Youth On Their Own
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 26, 2022
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
The Dunbar Pavilion – Dining Hall
325 W. 2nd Street, Tucson AZ 85705

Board Members in Attendance: Elaine Babcock, Tony Cazzato, Sean Denlinger, Eric Dupree, Lorenzo Gonzalez, Tom Hoyt, Amanda McCraw, Linda Montes Cota, Sean Murray, Jay Peskoe, Paola Ponce, Deb Salaiz, Julie Stevenson

Board Members Absent: Enrique Aldana, Viviana Fimbres, Amanda Kippert, Cori Rodriguez, Kristina Scott, Michelle Singer

Staff Members in Attendance: Daniel Armenta, Daniela Figueroa, Bethany Neumann, Deb Ramsey, Elizabeth Slater

Staff Members Absent: Todd Brown

1. Call to Order

Sean called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

2. Mission Moment

Heather is the Program Coordinator for the Alumni Program. Heather talked about the scholarship program and the impact which YOTO has in supporting education beyond high school graduation. She shared a story about how her regular office hours at UoFÀ helped a student pass her online math class. Heather also announced that the 2022-2023 scholarship recipients have been selected and shared a few of the students’ personal statements from their applications.

3. Gratitude

Julie thanked Sean Denlinger for his years of service on the YOTO board, reminded everyone of all the fundraising he’s done for the organization, named him YOTO’s biggest cheerleader, and presented him with a gift.

4. Review and Approval of April 28, 2022 Minutes

Motion to approve 4/28/2022 Minutes: Jay Peskoe
Second: Tony Cazzato
Discussion: None
Vote: Approved unanimously

5. Approve Finance Report

Deb reviewed the finance summary provided to the board with no concerns. Deb shared that our reserves are 1.94 months in cash. This is below the policy requirement of 2 months. The Finance
Committee reviewed this and recommends we don’t take any action. The operating reserve is at 12.81 months.

Deb explained that the volatility in the stock market is impacting our investments. The Investment Committee will continue to monitor with our advisors at UBS. The Employee Retention Credits (ERC) are still in progress. We hope to receive $393,000 in unbudgeted unrestricted income before the end of 2022.

Motion to approve Finance Report: Sean Murray
Second: Jay Peskoe
Discussion: None
Vote: Approved unanimously

6. Review and Approval of new audit firm

Paola reminded the board that our previous audit firm, HBL, is no longer performing audits. YOTO recently completed an RFP process to select a new auditor. The team who researched and proposed a new audit firm consisted of Deb Salaiz, Paola Ponce, Mark Papoccia, Elizabeth Slater, and Todd Brown.

RFP timeline:
4/22 – Request For Proposal (RFP) released
5/16 – 6 proposals received
5/17 – 2 finalists selected
5/19 – Finalist interviews conducted
5/26 – Recommendation presented to board

Ludwig, Klewer & Rudner and CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen) were the two finalists. The team recommends Ludwig, Klewer & Rudner based on an excellent application and interview, their experience with other Angel Charity grantees, and superb recommendations from other nonprofit clients.

Motion to approve new audit firm: Julie Stevenson
Second: Deb Salaiz
Discussion:
Vote: Approved unanimously

7. Governance Update

Sean shared that the board recorded over 100 volunteer hours in April, one of the highest months ever. Sean informed the members to contact the YOTO office if they would like more opportunities to volunteer.

Sean presented the officer slate for FY23 which will be officially voted on at the Annual Meeting in July, per YOTO’s bylaws.

8. CEO Report

Elizabeth covered the following:

1. This is the last meeting of FY22. The calendar of FY23 dates was distributed and Deb Ramsey will send calendar invitations for all events.
2. Happy Graduation! Elizabeth shared some pictures of recent YOTO graduates.
3. Elizabeth shared the timeline for work on the new building. Drafting is happening now, design interviews (staff, students/alumni, and folks in Admin building) will be done in June, and construction will begin in July/August.

4. The July board retreat will be Saturday, July 23 at Feast restaurant. Breakfast and socializing will happen from 8:30am – 9:00am. The meeting will run from 9:00am – 12:00pm.

9. Presentation of FY23 Budget

Elizabeth distributed a revised draft of the budget and explained that while YOTO will pay for $750,000 in property renovations in FY23, those costs will be shown in fixed asset category on Balance Sheet. Board members discussed the significant increase in projected income due to the Angel Charity donation anticipated to be received in April 2023, and staff explained that this is a one-time increase only. The FY24 budget will reflect a more typical income level (~$5M). Board members reviewed and discussed spending on students services, specifically the increase in stipend spending and a cell phone program for YOTO youth.

10. Approve FY23 Budget

Motion to approve FY23 Budget: Julie Stevenson
Second: Jay Peskoe
Discussion:
Vote: Approved unanimously

11. Meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.

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 23, 2022 board retreat.

Linda Montes-Cota, Secretary

Date 8/1/2022