

Youth On Their Own BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 19, 2020
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Via Zoom

Board Members in Attendance: Elaine Babcock, Tony Cazzato, Sean Murray, Jay Peskoe, Deb Salaiz, Julie Stevenson, Bill Stoffers

Board Members Absent: Eva Murzaite, Michelle Singer, Sean Denlinger, Linda Montes-Cota, Kristina Scott

Staff Members in Attendance: Daniela Figueroa, Bethany Neumann, Matthew Palmer, Matt Schmidgall, Elizabeth Slater, Candice Treftz

1. Call to Order / Welcome

Jay Peskoe

Jay called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

2. Mission Moment

Matt Schmidgall

YOTO Feast: Feast restaurant (owner Doug Levy) is providing free Thanksgiving meals to YOTO students. Doug reached out to see if YOTO would be interested and approximately 160 students signed up. Serving them Wednesday 25th of November. YOTO will also provide blankets, socks, and a bonus holiday gift. Amazing joy for the Thanksgiving holiday!

3. Review and Approval of October 22, 2020 Minutes

Jay Peskoe

Motion to approve 10/22/20 Minutes: Bill Stoffers

Second: Tony Cazzato

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved unanimously

4. CEO Report

Elizabeth Slater

- In the spirit of Thanksgiving, Elizabeth thanked the board for giving so much time, heart, and resources to YOTO. We are so grateful for you. Thank you for your leadership, support, and cheerleading.
- Fall Event Recap: There were some challenges but was successful fundraising event. 253 tickets purchased, 130 streamed live, 217 video views after the event. Overall had positive feedback from attendees. Only lost about 10 people with the video glitch. Constructive feedback given as well. Like the variety of speakers and students. Have an overview of program that was appropriate. It was a learning year for us, identified ways to do better next year. For first time attempt, proud of what was accomplished. Ticket sales and after-event donation up from last year, down in raffle tickets, DOE events, and sponsorships compared to last year:

- Program Update: Full-scale effort to increase enrollment (working with media as well—3 pieces in the Arizona Daily Star in the last week). Partnering with the county superintendent to distribute a video with students (to enroll students in YOTO). Higher service utilization (comparing September and October, we see increases in services). We have a better application system so we can do better outreach for service utilization.
- No holiday blanket drive this year due to COVID. We have blankets on hand already that we can give out to students. Discouraging in-kind donations because of COVID and the challenges with getting those items to students.
- Update on new organization called SPIRIT: Supporting Possibilities in Responsible Independent Teens. Modeled after YOTO, located in Rochester NY. A YOTO donor is the SPIRIT founder. We've provided phone consultation to their leadership team. We are advising only, not sharing proprietary info. Reminder to board members that a long-term goal is to have a replication model we can share with other cities. Board may decide to create an ad-hoc committee for expansion planning in FY22 or beyond. Sean Murray directed staff to locate a copy of the "franchise plan" that was created many years ago when Chandler, AZ was interested in starting a YOTO site.
- Based on board member feedback, the January retreat will not happen in person. Instead, the board will meet for 2 hours on the regular 4th Thursday (Jan 28). Deb R will send the Zoom link.

5. Finance Report

**Julie Stevenson/
Matthew Palmer**

Julie and Matthew shared the finance summary provided to the board with no concerns. Matthew emphasized that we are healthy with a burn rate of 9 months without investments, 16 months with investments.

Motion to approve Financial Statements: Bill Stoffers

Second: Deb Salaiz

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved unanimously

6. Fischman Endowment Distribution Request

**Julie Stevenson/
Matthew Palmer**

This donor endowment is held at the Jewish Community Foundation. The donor prefers that we submit an annual distribution request for student scholarships. Doing so requires a board resolution to distribute (receive) the interest. This will be \$888 in restricted funding for student scholarships.

Motion to approve Fischman Endowment Distribution Request: Sean Murray

Second: Bill Stoffers

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved unanimously

7. Presentation of Audit FY20 Findings

Laura Randol - HBL

Laura Randol from HBL presented the draft FY20 audited financials and reviewed the sections in detail. The letter to those charged with governance found no material weakness. HBL provided several minor recommendations for operational improvements which staff will implement.

The draft audit included a "qualification" related to YOTO's Mini Mall inventory based on two factors: The inventory value was considered material and HBL was not on-site during the annual inventory count. After discussion with Laura about how YOTO could avoid the qualification, the board instructed the Finance Committee to re-examine the inventory valuation process and propose an inventory allowance based on relevant factors such as product expiration, unusable quality, and others. The Finance Committee will work with HBL to resolve the qualification question before the board reviews a final draft of the audited financials at the January 2021 board meeting.

Motion to instruct the Finance Committee to work with HBL regarding the qualification: Sean Murray

Second: Bill Stoffers

Discussion: None

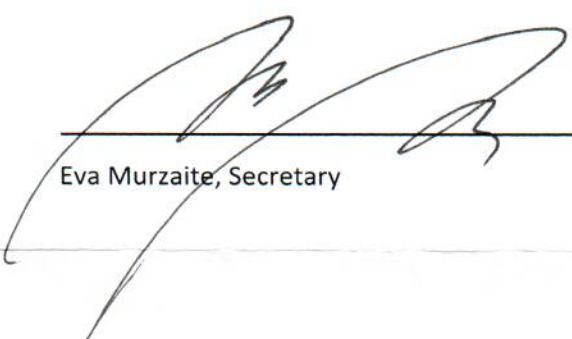
Vote: Approved unanimously

8. Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

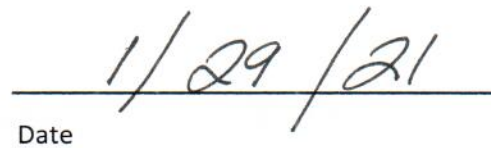
Jay Peskoe

Submitted by Daniela Figueroa on behalf of Eva Murzaite, Secretary.

I certify these minutes were approved by the Board of Directors at the January 28, 2021 board meeting.



Eva Murzaite, Secretary



Date