislative session.
- Kristy: we have guide team meetings, bring concerns and ideas to us so we can bring to those.

## Consultant Presentation: Charter Status (see attached charter document):

- Sherry: Current contract ends at the end of 02/2025; CS is working with OOFY to extend contract.
- Sherry suggests that the board vote on an interim charter during December's meeting before new people come in. Charter would be for one year.
- Sherry: board should review the charter document before the next meeting. **Green highlighting shows what the board already decided, yellow highlighting shows where you should review in more detail.**
- Sherry emphasized the following sections for closer review:
  - Section 4.4: Advisory Board Subcommittees.
  - Section 5.0: Scope of Authority.
  - 5.1: The Role of the OOFY Advisory Board.
  - 5.2: Example activities within scope.
  - 5.3: Out of scope activities.
  - Appendix → Commonly used acronyms and terms. This will be good general knowledge for board members joining.
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- The board should decide to **vote** or **postpone a vote** in December regarding:
  - o 8.0, Gratitude and Concerns (formerly: grievance policy): how do we want to approach harm together?
  - o 9.1; 9.2: Resignation, Removal for Cause.
- Conflict of Interest: conflict of interest forms have been sent out. Please complete ASAP. Contact Robin w/ questions.
  - o Sherry noted that most board members will have a conflict of interest, eg: anyone who works for a county, nonprofit serving Fosters, etc.

## Inviting board applications for seats with new terms

- Seats opening are random; we don't decide which seats are up or when.
- Kristy: how can we celebrate people transitioning off our board?

## Public Comment: NA

## Adjourn: 5:27 PM

### Next steps:

- Review the charter document for new changes.
- Determine whether to vote on or postpone in December: Section 8.0 Grievance/Gratitude & Concerns.
- Determine whether to vote on or postpone in December: Section 9.1; 9.2: Resignation, Removal for Cause.
- Complete the Conflict-of-Interest form in DocuSign.
- Complete your meeting stipend form in DocuSign.

### Present:

Ariana Chamoun  
 Elena Leomi  
 Graciela Bloch  
 Izavella Wagner  
 Kristine Snyder  
 Lacey Hubert  
 Lucina Kayee  
 Melinda Doms  
 Nia Dyer  
 Sage Desai  
 Shawna Bullen -Fairbanks  
 Ziigwan Fraser

Guests: NA