



Investing Today for a Thriving Tomorrow

EASTSIDE HUMAN SERVICES FORUM
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 19, 2020 – 8:30am to 10:30am
Conference Call

<p>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Lauren Thomas, Hopelink – Board Chair Al Smith, Perkins Coie - Vice Chair Amy Falcone, Kirkland City Council - Sec/Treasurer Tony Copes, Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council Barbara de Michele, Issaquah City Council Jessica Forsythe, Redmond City Council Monique Gablehouse, EvergreenHealth Dr. Harlan Gallinger, Issaquah School Board Stephanie Hamrick, Overlake Medical Center Paul Lwali, Friends of Youth Helene Wentink, Alliance of Eastside Agencies</p> <p>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Eric Evans, Shelter Holdings LLC Lynne Robinson, Bellevue City Council Cassandra Sage, LW School Board</p>	<p>ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AND CONTRACTOR PRESENT Leslie Miller, Work Group Chair Monica Negrila, Work Group Vice Chair Brooke Buckingham, Governance Task Force Liz Mills, Legislative Consultant</p> <p>VISITORS PRESENT Dee Dee Catalano, City of Bellevue Bill Hallerman, CCSWW, Organizational Review Committee Stephanie Lizza, EvergreenHealth, Organizational Review Committee Alex O'Reilly, City of Bellevue</p>
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CALL TO ORDER – Chair Lauren Thomas called the meeting to order at 8:35 am. A quorum of the Board was present. She began the meeting by acknowledging that the organizational review work has been a big lift over the past year. She thanked the Organizational Review Committee and especially Al Smith, city staff, 501 Commons and all who contributed. Chair Thomas then reviewed the agenda.

Review of September Minutes

Motion 1: *"I move the Board accept the meeting minutes from the September 17, 2020 Meeting as presented."*

Discussion – None.

Motion was made by Monique Gablehouse and seconded by Al Smith. The minutes were approved as presented unanimously.

Proposed Organizational Structure

Vice Chair Al Smith acknowledged the great work done by the Organizational Review Committee and others. He reviewed the Proposed Organizational Structure Memo starting with the first decision: Do we adopt a new mission statement?

Motion 2: *"I move the Board approve the proposed new mission statement and present it to the membership for vote at the December annual meeting."*

Discussion: Board Members (hereafter referred to as "members") appreciated that it is short, succinct and captures the work the Forum wants to do. Members felt the wording holds us accountable to the community and liked the emphasis on collaboration. Members agreed that the membership should vote to approve it at the annual meeting. The motion had a friendly amendment to include presenting it to the membership at the annual meeting.

Motion was made by Al Smith and seconded by Amy Falcone. The mission statement was approved as amended unanimously.

Al reviewed each decision detailed in the memo and the Board decided to consider the restructuring proposal as a package rather than by each decision.

Motion 3: "I move the Board adopt the restructuring proposal as presented."

Discussion: Members felt that retiring the Work Group and replacing it with several Operating Committees for specific purposes was a clearer, more transparent division of responsibility. Combined with the proposed new Board committee structure, the result could be more effective committees and more effective outcomes.

Members were in agreement that the size of the Board would remain the same as in the By-Laws and that the Board could broaden its base through utilizing fully the at-large positions. It was also agreed to hire an Executive Director who would report to the Board. The ED will serve as a co-chair of the operating committees. The committees will be made up of member representatives including at least one Board member. These committees report to the Executive Director who reports to the Board. It was decided that instead of having a separate equity committee, all operating committees must include equity and inclusion in all deliberations and decisions.

The three Board committees consist of Board members plus the Executive Director who serves as ex-officio, non-voting member and attends all Board and committee meetings other than executive sessions. The number of Board meetings each year is undecided, but there was a suggestion that it may need to meet more than its usually scheduled five meetings a year.

The Board agreed that holding quarterly membership meetings were a high priority and an opportunity to collaborate, network and share information. As part of the Board's strategic planning, it will be important to determine which issues will drive our educational events, our legislative agenda and our collaborations with other organizations.

Members discussed the possibility of collaborating with AEA or other organizations on some of the educational opportunities. At some point in the future, it was agreed that EHSF will reach out to AEA to investigate ways of working together more closely and perhaps even combine some operations.

The discussion next focused on energizing outreach efforts to increase the participation and support of providers, funders, and business interests. Members agreed that it is critical to increase the diversity of our membership and reach out to all sectors of the community who are interested in social services. It could increase the Forum's effectiveness to increase provider, business and philanthropic representation in particular.

Motion was made by Al Smith and seconded by Barbara de Michele. The motion was approved as presented unanimously.

For next steps, Al agreed to draft a cover memo and proposed by-laws amendments that will be distributed to EHSF members before the December annual meeting. Al thanked everyone for the good conversations and their work on the organizational review.

Proposed 2021 Budget

Secretary/Treasurer Amy Falcone reviewed the estimated 2020 Actuals and then reviewed the proposed 2021 budget. There was agreement on the proposed budget by those members present. Because there

was no longer a quorum present, members will be asked to vote via email on adopting the proposed budget.*

Proposed 2021 State Legislative Agenda

Consultant Liz Mills referred to the Legislative Committee update in the Board packet and briefly reviewed the process for choosing draft legislative priorities as well as the Legislative Committee's long-standing practice of advocating for new revenue in general and not specific items such as a capital gains tax. There were no questions. She asked that the Board approve the proposed 2021 state legislative agenda. Because there was not a quorum, members will be asked to vote via email.**

2021 Officer Positions

Chair Thomas reminded members that officer elections will be held at the December annual meeting. She will be rolling off her term as Chair. Vice Chair Smith is interested in the Chair position and Secretary/Treasurer Falcone is interested in the Vice Chair position. Members were encouraged to let the Chair know of their interest in the Secretary/Treasurer position as well as the other two officer positions.

Board Member Information Sharing

Stephanie Lizza encouraged everyone to keep Thanksgiving celebrations small and within your own household only. Evergreen had two positive coronavirus patients for many months and now that number has jumped to twenty-six patients.

Helene Wentink shared that the AEA will hold their annual award event virtually either at the end of 2020 or beginning of 2021. The website is being upgraded and currently under construction. AEA created a new presentation, Human Services 101, that was recently shared with the City of Sammamish's Human Services Commission. She felt it was well received and AEA intends to share it widely and with other commissions. She also thanked city staff for their work overall and especially during this busy grant award/contracting time.

Secretary/Treasurer Falcone thanked Chair Thomas for serving as Chair and providing outstanding leadership.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Lauren Thomas adjourned the meeting at 10:15 am.

- * The Executive Committee later decided to vote on the Proposed 2021 Budget at the 12/16/20 Board meeting.
- ** The Executive Committee later decided to vote on the Proposed 2021 State Legislative Agenda at the 12/16/20 Board meeting.