

STATE OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

Minutes
Grant Committee Meeting
June 20, 2018

The Grant Committee of the Board of the Directors of the State of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority met in session at the office of the Authority at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 20, 2018.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Estela Lopez, Committee Chair, at 11:34 a.m., and upon roll call, those present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT: Dr. Estela Lopez, Committee Chair
Elizabeth Hammer
Barbara Lindsay
Dr. Peter Lisi, Board Chair
Christopher Martin (Designee for Denise Nappier)¹

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Biancamano²

ALSO PRESENT: Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director
Denise Aguilera, General Counsel
Kathy Owens, Administrative Assistant
Cynthia Peoples, Managing Director
Debra M. Pinney, Manager, Administrative Services
Betty Sugerman Weintraub, Grant Program Manager
of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority

GUESTS: Bill Villano, President, Workforce Alliance

Alex Johnson, President and CEO, Capital Workforce Partners

¹ Mr. Martin attended the meeting via conference telephone that permitted all parties to hear each other.

² Mr. Biancamano joined the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Ms. Jill Watson, Director of Special Programs and Initiatives for Workforce Alliance

Mr. Jim Horan, Chief Executive Officer, Connecticut Association for Human Services

Ms. Liz Fraser, Policy Director, Connecticut Association for Human Services

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Lopez requested a motion to approve the May 16, 2018 Grant Committee minutes. Ms. Hammer moved to approve the minutes; Dr. Lisi seconded the motion.

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

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTENTIONS</u>
Dr. Estela Lopez Elizabeth Hammer Barbara Lindsay Dr. Peter Lisi Christopher Martin	None	None

Targeted Grant Program – Potential FY 2019 Areas of Focus

Dr. Lopez stated that at the prior Grant Committee Meeting the Committee had discussed two potential initiatives to review for the FY 2019 Targeted Grant Program. She stated that at this meeting, the Grant Committee would be joined by individuals who will share information about Workforce Initiatives and Two-Generation Policy. Dr. Lopez turned the floor over to Ms. Weintraub to introduce the presenters.

Ms. Weintraub provided context as to the reason for bringing in the two presenters. Ms. Weintraub mentioned that articles were included in the Grant meeting materials which provided information on the Workforce Initiative and Two-Generation Policy. Ms. Weintraub stated that the Targeted Grant Program is focused on a statewide need which corresponds to four sectors which are education, healthcare, childcare, and cultural.

Ms. Weintraub provided a short history of the CHEFA Grant Program. She reported that there were actually three areas of focus when the grant program was established in 2002, at that time it was, education, healthcare and cultural. Wrapped within the education sector was

childcare, as well as vocational training and summer jobs. Ms. Weintraub stated that at the April meeting, the CHEFA FY 2019-2021 Strategic Plan was adopted and within that plan were five strategic pillars: collaboration, economic and workforce development for the public good, technology, innovation, and public engagement and accountability. Ms. Weintraub stated that pillar number two which is focused on economic and workforce development for the public good came to the forefront because it ties in education, as well as a focus on supporting the public good.

Ms. Weintraub stated that a discussion will take place concerning the two initiatives at the next Grant Committee meeting in September and then the Grant Committee may make a decision regarding which entity will be invited to submit a proposal for the FY 2019 Targeted Grant Program. The Grant Committee will make a decision and bring to the Board the applicant or applicants to invite to submit a proposal for the FY 2019 Targeted Grant Program

Ms. Weintraub provided an overview of the state Workforce Investment Boards. She stated that they are the entities that coordinate and execute development, training, and planning for the state's workforce. She added that they have identified two areas which are of greatest importance. One is focused around manufacturing jobs, and the other is healthcare jobs. Healthcare continues to be a fast growing area in the State. Ms. Weintraub stated that both are priority groups for training and development.

Ms. Weintraub stated Two-Generation Policy is a policy that was passed by the legislature in 2016 and is focused on parents/caregivers and children, recognizing that a child cannot succeed if the parent is not succeeding.

Ms. Weintraub introduced to the Committee: Mr. Bill Villano, President of the Workforce Alliance, Mr. Alex Johnson, President and CEO of Capitol Workforce Partners, and Ms. Jill Watson, Director of Special Programs and Initiatives for Workforce Alliance.

Mr. Villano, President of Workforce Alliance provided a presentation on workforce initiatives. A brief question and answer discussion ensued. The presenters left the meeting after their presentation.

Ms. Weintraub introduced to the Committee: Mr. Jim Horan, Chief Executive Officer and Ms. Liz Fraser, Policy Director of Connecticut Association for Human Services. Mr. Horan provided an overview of the program. Ms. Frazer provided a presentation on the Two-Generation Policy.

A brief question and answer discussion ensued. The presenters left the meeting at this time.

Dr. Lisi stated he would like a copy of the presentations sent to the Board members. This meeting was organized to provide information on two possible Targeted Grant Program initiatives. The September Grant Committee meeting will have time set aside to discuss the two potential initiatives.

FY 2019 Proposed Grant Guideline Restrictions

Ms. Weintraub explained the previous grant guideline restrictions and the proposed restrictions.

Dr. Lopez asked if there were any questions regarding what is being eliminated. A discussion ensued.

Ms. Weintraub pointed out that the highlighted items included in the meeting materials are items that were added in over the years and were not a part of the original grant guideline restrictions. As far as fiscal agent proposals, in the past, fiscal agents were typically applying on behalf of a non-tax-exempt entity. She stated that today, for collaborations, the fiscal agent will act as the fiduciary for a larger group which is typically made up of nonprofits, government, education, the business community, and philanthropy. She pointed out that these entities work on larger societal issues that cannot be accomplished by solely one sector. The fiscal agent acts as the conduit where the dollars come in on behalf of the collaborative. She stated that removal of this item allows for collaborations to apply and to be reviewed by the Internal Review Committee, the Grant Committee and ultimately to the Board for approval. A discussion ensued.

An additional discussion centered on indirect costs. Further discussion ensued.

Ms. Weintraub stated that the need for staffing and overhead costs are essential to running a nonprofit organization, and a program cannot run effectively without these necessary costs. It was the consensus of the Committee that indirect costs would be funded on a limited basis and on a case-by-case basis. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Biancamano suggested that scholarships be removed from the list of restricted items. The Committee decided that it should be removed. Discussion ensued about committee approval of the changes. Dr. Lopez stated the goal is for the Committee to have input and respond on what should remain and/or be taken out of the list of restrictions. She indicated that the topic could be revisited in the future.

Dr. Lisi stated that he would like to learn more about each of the meeting's presenters. Ms. Weldon stated that at the September meeting there will be additional conversation about the presentations, with the opportunity to determine which organization(s) the Committee would invite to apply for the FY 2019 Targeted Grant Program funds. Dr. Lopez stated that the reason for the Grant Committee meeting in September will be to determine how CHEFA wants to support the targeted grants and initiatives.

Ms. Weintraub stated that at the September meeting, she has invited the President of the Connecticut Council on Philanthropy to provide information about the philanthropic landscape in Connecticut.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Weldon
Executive Director