

# Youth On Their Own BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 27, 2022

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Tucson Electric Power

88 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson AZ 85701

**Board Members in Attendance:** Elaine Babcock, Tony Cazzato, Eric Dupree, Vivian Fimbres, Tom Hoyt, Amanda Kippert, Katie Maxwell, Linda Montes-Cota, Sean Murray, Jay Peskoe, Mark Papoccia, Paola Ponce, Cori Rodriguez, Deb Salaiz, Kristina Scott, Georgina Smith, Julie Stevenson

**Board Members Absent:** Enrique Aldana, Amanda McCraw

**Staff Members in Attendance:** Daniel Armenta, Todd Brown, Daniela Figueroa, Bethany Neumann, Elizabeth Slater

**Staff Members Absent:** Deb Ramsey

## 1. Call to Order

Julie Stevenson

Julie called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

## 2. Mission Moment

Armando Alvarez

Armando joined via phone and shared an update on his professional success since graduating from YOTO, including running a thriving business!

## 3. Sharing Joys and Good News

Julie Stevenson

## 4. Review and Approval of August 25, 2022 Minutes

Linda Montes-Cota

Motion to approve 8/25/2022 Minutes: Tom Hoyt

Second: Cori Rodriguez

Discussion: None

**Vote: Approved unanimously**

## 5. Approve Finance Report

Paola Ponce

- Paola reviewed the finance summary provided to the board with no concerns. Paola shared that the operating reserve is at 11.06 months. Our cash reserves are 1.95 months. This is below the policy requirement of 2 months. The Finance Committee reviewed this and recommends we don't take any action. Sean asked whether we need to amend the policy since we are regularly slightly below the 2 month requirement. Paola shared the Finance Committee's recommendation that we keep the existing policy in place for one year before making any amendments so we have a full year of data about monthly revenue and expense trends.
- Paola noted that we continue to see volatility in the stock market, with a \$343,407 unrealized loss in our investment accounts in September. We expect continued volatility in the market for at least the rest of this calendar year and possibly into 2023.
- Program expenses are lower than projected because it's early in the school year and expenses are hard to estimate as youth learn about our program and the processes.

- The audit fieldwork went very well and we are pleased with the new auditors. We are on track for the Finance Committee and Board to receive/review/approve the audited financials in November.
- YOTO received a Property Tax Exemption for the new buildings, after working with Pima County for almost nine months.
- Digital payments for youth have started! Stipends, bill assistance, and other payments to youth have been paid using the cards.

Motion to approve September 2022 Finance Report: Elaine Babcock

Second: Katie Maxwell

Discussion: None

**Vote: Approved unanimously**

#### **6. Approve resolution to reinvest interest at CFSA**

**Paola Ponce**

Board members reviewed a draft of the resolution prior to the meeting. The resolution approves growing the principal of YOTO's endowment held at the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona by reinvesting \$5,526.23 in interest earned in FY22.

Motion to approve resolution to reinvest interest at CFSA: Deb Salaiz

Second: Tony Cazzato

Discussion: None

**Vote: Approved unanimously**

#### **7. Release donor restriction**

**Paola Ponce**

Review of the gift documentation from a \$10,000 donation from Hazan Family Foundation concurred that YOTO did not need to initially restrict this gift to comply with the donor's intent. The Finance Committee and staff recommended that we modify the restriction on the balance of the Hazan Family Foundation donation from "mental health services" to "client services" broadly, which may include mental health services but also includes all other direct client support provided by YOTO to our program participants. This is consistent with the gift documentation of donor intent.

Motion to release donor restriction: Deb Salaiz

Second: Tony Cazzato

Discussion: The board discussed the disadvantages of leaving funds unused for multiple years and received information about staff concerning our outreach and communication with the donor. Ultimately this change will correct an inconsistency we imposed when booking the gift.

**Vote: Approved unanimously**

#### **8. Governance Committee Report/Vote New Board Members**

**Sean Murray**

Sean presented two new board members for the January 2023 term. The board discussed the candidates' qualifications.

Motion to approve two new board members: Elaine Babcock

Second: Paola Ponce

Discussion: None

**Vote: Approved unanimously**

## 9. Mini Committee Reports

- Fund Development Committee
- Program Committee
- Advocacy Committee
- Property Committee

Cori Rodriguez  
Kristina Scott  
Amanda Kippert  
Linda Montes-Cota

## 10. CEO Report

**Elizabeth Slater**

Elizabeth thanked board members for their high levels of engagement in September and October. She shared that Daniela Figueroa and Ana Lucero will be presenting at the National Evaluators Association conference in November (this was a goal in our Strategic Plan!). She also shared that DeeDee Lopez has accepted the position of Executive & Board Coordinator and will assume the role once her current position of Development Coordinator is filled. Elizabeth also reviewed the timeline for YOTO's end of year fundraising campaign, during which we hope to raise over \$1M.

How the board can help YOTO right now: Sell Angel Charity raffle tickets, attend the Staff Appreciation lunch on 11/15, and write a pack of motivational notes for YOTO youth.

## 11. IDEA-TIC Presentation and Board Discussion

**Daniel Armenta/  
Elizabeth Slater**

Daniel and Elizabeth presented briefly about YOTO's efforts in the areas of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access (IDEA) and Trauma-Informed Care (TIC). Establishment of these internal work groups is included in our Strategic Plan. Daniel and Elizabeth shared the progress that has been made over the past two years of work in these areas and outlined what is ahead. Board members paired up to provide feedback about how they want to be involved in IDEA-TIC efforts and what they need to feel prepared to engage in IDEA-TIC work.

## 12. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

**Julie Stevenson**

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

**I certify these minutes were approved by the Board of Directors at the November 17, 2022 board meeting.**

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Linda Montes-Cota, Secretary

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Date