

STATE OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY  
Minutes of Authority Board Meeting  
September 8, 2017

The State of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority met at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, September 8, 2017.

The meeting was called to order at 8:51 a.m. by Dr. Peter Lisi, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Authority. Those present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT:                 John M. Biancamano, Vice Chair  
                              Robert S. Dakers (Rep. Honorable Benjamin B. Barnes, OPM Secretary)  
                              Elizabeth C. Hammer  
                              Barbara B. Lindsay, Esq.  
                              Dr. Peter W. Lisi, Chairman  
                              Dr. Estela Lopez  
                              Sarah K. Sanders (Rep. Honorable Denise L. Nappier, State Treasurer)<sup>1</sup>

ABSENT:                 Patrick A. Colangelo  
                              Barbara Rubin  
                              Mark Varholak

ALSO PRESENT:        Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director  
                              Denise Aguilera, General Counsel  
                              Andrew Kwashnak, Systems and Data Analyst  
                              JoAnne N. Mackewicz, Controller  
                              Michael F. Morris, Managing Director  
                              Cynthia D. Peoples, Managing Director  
                              Betty S. Weintraub, Grant Program Manager  
                                  of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority

GUESTS:                 Dave Davison, former Interim President, CT Council for Philanthropy  
                              Gregory Woodward, President, University of Hartford

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<sup>1</sup> Ms. Sanders joined the meeting at 9:07 a.m.

Dr. Lisi thanked everyone for attending the board meeting and added that he looks forward to the today's discussion. Dr. Lisi mentioned that Ms. Sanders will be leaving the Board of Directors soon as she has accepted a position with the Rhode Island Housing Finance Agency.

Dr. Lisi stated that there are many organizations in the State that look to CHEFA for their grant programs. One of the goals of the discussion today is to discuss strategic measures to having a sustainable CHEFA grant program in the future. Dr. Lisi encouraged an interactive discussion amongst Board members.

Dr. Lisi announced that the University of Hartford hired a new president effective July 1<sup>st</sup> and he is planning to stop by to introduce himself to the Board. Dr. Lisi turned the floor over to Ms. Weintraub.

Ms. Weintraub introduced Mr. Dave Davison, the former President of the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy and provided some background information on Mr. Davison.

### **PRESENTATION – CT PHILANTHROPIC LANDSCAPE 2017-18**

Mr. Davison provided a presentation on the Connecticut philanthropic landscape for 2017-2018.

Ms. Sanders joined the meeting at 9:07 a.m.

Ms. Weintraub thanked Mr. Davison for his presentation. A copy of his presentation is attached to the Board meeting minutes.

President Woodward joined the meeting for a brief moment at this time. Introductions of the Board members were made to Mr. Woodward, President of the University of Hartford.

Dr. Lisi congratulated Ms. Sanders on her new position.

### **THE PAST AND PRESENT OF THE GRANT PROGRAM**

Ms. Weintraub provided a presentation on the past and present grant programs at CHEFA. Highlights of her presentation were as follows:

- Since 2003, the Authority has awarded 400 grants totaling \$32,492,844 for their client, nonprofit and targeted grant programs.

- Program and project funding has been funded. The broad focus in the past has been: Healthcare, Education, Cultural, Childcare and food insecurity.
- The Authority has had a structured targeted grant program.
- The most recent Nonprofit Grant cycle was suspended.
- For the future, the Authority is seeking sustainability of its Grant Program and also having a consistent approach to grant-making.
- CHEFA's unique philanthropic niche can provide innovative and visionary thinking.
- The Pay for Success program uniquely combines the Authority's expertise in financial, philanthropic, and legislative arenas and provides for a partnership of public, private, and nonprofit sectors. In addition to providing leadership opportunities for the Authority that could be evolutionary, PFS is consistent with the Authority's mission and vision.

A discussion ensued.

At 10:00 a.m. the board members took a ten minute break and the meeting reconvened at 10:10 a.m.

### **FUTURE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM**

Ms. Weintraub opened the discussion by pointing out that much has been accomplished in providing grant funds over the years throughout the State when looking at what has been funded from CHEFA to support the community. The grant programs have been hugely significant to the nonprofit community. Ms. Weintraub added that there are ways in which the Authority can support sustainability of the grant program.

The topics of discussion were as follows:

- Sustainability of the Grant Program
- Consistent approach to grant making
- Leadership/partnership role of CHEFA in philanthropy
- CHEFA's unique philanthropic niche
- Innovation and visionary thinking

A discussion ensued.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Consensus was reached regarding the following:

- Grants will be made to align with the four sectors of the Authority's focus of Education, Healthcare, Childcare, and Cultural. The grant applicant's organization mission must fall within those sectors, not their project or program.
- Grant Requests for Proposal (RFP) applications will be revised to contain the language "subject to funding availability". This will be effective immediately with the FY 2018 Client Grant cycle RFP that will be posted in September.
- CHEFA will continue to fund Client and Nonprofit Grant cycles based on funding availability.
- A "three years on and one off" policy for grant recipients, which will replace the "two years on and one off" previous policy.
- There will no longer be a 10% investment requirement for Client Grant applicants to provide to their project/program. No such requirement exists for the Nonprofit Grant Program.
- Grants will be made for both capital projects and programs for both Client and Nonprofit applicants.
- The Executive Director informed the Board that she plans to establish a separate disbursement account for the sole purpose of funding grants, similar to the CHESLA scholarship and refinance program accounts.
- The Targeted Grant Program dollars can be directed to the Pay for Success (PFS) Program. If there is not a PFS expenditure for the year, these funds will be split up between the Client and Nonprofit Grant programs.
- Grant Requests for Proposal (RFP) will not specify a dollar amount that will be distributed during the grant cycle.
- Mr. Biancamano suggested that it would be appropriate to contact OPM regarding the funding of the Spring 2017 Nonprofit Grant. It was agreed that the Executive Director will reach out to Kerry Kelley at OPM to confirm that the conditions for the suspension of the Spring 2017 Nonprofit grant cycle have been met with the \$875,000 payment to the State, thereby allowing for a review of the 2017 Nonprofit Grants at an October 2017 Grant Meeting in the amount of \$750,000.
- CHEFA will engage in leadership/partnership opportunities within the CT philanthropic sector as appropriate.
- Pay for Success will be an opportunity for CHEFA to bring innovation to the Authority, combining the investment, philanthropic, and legislative areas of the organization under one project.

Management discussed proposed grant funding for FY 2018. Board consideration of any such funding will be done as part of the Board's final review of the proposed FY 2018 operating budget.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, at 1:08 p.m., Dr. Lisi moved to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Lopez seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, the “Ayes,” “Nays” and “Abstentions” were as follows:

**AYES**

John Biancamano  
Robert Dakers  
Elizabeth Hammer  
Barbara Lindsay  
Dr. Peter Lisi  
Dr. Estela Lopez  
Sarah Sanders

**NAYS**

None

**ABSTENTIONS**

None

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette W. Weldon  
Executive Director