

MAYOR'S FUND TO ADVANCE NEW YORK CITY

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: MINUTES

June 3, 2019

Directors in attendance:

- Alexis Blane
- Darren Bloch
- Matt Klein
- Chirlane McCray
- Lincoln Restler
- J. Phillip Thompson
- Lisette Camilo

Officers in attendance:

- Matt Everett, Secretary
- Maya Jakubowicz, Treasurer
- Toya Williford, Executive Director

Other participants

- Daniele Baierlein, Director of Development

The Executive Director of the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City ("the Fund"), Toya Williford, called the meeting to order at 2:07 PM.

The Chair, First Lady Chirlane McCray, noted that the Fund's 25th Anniversary event was approaching and that it is being enthusiastically supported by the Fund's partners.

The First Lady noted some highlights from recent months, including Poppy Harlow's segment on CNN about Crafting Family Connections, and her visit with Secretary Hillary Clinton. The First Lady noted that the program has raised approximately \$40,000 and it has also inspired similar programs in Kansas and Chicago.

The First Lady then noted the success of the Summer Youth Employment Program and the fact that the summer of 2018 was the first time that students were able to find jobs that aligned with their classroom work. She noted that last year, the program included 4,000 students from 32 schools and that the coming summer would reach 7,000 students from 60 schools.

The First Lady further noted the launch of NYC Care, the City's effort to provide health care coverage to all New Yorkers, and the outreach role that the Mayor's Fund will be playing with the program's rollout in the Bronx this coming summer.

The First Lady then turned the meeting over to Ms. Williford.

Ms. Williford asked for a motion to approve the meetings from the February 7th meeting. Mr. Restler moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Blane seconded. The motion was approved.

Ms. Williford introduced Resolution #1 to renew the contract with Sanctuary for Families (“SFF”), which provides legal services for immigrants at Family Justice Centers (FJC). Ms. Williford noted that SFF has been a partner for eight years.

Ms. Blane asked if SFF was selected by the Fund or designated by the funder (Robin Hood). Ms. Williford replied that they were designated, in order to ensure continuity.

Mr. Bloch asked why SFF was only providing legal services at three of the five Family Justice Centers. Ms. Williford replied that the Fund had requested that Robin Hood expand their funding to the additional FJC’s, but they have maintained the current level. Ms. Williford further noted that all five FJC’s do provide these services, but that the contract in question pertained to these three.

Mr. Klein moved to approve Resolution #1. Mr. Bloch seconded. Resolution #1 was approved.

Ms. Williford introduced Resolution #2 to approve a contract with the Center for Court Innovation (“CCI”) regarding the Safety and Justice Challenge.

Ms. Williford explained that the initiative, in partnership with the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice (“MOCJ”), will identify and address barriers to diversion in the arraignment process and expand the uptake of diversion. Ms. Williford noted that an alternative to bail is supervised release, and possibly 8,000 people (for the past two years) are eligible for this, but only 25% of the eligible population are actually released.

Mr. Thompson asked what MOCJ’s role is in the program. Ms. Williford replied that MOCJ is the lead agency and will be supervising the CCI staff. Mr. Thompson noted that he would like to learn more about the data provided to judges who make a risk determination. Mr. Restler noted that this is being studied and will be released later this year.

Mr. Bloch asked about the duration of the contract. Ms. Williford replied that it is one year, with a possible extension.

Ms. Blane asked when the program would begin, given that bail regulations will be changing on January 1, 2020. Ms. Williford replied that the program would begin this summer, but that clarity was needed on how much data would be available by January 1.

Mr. Thompson moved to approve Resolution #2. Mr. Restler seconded. Resolution #2 was approved.

Ms. Williford then announced that the Fund had a new agency partner: NYC Health + Hospitals (“H+H”). She noted that the Fund is partnering with them on two programs. The first is “Arts in Medicine,” a partnership with the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund which leverages the H+H collection (including, as the First Lady noted, a Jacob Lawrence painting at Bellevue) and arts-based programs such as HHART of Medicine. The second program is NYC Care, as noted in the First Lady’s remarks above.

Ms. Williford then announced a partnership with MDRC and the Human Resources Administration (“HRA”) and CUNY. MDRC has received a grant from the Kellogg Foundation to study stability among non-custodial parents. MDRC provided a grant of \$460,000 and the Robin Hood Foundation contributed \$175,000. New York is one of four national sites where the study is being conducting.

The First Lady asked what CUNY’s involvement would be. Ms. Williford replied that CUNY is the contract-holder, and that HRA is included because of their ability to receive federal funding for the

program. Mr. Bloch noted that this demonstrates the value of the Mayor's Fund's agency partnership model.

Mr. Restler asked when the study would issue its report. Ms. Williford replied that it would be after September 2020. Mr. Restler asked if the Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity would be involved. Ms. Williford replied that discussions were underway.

Ms. Williford then invited Ms. Baierlein to offer a report on the 25th Anniversary benefit. Ms. Baierlein shared that the event would be held on June 25th at Gracie Mansion and would honor Fund partners Rob Speyer, Robin Hood Foundation, Kathy Wylde, and Safe Horizon. Ms. Baierlein noted that the Fund had secured 25 sponsors.

Mr. Bloch noted that the 25 years of good work the Fund has done shows the strength of the Fund's partnership model, and also how it has evolved over three administrations.

Ms. Williford then shared the Executive Director's report. She noted that the Fund is on track to raise \$29 million in Fiscal Year 2019, including a \$9.6 million in-kind contribution of reusable water bottles for all NYC public school students from S'well.

Ms. Williford also noted the new Arts and Civics Fund, which promotes civic engagement among young people by using the arts as a tool. The first phase involves the Broadway play "What the Constitution Means to Me." Mr. Bloch noted that he has seen the play, and it includes two NYC high school students in the cast. He noted that the producers are very enthusiastic about the partnership.

Ms. Williford then noted, as part of the Fund's effort to expand technical assistance offerings, the Fund held six funder briefings and two technical assistance sessions during the past fiscal year.

Ms. Williford further noted that the Fund would be holding its annual agency meeting on July 25th, with special guest Greg Schiefelbein of Citi Community Development.

Ms. Williford concluded her report by noting that she has met with 75% of the Fund's Board of Advisors in the past year to deepen engagement.

Ms. Williford then asked for new business. Finding none, she announced that the next meeting of the Board would take place in October. Mr. Klein offered a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bloch seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Matt Everett
Board Secretary