

THE WHITE FAMILY FOUNDATION

August 27, 2023

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at Belleair Country Club at 2:06 pm by Chairperson, Lauren Carlan. Board members present included: Doug and Lauren Carlan, John and Megan Anderson, Amy Stanton, David Herman, and family advisor and grant coordinator Ruth Banther; Jay Rooth attended via Zoom. Barry Banther, and Joe and Jo Ann White were excused for travel reasons.

Lauren welcomed everyone. It was good to see David Herman in person. Ruth reviewed the meeting documents available from the online portal. Lauren then asked for an approval of the Agenda; John motioned, Doug seconded, and all approved.

Lauren led a detailed review and discussion of the Minutes from the April 23, 2023 meeting. This meeting was a White family member specific meeting to review and realign Founder's intent for the White Family Foundation. Ruth reviewed each of the recommended updates with the Board. If approved by the Board, the majority of the changes would go into effect in 2024:

- 1) A qualified grant organization's size will increase from \$3 million annual budget to \$4 million.
- 2) The maximum grant request amount will increase from \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00. Effective immediately, the annual discretionary grant amount will increase from \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00 per Trustee.

Ruth verified that attorneys have confirmed that all Board members may contribute to the Foundation as individual donors; if a Trustee chooses to do this, they should consult their tax professionals in advance for exact tax benefits. One of the major points for discussion was to outline the process for how to best bring next generation onto the Board as full voting members.

The proposed new Board member:

- Will be a direct descendent of any Founding Board Member, family and non-family.
- No earlier than Sophomore year in HS, the proposed "Trustee-in-Training" will train with the back-office Foundation staff on Board and Foundation governance. This should include one on-site tour to a local charity that the Foundation supports.
- The Trustee-in-Training will attend at least one Board meeting a year during their high school years, or the age of 18.
- At age 18, The Trustee-in-Training may be presented as a full Board Member by a member of the Board of Trustee at the April meeting of the qualifying year. A 2/3 majority vote must be documented for the next generation member to be considered a full Trustee.

A motion was made to approve the April meetings as submitted, a second was given, all approved.

Amy gave the treasurer's report. She expressed some concerns about one asset class, international equities, that we have watched for the past few years. She and Megan will reach out to AFP with their concerns and ask for their advice. Otherwise, our portfolio is stable, and we continue to be confident in the Anderson Financial Partners as quarterbacks and in Merrill Lynch and Timucuan as fund managers.

Lauren invited our guest speaker, Neil Brickfield with the Pinellas Housing Authority to speak to the Board on the state of the homeless and the housing crisis in our area. This issue impacts many of the non-profits we support. Neil shared an overview of the challenges facing families and individuals in need in our county and greater Tampa Bay. Neil's unique work history and recent appointment to the Housing Authority (previously with PAL) provided the Board with some valuable and up to date perspective on how we can best help many of the organizations with active grant requests for consideration in 2023. Neil was excused after a thoughtful discussion.

As we look at funding organizations in the future, some of the facts that Neil shared will be helpful as we determine our grant priorities.

1. The Pinellas Co Housing Authority owns and manages 11 facilities.
2. Public housing (the projects) requires no more than 30% of the renter's monthly income as payment. Many pay nothing b/c they are below poverty level and have no income.
3. Business owners are concerned because their workforce cannot afford to live in this county and are often driving an hour or more to commute.
4. The Housing Authority currently has two major developments in process that could add as much as 200-300 homes for low income.
5. The Housing Authority is working with county officials so that all multi-family builds will have section 8 as part of their build-outs.
6. The current voucher system is tedious and lengthy: often taking 4-5 years of waiting before you get in a home from the time you qualify. Its often called the "golden ticket".
7. It is hard, almost impossible, for most to give up assisted housing b/c of how hard it is to get. This social mindset keeps people in the poverty level instead of looking for ways to get out.
8. Housing Authority has four major areas of people it helps: Seniors, Foster kids aging out, natural disaster relief, and gov't action (ie. knocking down the projects-displaced persons).
9. Pinellas Co has upwards of 2400/2500 homeless people every day. (mental health, drug, substance abuse; Pinellas Co has more beds available for adults than surrounding co's.
10. There are no shelters that accept families with school aged children except domestic abuse shelters.
11. Evictions follow you: landlords won't take a chance if you even one eviction on your record.

12. Resources: 211 services information non profit; St. Vincent de Paul, Catholic Charities, Hope Village (homeless tent city), Rainbow Village build out planned with 200+ units, Tropicana Field redevelopment low income projects planned with 1200 units.

Ruth provided the Board with a Foundation Management update. One of the recommendations from the April Trustee survey and discussion was to utilize a phone based voting app for confidential voting and better transparency of decision making. Ruth introduced Sligo, for the Trustees to test out during today's meeting. Sligo allows for a unique motion to be presented for each grant under review; it allows for anonymous votes to be cast, and a quick tally made. Amy motioned to approve the use of the voting application, Sligo. Doug seconded and all approved. Ruth further reported that she is waiting for the liability policy renewal. She has updated our online process for grants filing and does not recommend a software program at this time.

Ruth then turned our direction to the grant requests for consideration. She noted that we have some new organizations this year. Some of our past legacy grants did not follow our submission processes. This year we are required to give \$357,000. We do not have any multi-year grants in place. She reviewed the criteria a grant to be considered qualified and highlighted the various reasons by those grants included in the "Recommended Closed" section did not meet the requirements for consideration. Lauren led the Board in a discussion of these requests and called for a Motion to close as recommended by our grant coordinator. A motion was made, seconded, and approved by all.

Below are the grants we will consider for final review at the November meeting. John requested that PAL's grant request be closed this year. He has served on the Board and reported that there were actions taken earlier this year not in keeping with Foundation's non profit transparency and ethical administration requirements. It was with great sadness that he made this recommendation. A motion was made, seconded, and approved by all to close the PAL 2023 grant request.

Ruth reminded the Trustees that the 2023 discretionary grant selections are due by the November meeting. Megan and John chose **Savvy Giving by Design**, an organization that helps families with serious illnesses to update their bedrooms or living spaces to encourage peace and healing during their illness. We have a total of 23 organizations to review at the November meeting.

Ruth shared that she will be looking for Board and family volunteer opportunities as we go into the Holiday season and the New Year. Lauren invited all to the Great Explorations Museum gala on September 23rd at Ruth Eckard Hall in Clearwater. Our next meeting will be held at Belleair Country Club at 2:00 pm on Sunday, November 19th. This is a change from the previously scheduled date of November 12th.

With reimbursement forms submitted to Ruth, Doug motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:30. John seconded. All approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Stanton, Treasurer

AKS:reb