

STATE OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY  
Grant Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 15, 2024

The Grant Committee of the State of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority held a meeting via videoconference and in-person on Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

The hybrid meeting was called to order by Mr. Peter Lisi, Board Chair, at 12:07 p.m. and upon roll call, those present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT: Lawrence Davis, Committee Chair  
Steven L. Elbaum  
Peter W. Lisi, Board Chair  
Susan Martin

ABSENT: Kimberly Kennison (*Designee for Jeffrey Beckham, OPM Secretary*)  
Alan Mattamana

ALSO PRESENT: Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director  
Denise Aguilera, General Counsel<sup>1</sup>  
Charles Bodie, Managing Director of Finance and Operations  
Daniel Giungi, Communications and Government Affairs Specialist  
Rebecca Hrdlicka, Sr. Administrative Services Assistant  
Dan Kurowski, Manager of Program Development & CHEFA CDC  
Andrew Kwashnak, Senior Data & Systems Analyst  
JoAnne Mackewicz, Controller  
Julia Pollano, Operations Reporting Analyst<sup>2</sup>  
Kara Stuart, Manager, Administrative Services  
Betty Sugerman Weintraub, Manager of Grant Programs and Philanthropic Outreach of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Davis requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2024 special meeting of the Grant Committee. Ms. Martin moved for approval of the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Elbaum.

Upon a voice vote, the “Ayes,” “Nays” and “Abstentions” were as follows:

<b><u>AYES</u></b>	<b><u>NAYS</u></b>	<b><u>ABSTENTIONS</u></b>
Peter W. Lisi	None	None
Lawrence Davis		
Steven L. Elbaum		
Susan Martin		

<sup>1</sup> Denise Aguilera participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

<sup>2</sup> Julia Pollano participated in the meeting via teleconference that permitted all parties to hear each other.

Mr. Davis commented on the recent announcement regarding Ms. Weintraub's retirement. Mr. Davis thanked Ms. Weintraub for her hard work with CHEFA grantmaking. Ms. Weintraub reciprocated her appreciation to the Board and Mr. Davis.

### **ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL GRANT FUNDS**

Mr. Davis introduced the FY 2024 CHEFA Nonprofit Grant cycle and reported that \$1,000,000 is currently allocated for this cycle. Mr. Davis reported that 45 organizations were invited to submit full applications and completed for review by the Internal Review Committee (IRC). Mr. Davis stated that the requests that received a 3 or more "high" rating by the IRC totaled \$1,194,500.

Mr. Davis noted that the remaining \$350,000 from the FY 2024 Targeted-Enterprise Capital Grant cycle could be re-allocated at the Committee's discretion. Mr. Davis proposed several options for re-allocation, which included the re-allocation of all \$350,000 to the next Targeted-Enterprise Capital cycle, the current Nonprofit Grant cycle, or the upcoming Client Grant cycle.

A discussion ensued and action on re-allocating the remaining funds was deferred until after the presentation and evaluation of the FY 2024 CHEFA Nonprofit Grant applicants.

### **FY 2024 NONPROFIT GRANT REVIEW**

Mr. Davis turned the floor over to Ms. Weintraub to present a brief description of the applications that had received 3 or more "high" ratings by the IRC. Mr. Davis noted that any application can be brought forward for consideration by the Committee regardless of rating by the IRC. Ms. Weintraub thanked the IRC for their hard work and reported on the \$100,000 allocated to the cultural sector each nonprofit grant cycle (approved by the Board at the September 2022 Grant Committee meeting). Mr. Davis commented that the applications were separated into three categories: cultural sector requests, non-cultural sector program requests, and non-cultural sector capital expenditure requests.

The applications presented by Ms. Weintraub were as follows:

- 4-H Education Center at Auerfarm
- Arts for Learning Connecticut, Inc.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Connecticut, Inc.
- COMPASS, Youth Collaborative, Inc.
- Connecticut Foundation for Dental Outreach
- CT STEM Academy
- Discovery Museum, Inc
- Family & Children's Agency
- Harc, Inc.
- Hartford Public Library
- Hartford Stage Company, Inc.
- Higher Edge
- Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services
- Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc.
- Make the Road States DBA Make the Road CT
- Malta House of Care, Inc.
- Oddfellows Playhouse
- Safe Futures, Inc.
- Silvermine Guild of Artists, Inc.
- Visiting Nurse Association of Ridgefield, Inc.
- YMCA of Northern Middlesex County, Inc.
- YWCA Hartford Region, Inc.

The floor was opened to questions after each application.

Mr. Davis opened the floor to consider any applications not previously presented by Ms. Weintraub. Mr. Davis brought forward the Boys & Girls Club of Hartford to be considered in the consensus discussion.

The Committee then transitioned into a consensus discussion to decide which applications should be awarded. An application was considered for an award if the majority of the Committee was in consensus (i.e., 3 or more Committee members considered the application favorable).

The consensus discussion started with the applications that had received a unanimous “high” rating by the IRC, then continued with the cultural sector applications, program requests, Boys & Girls Club of Hartford, and capital expenditure requests. During the consensus discussion, Mr. Elbaum brought forward the application from Leadership, Education, and Athletics in Partnership (LEAP) for consideration.

After further deliberation by the Committee, consensus was reached regarding the re-allocation of the remaining \$350,000 grant funds and the applications to be awarded for the FY 2024 Nonprofit Grant Program.

The following applications were recommended:

- 4-H Education Center at Auerfarm: \$75,000
- Arts for Learning Connecticut, Inc.: \$45,000
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Connecticut, Inc.: \$75,000
- Boys & Girls Club of Hartford: \$75,000
- COMPASS, Youth Collaborative, Inc.: \$45,000
- Connecticut Foundation for Dental Outreach: \$75,000
- CT STEM Academy: \$25,000
- Discovery Museum, Inc: \$75,000
- Family & Children’s Agency: \$75,000
- Harc, Inc.: \$45,000
- Hartford Public Library: \$75,000
- Hartford Stage Company, Inc.: \$15,000
- Higher Edge: \$10,000
- Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services: \$75,000
- Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc.: \$40,000
- LEAP: \$75,000
- Make the Road States DBA Make the Road CT: \$75,000
- Malta House of Care, Inc.: \$75,000
- Oddfellows Playhouse: \$45,000
- Safe Futures, Inc.: \$45,000
- Silvermine Guild of Artists, Inc.: \$40,000
- Visiting Nurse Association of Ridgefield, Inc.: \$40,000
- YMCA of Northern Middlesex County, Inc.: \$49,500
- YWCA Hartford Region, Inc.: \$75,000

Mr. Davis requested a motion to allocate \$304,500 of the remaining FY 2024 Targeted-Enterprise Capital Grant funds to the FY 2024 Nonprofit Grant cycle and award the 24 organizations as listed above, totaling \$1,304,500<sup>3</sup>. Mr. Elbaum moved for approval and Mr. Lisi seconded the motion.

Upon a voice vote, the “Ayes,” “Nays” and “Abstentions” were as follows:

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTENTIONS</u>
Lawrence Davis	None	None
Steven L. Elbaum		
Peter W. Lisi		
Susan Martin		

Mr. Davis requested a motion to allocate \$45,500<sup>4</sup> of the remaining FY 2024 Targeted-Enterprise Capital Grant funds to the FY 2025 Client Grant cycle. Mr. Elbaum moved for approval and Ms. Martin seconded the motion.

Upon a voice vote, the “Ayes,” “Nays” and “Abstentions” were as follows:

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTENTIONS</u>
Lawrence Davis	None	None
Steven L. Elbaum		
Peter W. Lisi		
Susan Martin		

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Weintraub commented on the current status of the FY 2024 Targeted-Enterprise Capital Grant awards, where 6-month progress reporting will be presented to the Board at the September 2024 meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With there being no further business, Mr. Lisi moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Elbaum seconded the motion.

Upon a voice vote, the “Ayes,” “Nays” and “Abstentions” were as follows:

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTENTIONS</u>
Lawrence Davis	None	None
Steven L. Elbaum		
Peter W. Lisi		
Susan Martin		

The hybrid meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

<sup>3</sup> A clerical error calculated the total amount of awards to \$1,304,500 instead of \$1,344,500. Therefore, \$344,500 of the remaining grant funds was needed for re-allocated to the FY 2024 Nonprofit Grant Program. This was corrected and approved at the CHEFA Board of Directors Meeting on May 15, 2024.

<sup>4</sup> This number was corrected to \$5,500 and approved at the CHEFA Board of Directors Meeting on May 15, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeanette Weldon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

Jeanette Weldon  
Executive Director