

STATE OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

Minutes
Grant Committee Meeting
January 17, 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 offices of the Authority on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 12:45 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Estela Lopez, Committee Chair at 12:50 p.m., and, upon roll call, those present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT: Barbara Lindsay¹
 Dr. Peter Lisi
 Dr. Estela Lopez, Committee Chair

OTHER BOARD
MEMBERS PRESENT: John Biancamano²
 Elizabeth Hammer³
 Barbara Rubin⁴

ALSO PRESENT: Jeanette Weldon, Executive Director
 Denise Aguilera, General Counsel
 Bob Jandreau, Senior Finance Associate
 Dan Kurowski, Financial Analyst
 Eileen MacDonald, Senior Transaction Specialist
 JoAnne Mackewicz, Controller
 Kathy Owens, Administrative Assistant
 Debra M. Pinney, Manager, Administrative Services
 Cynthia Peoples, Managing Director
 David Wasch, Legislative Liaison/ECE Program Specialist
 Betty Sugerman Weintraub, Grant Program Manager
 of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority

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

² Mr. Biancamano joined the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

³ Ms. Hammer joined the meeting at 1:27 p.m.

⁴ Ms. Rubin joined the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Lisi moved to approve the minutes of the Grant Committee Meeting of November 15, 2017.
Ms. Lindsay seconded the motion.

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

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

FY 2018 Client Grant Program Awards Booklet

Ms. Weintraub reported that over \$10,000,000 has been awarded to CHEFA clients since the start of the Client Grant Program in 2004. She stated that for this grant cycle, the requests for grants funds totaled \$3,000,000 for the \$1,000,000 pool available for the program.

Ms. Weintraub acknowledged the Internal Review Committee (IRC): Mr. Kurowski, Mr. Wasch, Mr. Jandreau and Ms. MacDonald. She added that the IRC continues to provide work over and above their own work and thanked them for their support and their review of the applications.

Ms. Weintraub pointed out that for the current grant cycle, two new items have been added to the grant booklet. The All Statuses report now includes the Executive Summary of the Request, provided by the organization. This allows the board to have more information about the program/project. She thanked Ms. Peoples and the IT team for helping to revise this report. The IRC utilized a new ranking method, the Borda Count Method, which replaces the Buckland Variant. This is a more efficient, less time-intensive method that utilizes a point ranking system and has Excel program capabilities. She thanked Mr. Kurowski and Ms. Peoples for their support with moving to the new system.

Ms. Weintraub stated that the IRC recommended 16 of the highest ranking applications with full funding of 14 awards and partial awards for the 10th ranked application, which was The Horace Bushnell Memorial Hall and the 16th ranked application, which was Our Piece of the Pie.

Ms. Weintraub provided background information on the partial funding for the two applications. She stated that The Bushnell applied for \$25,000 and, after review and discussion, the IRC recommended awarding them \$20,000. Ms. Weintraub stated that she visited the program at the Two Rivers Magnet School in East Hartford and was able to see the Teaching

Artists working with the students. Ms. Weintraub stated that she believes it is a good program; however, the duration of the program is brief. The IRC agreed that \$20,000 was still a significant award for this program. The IRC recommended increasing the award to Our Piece of the Pie by the \$5,000 that became available. She pointed out that Our Piece of the Pie is in need of a van to transport inner-city students from Hartford to certification programs at Asnuntuck Community College. They had also applied for funds to support the driver, insurance costs, and repairs. The IRC agreed to support the primary funding of the van for \$32,897, which was just shy of the total cost of \$35,000.

Ms. Weintraub reported that, in total, there are six counties represented in the proposed awards. There continues to be primarily capital grant requests submitted for the Client Grant Program. Ms. Weintraub added that CHEFA is looking at funding four main sectors, as well as human services. The grant recommendations total \$1,000,000 for a total of 16 grant awards, of which 14 are fully funded as requested and 2 are partial awards.

Dr. Lopez asked if there were any comments or questions. A discussion ensued.

Ms. Lindsay stated that in reviewing The Bushnell grant, it looks like a very good program but a departure from the capital projects. Ms. Weintraub stated that at the September 8th Board Retreat there was discussion, and a consensus was reached, allowing the nonprofits and clients to apply for capital projects/purchases, or program requests. The IRC recommended three program requests for this cycle, all other recommendations were for capital purchases. She added that the IRC rated each application on its own merit. Further discussion ensued.

Dr. Lisi stated that in spite of having a scoring rubric, he believes that there is subjectivity in making grant awards. Dr. Lisi pointed out CHEFA is fully funding a grant for Day Kimball for a new surgical table. He stated that in his view a surgical table should be a part of normal equipment to perform the normal function of the hospital, like a classroom should automatically have desks and chairs. Further discussion ensued on the appropriateness of this type of request.

Ms. Weintraub pointed out that the RFP does not specify what type of capital requests can be submitted. The IRC takes into consideration many factors when making their decisions. In the case of Day Kimball, the size of the hospital and their financials are taken into consideration.

Ms. Weintraub added that the IRC did not discuss their grant rankings with each other, yet the results reflected that the IRC shared the same views on the majority of recommended applications. Dr. Lisi stated that he believes the grant requests can be in line with what the institution does, but also bring in more innovation in their requests. Dr. Lisi also added that he thinks that the IRC is doing a good and thorough job and he fully supports their recommendations.

Dr. Lisi raised concerns about the application from the Women’s League Child Development Center which was asking for \$5,500 for three defibrillators. He stated that possibly such a small amount could be found in the grant pool of dollars, especially since this would be instrumental in saving lives. Further discussion ensued.

After a brief discussion, it was agreed to fund the \$5,500 for the Women’s League Child Development Center for the defibrillators. Dr. Lisi moved to accept the IRC recommendations to fund the 16 grant applications, with the addition of \$5,500 for the Women’s League proposal. Ms. Lindsay seconded the motion.

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

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

Dr. Lopez thanked Ms. Weintraub and the IRC for doing a very good job.

Dr. Lopez requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Lisi motioned to adjourn and Ms. Lindsay seconded the motion.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette W. Weldon
Executive Director