

Youth On Their Own BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 23, 2020

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Via Zoom

Board Members in Attendance: Elaine Babcock, Tony Cazzato, Sean Denlinger, Linda Montes-Cota, Sean Murray, Jay Peskoe, Deb Salaiz, Michelle Singer, Julie Stevenson, Bill Stoffers

Board Members Absent: Maria Cuadra, Eva Murzaite, Kristina Scott

Staff Members in Attendance: Daniela Figueroa, Bethany Neumann, Matthew Palmer, Deb Ramsey, Elizabeth Slater

1. Call to Order / Welcome

Deb Salaiz

Deb called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

Jay and Deb led an icebreaker asking each board and staff member to share the types of activities they are doing to keep busy during the pandemic. Deb Ramsey can provide you with a list of great movies, books, and television series resulting from the discussion!

2. Mission Moment

Daniela Figueroa

Daniela shared a brief update on YOTO alum Oscar Gastelum. He received his last chemo treatment and is excited to start classes at University of Arizona. He also wants to return as a YOTO ambassador. YOTO staff will guide him to slowly get back into things.

3. Review and Approval of June 25, 2020 Minutes

Deb Salaiz

Motion to approve 6/25/20 Minutes: Tony Cazzato

Second: Jay Peskoe

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved unanimously

4. Review and Approval of Board Officers for FY21

Deb Salaiz

Officer slate presented for board approval:

President: Jay Peskoe

President-Elect: Sean Denlinger

Part President: Deb Salaiz

Treasurer: Julie Stevenson

Secretary: Eva Murzaite

Motion to approve proposed Board Officers: Tony Cazzato

Second: Michelle Singer

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved unanimously

Sean Murray clarified that positions begin today and run for one year.
After the vote, Jay took over facilitation of the meeting.

5. Welcome remarks and board member job description

Jay Peskoe

Jay reviewed the board member job description and led a discussion about board member responsibilities. He recognized Sean Denlinger for his outstanding contributions in bringing new donors to YOTO over the past year. Sean shared how he gets folks to donate by sharing his enthusiasm for YOTO. If he is holding a fundraiser for YOTO, he gives first and then sets a dollar goal and deadline for the event. He talked about the excitement surrounding YOTO winning the \$25,000 NOVA Home Loans Favorite Charity award. Sean also invited an acquaintance to a YOTO Open House and that person made a 7-figure planned gift to YOTO. Jay reminded everyone to sign and return the job description to Deb Ramsey ASAP.

6. Review and Approval of Board Committees for FY21

Jay Peskoe

The board reviewed a list of all committee members, including board and community representatives. They also reviewed the individuals to serve as Committee Chairs for FY21.

Motion to approve new Board Committee members: Jay Peskoe

Second: Sean Murray

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved unanimously

Sean Murray reminded everyone that the committee terms are one year. If someone is interested in joining another committee, please contact Sean, the committee chair, or Elizabeth.

7. CEO Report

Elizabeth Slater

Elizabeth shared Program updates:

- Mini Mall reopening
- Implementing revised safety protocols to address COVID-19
- Student portal launch
- Accepting specific donation items with arranged drop-off times

Elizabeth shared Board Operations updates:

- Board and Committee calendars forthcoming
- Board portal should make it easier for members to access information
- Monthly survey to collect volunteer hours

Bethany shared an update on the Fall Event:

- Based on survey feedback from our donors, no one is comfortable doing an in-person event
- Little interest in car event
- Will hold virtual event late October/early November
- Budget will be revised to reflect virtual event

8. Finance Report & Financial Statements

Matthew Palmer/

Tony Cazzato

Matthew noted:

- Burn rate of 9 months (not including YOTO's investments) which is healthy
- June financials are a draft as adjustments will be made for items like late bills
- HBL will again review YOTO's financials with the aim of submitting final version by November 1

Elizabeth shared that the \$1,000,000 bequest we were expecting for the College & Career program will actually be \$1,200,000. The donation should be received in August (and may be a bit less as some funds will be held back to close out the estate).

Motion to approve Financial Statements: Jay Peskoe

Second: Sean Murray

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved unanimously

9. Strategic Plan for FY21-FY24

Elizabeth Slater

Elizabeth presented the final FY21-FY24 Strategic Plan. She clarified that the costs listed for Year 1 are already included in the approved F21 budget.

Board-reviewed content in the plan includes:

- Mission statement
- Vision statement
- Core Values
- Strategic Planning Framework
- Strategic Issues
- Goals and Objectives

Motion to approve Strategic Plan: Elaine Babcock

Second: Tony Cazzato

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved unanimously

10. Board Self-Assessments

Jay Peskoe/

Sean Murray

Jay and Sean presented a summary of the results from the board self-assessment noting the perceived strengths and areas for improvement for both the board as a group and individually.

Board members shared goals they want to focus on for FY21.

Fulfilling board responsibilities:

- Julie has a goal to be the best Ambassador she can through continuous advocacy of bringing awareness, bringing in new donors and new board members, and bringing in more donations each year
- Julie also has a goal to exceed in her board role (Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair)

Organizational success:

- Jay has a goal to help YOTO secure a new building
- Tony would like to see more staff hired to directly support students (Program Coordinators)
- Sean Murray would like to see YOTO share more quantitative measures of programmatic impact on students; this will be especially helpful when we shift to tiered services so we know whether it makes a difference for our students

Elizabeth asked other members to email her with any goals they would like added to this list.

11. Meeting adjourned at 6:59pm.

Jay Peskoe

Submitted by Deb Ramsey on behalf of Eva Murzaite, Secretary.

I certify these minutes were approved by the Board of Directors at the August 27, 2020 board meeting.


Eva Murzaite, Secretary

9.17.20
Date