Youth On Their Own
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 27, 2021
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Via Zoom

Board Members in Attendance: Enrique Aldana, Elaine Babcock, Tony Cazzato, Sean Denlinger, Lorenzo Gonzalez, Linda Montes-Cota, Sean Murray, Eva Murzaite, Jay Peskoe, Deb Salaiz, Julie Stevenson, Bill Stoffers

Board Members Absent: Viviana Fimbres, Amanda McCraw, Kristina Scott, Michelle Singer

Guests: Tom Hoyt, Amanda Kippert

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

1. Call to Order

Jay called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. He led a toast to Bill Stoffers who will be finishing his board term at the end of June. Thank you, Bill!

2. Mission Moment

Daniela shared a story about a program participant named Jesus. Jesus was a YOTO student in high school. After graduation, he was the recipient of a Foot Locker scholarship. He recently graduated from University of Arizona and will be moving to Boston for an internship. Jesus has remained involved with YOTO as an Ambassador and we’re very proud of his success. Because of Jesus, YOTO became aware of the need to provide support for our alumni, which is why we now have a formalized Alumni Program.

3. Review and Approval of April 22, 2021 Minutes

Motion to approve 4/22/2021 Minutes: Bill Stoffers
Second: Elaine Babcock
Discussion: None
Vote: Approved unanimously

4. CEO Report

Elizabeth shared YOTO’s revised COVID safety policy and mask guidelines. There will be no on-site large meeting room at YOTO for now. A poll of those at the meeting showed 100% were comfortable attending the July retreat in person. The retreat location will be announced soon. Plan to arrive at 8:30AM for breakfast and socializing. The retreat agenda will run from 9:00AM-12:30PM and will include lunch. A virtual option will be offered for those who are on vacation but would like to still join. Elizabeth will be on vacation from June 1-9.

5. Finance Report

Julie Stevenson/
Matthew Palmer
Julie reviewed the finance summary provided to the board with no concerns. Sean Murray initiated a discussion about the current focus areas for the Finance Committee, with several board and staff members sharing comments that included: Managing unpredictability of income and expenses during COVID, maximizing the amount of financial support going to students, and planning for use of YOTO’s reserves (for a building purchase and beyond). Sean Murray stated that the Investment Committee is ready to take direction from the Finance Committee and Board with respect to actions needed to secure a new building for YOTO.

Motion to approve Finance Report: Elaine Babcock
Second: Bill Stoffers
Discussion: None
Vote: Approved unanimously

6. UBS Investment Policy Statement

Motion to approve UBS Investment Policy Statement: Sean Murray
Second: Deb Salaiz
Discussion: None
Vote: Approved unanimously

Julie Stevenson

7. Presentation of FY22 Board Officers

The board reviewed the officer slate for FY22 which will officially be voted on at the Annual Meeting in July, per YOTO’s bylaws. Deb Salaiz explained that she has agreed to serve as Treasurer with the intention of acting as a mentor for someone who would like to serve in the role next year.

Jay Peskoe

8. Board Assessment Process Overview

Sean informed the board that the annual assessment survey would be sent via email and asked everyone to complete it by June 30. Results will be discussed at the July board retreat.

Sean Murray

Elizabeth Slater/
Matthew Palmer/
Julie Stevenson

9. Budget Presentation

Board members reviewed and discussed the proposed operating budget for FY22. Julie explained that the Finance Committee had reviewed the budget in detail and recommends approval.

Motion to approve FY22 Budget: Bill Stoffers
Second: Deb Salaiz
Discussion: None
Vote: Approved unanimously

Elizabeth Slater

10. New Space Recommendation

Elizabeth and Linda presented information about a property at 2525 N. Country Club which is being considered for YOTO purchase. Almost all of our wish list criteria are met by this space. The New Space Committee recommends that YOTO should make an offer and begin a due diligence process to assess the cost of building repairs and upgrades. As an employee of PICOR, Linda recused herself from the vote.

Linda Montes-Cota/
Elizabeth Slater
Motion to approve offer parameters recommended by the New Space Committee: Bill Stoffers
Second: Eva Murzaite
Discussion: None
Vote: Approved unanimously

11. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm. Jay Peskoe

Submitted by Deb Ramsey on behalf of Linda Montes-Cota, Secretary.

I certify these minutes were approved by the Board of Directors at the July 31, 2021 board meeting.

Linda Montes-Cota, Secretary

Date 8/3/2021