

Youth On Their Own BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 23, 2023
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Board Members in Attendance: Enrique Aldana, Elaine Babcock, Viviana Fimbres, Tom Hoyt, Amanda McCraw, Katie Maxwell, Sean Murray, Mark Papoccia, Paola Ponce, Deb Salaiz, Georgina Smith, Tony Spear, Julie Stevenson

Board Members Absent: Eric Dupree, Amanda Kippert, Linda Montes-Cota, Cori Rodriguez

Guests: Chuck Rudge (YOTO Ambassador), Valeria Angel (YOTO Ambassador), Heather Vene (YOTO staff)

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

Staff Members Absent:

1. Call to Order

Julie Stevenson

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

2. Mission Moment

Chuck Rudge

Chuck shared that he moved from Phoenix to Tucson when he was 16 years old. He had lost his older brother some years prior and Chuck was really struggling with this. When he learned about YOTO, it was a huge support to him. Since graduating high school, Chuck has gotten engaged to a fellow YOTO student. Together they have two children – an 8-month old and a 2-year old. Chuck is working as a security guard and training for his certification. He and his fiancé have been able to purchase a 2-bedroom house. They have dreams of starting a business.

3. Review and Approval of January 28, 2023 Minutes

Julie Stevenson

Motion to approve 1/28/2023 Minutes: Elaine Babcock

Second: Mark Papoccia

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved unanimously

4. Approve Finance Report

Paola Ponce

- Paola reviewed the finance summary provided to the board with no concerns. Paola shared that our reserves are 4.02 months in cash. The operating reserve is at 14.46 months.
- Paola noted that we continue to see volatility in the stock market, with a \$269,173 unrealized gain in our investment accounts in January. We expect continued volatility in the market for at least the first half of 2023 and maybe longer.
- Program expenses continue to be lower than projected primarily due to tiering system (estimates of number of youth in each tier do not match actual tier assignments). We are re-allocating some program funds to basic needs, we will catch up on some spending areas, and some areas will likely remain under-budget through the fiscal year. Data from this fiscal year of tiered services will help us more accurately budget for FY24.

- Even though overall fundraising is ahead of budget, *individual* contributions are down by \$167,202. We feel this is due to the weaker economy and inflation, and our donation levels normalizing to pre-covid numbers. Our Development Department is working to address this, including additional foundation prospecting to infill with foundation grants. We did receive a new \$100,000 grant in February due to these increased foundation prospecting efforts.
- Demo work on the new buildings is over 90% complete. The balance on the line of credit will increase significantly in coming months as construction ramps up. Revised construction permits have been re-submitted to the city of Tucson and we are awaiting final approval. No significant issues were raised during our permit review.

Motion to approve October 2022 Finance Report: Tom Hoyt

Second: Viviana Fimbres

Discussion:

Vote: Approved unanimously

5. Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Amanda McCraw

Amanda shared the conflicts disclosed and asked if there were any questions.

6. CEO Report

Elizabeth Slater

Elizabeth shared a long list of board member shout-outs! Thank you for being such an amazing group of volunteers.

Elizabeth shared the award winner names which will be recognized at the Spring Lunch.

- Liaison of the Year - Joel Brown, Pima Vocational High School
- Volunteer of the Year - Vic Piscitello
- Alumni Impact Award - Sharice Dugan
- Ann Young Advocate for Youth - Angel Charity for Children

Elizabeth shared that two authors of interest will be presenting at the Tucson Festival of Books. David Ambroz wrote *A Place Called Home* (memoir). Javier Zamora wrote *Solito* (memoir) and *Unaccompanied* (Poetry). Both authors have backgrounds similar to YOTO youth and write about experiences of youth homelessness. YOTO is coordinating a lunch with David Ambroz and board members are invited to attend.

Elizabeth reminded the board that the Board Placement survey will be sent soon. She encouraged all board members to consider any of the leadership positions.

7. Mid-Year Program Update/Discussion

Daniela Figueroa

Daniela shared the Program Targets through January and reviewed the academic stipend/digital payments program. She also explained how the Program Department budget looks in regards to spending in areas such as academic stipends, bill assistance, flexible stipends, and Mini Mall.

8. Mid-Year Fundraising Update/Discussion

Bethany Neumann

Bethany discussed whether YOTO was meeting funding goals. Donor and revenue retention are both up. We have lost many of the COVID one-timers. We are looking at why they have moved on and ways to re-engage them. We've increased foundation prospecting efforts and are already seeing funding increases

there. Bethany encouraged every board member to support the Spring Lunch by attending, bringing friends, and/or making a donation.

9. Meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

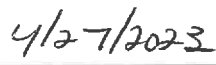
Julie Stevenson

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

I certify these minutes were approved by the Board of Directors at the April 27, 2023 board meeting.



Linda Montes-Cota, Secretary



Date