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**Board meeting at Guidestone (Salida)**

Meeting Minutes: Sept. 26, 2022

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| **Meeting Purpose:**  |
| Invitees/Attendees | Title/Role |  |
| Paul Alexander | Vice Chair |  |
| Connie Callahan | Board Member |  Via Zoom |
| Bonnie Davis | Board Member |  Absent |
| Wendy Hall | Board Member |  |
| Rick Hum | Treasurer |  ABSENT |
| Betsy Dittenber | Executive Director |  |
| Megan Leesley | Chair |  |
| Rachele Vierthaler | Board Member |   |
| John Vandewalle | Board Member |  |
| Laurel Biedermann | Admin. Coordinator |  |

**Andrea Coen, Exec Director of Guidestone, talked about some of their programs, like school garden that teach children not only about planting/farming, but also a bit about healthy nutrition. Guidestone has an AmeriCorps volunteer who does the education. Students from Horizon Prep and Crest Academy spend time in the fields with Guidestone staff.**

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| Agenda Items DiscuSSION

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| Ref NBr | discussion |
| **1** | **Consent Agenda items*** Consent Agenda items were approved as presented.
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| **2** | **Chair Report*** Rick is moving away! Rick and Sue Ann have found a home in New Hampshire. Their house here is already under contract. The Board is hoping that Rick will be willing to assist with Treasurer duties at least until the end of the year. To be determined.
* Executive team positions are unfilled: With Rick leaving, both the Treasurer and Secretary positions need to be filled, especially important for Executive Committee decisions. Continued thought for potential board members is needed by all board members.
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| **3** | **E.D. Updates*** Community Summit: Have received positive feedback. Hoping to get more evaluations back from participants.
* State of Childcare discussion with Founders and donor*s*: Event is scheduled for Oct. 17th at 4:30 at the Poncha Schoolhouse.
* Funding opportunities:
	+ OEDIT has granted funding for the water parks both in Salida and BV. Kim Marquis with Envision wrote the grant but the municipalities need an applicant to receive the funding. CCCF will be the applicant, and will distribute the funds, provide oversight for the municipalities to get their reporting in.
	+ All the municipalities have expressed their need for an individual to write grants for them. Some discussion that CCCF might be able to hire someone to assist with that but more discussion is needed.
* Endowment: Jody Bentz, a long-time friend of Gaye Jenkins, Joseph’s mum, wants to set up an endowment via CCCF with annual donations. Ms. Bentz has always loved this area, even though she does not live here now, and would direct how the funding is distributed; the endowment is not for CCCF’s benefit at this time. The proceeds of her estate would eventually come to CCCF.
	+ Betsy is working through the details, fee structure, etc.
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| **3** | **Committee Reports*** Finance Committee did not meet because of two new babies among committee members!
* Nominating and Governance Committee:
	+ Rick Hamilton: Rick and Mary Jo Hamilton have been notable donors to CCCF, and Megan has known them for a long time. Rick was the operations manager for Project Angel Heart in Denver, and they are active in real estate in in Chaffee. Betsy has also talked with Rick and next step is for the Nominating Committee to interview him; he is very interested in being involved on the board of CCCF.
	+ Paul has circled back with Sasha, but waiting to hear from her. She may just be far too busy with her new job.
	+ Rick said he has not re-connected with Molly Walker about her possible interest, and suggested that since he is leaving and busy trying to move, Betsy should reach out to Molly for that discussion.
* Grants:
	+ Currently seven completed applications in for the SDCEA and BlueTriton/CCCF community grants. There are working drafts in process. Rachele expects several more applications to come in before the deadline.
* Strategic Planning: Connie is leading this effort with Paul. She had a few questions for the Board in able to continue her work on drafting strategy scenarios.
	+ What should be the strategic term being outlined; i.e. 3 yrs or 5 yrs? Connie recommends 3 yrs and the board agreed.
	+ Are the CCCF Mission, Vision still appropriate?
	+ Will need to revisit the five areas of focus previously defined 3 to 4 yrs ago. Recommended that the Communications & Marketing area of focus be removed from the Strategic Plan as being more operational activities at this point.
	+ In planning for the next discussion at the October board meeting, Connie asked that all board members review the existing Strategic Plan and be ready to discuss what needs updating and re-focus.
	+ Will need to define all the stakeholders for CCCF, i.e. officials from all jurisdictions, all Founders, all donors of $5,000+, a small number of lessor donors, EDC board, and who else?
	+ Noted that questions to lessor donors will probably be different than those questions to the more significant donors.
	+ All the documents will be on BoardSpot and the link will be sent out.

Connie will draft questions that can be used for the stakeholders for the October board meeting discussion. Her timeline is to collect responses to the survey in November, compile in late November into December, and be able to finalize the full Plan in January into February. Rick commented that there are needs that are being met by other organizations, but there are larger needs/gaps and that is where CCCF should ask how they can help.A question was asked to Rick about the Community Checkup that CCCF took over from Envision as part of the programming activities that came out of that planning process. A baseline “checkup” was done and one followup was also done. Rick strongly believes CCCF should continue to shepherd this effort and that a special committee be formed to push it out. Noted that surveys should not be done around the election period in any year. * Development: Colorado Gives is nearing. Development Comm believes each board member should create a fundraising page and push it out to their contacts with a stated goal; examples are “I’d like to get ten new donors to Colorado Gives” or “I’m hoping to raise at least $500.” Betsy said there are templates for creating these pages and she and Laurel can assist.
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| **5** | **Board Education:** John did an outstanding presentation on childhood learning. * + The architecture of neural learning solidifies by age 6 to 8.
	+ The U.S. has lagged far behind in its funding and support for early childhood learning.
	+ If learning is not instilled at the youngest age, it’s very difficult to catch up later in life.
	+ Currently the U.S. doesn’t fund education at any age/level, it has become clear that other countries’ education of children far exceeds the U.S. in performance.
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Wlh 10.20.22; reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |