

# THE WHITE FAMILY FOUNDATION

November 19, 2023

## Minutes

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The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm at Belleair Country Club by Chairperson, Lauren Carlan. Board members present included: Joe and Jo Ann White, Lauren and Doug Carlan, John Anderson, Jay Rooth, Amy Stanton and advisor Ruth Banther. Caroline Carlan was also present. Also present via Zoom were David Herman, Megan Anderson, and advisor Barry Banther.

Barry led the board in a reflection of the story of the good Samaritan. The Samaritan met a Jew who was wounded. While they were enemies, the Samaritan did not kill him, nor did he question him. He simply met his needs. Our foundation is similar in that it meets the needs of others. Barry challenged us to meet others needs in the same way in this Advent season by offering \$20, \$50, or a similar gift to a stranger or neighbor whom you see that appears to be in need—no questions asked.

The minutes of the August 27<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Doug, followed by a second from John. Jo Ann thanked Ruth for taking the minutes in her absence. The agenda for today's meeting was also approved. Ruth summarized the agenda. This included a Quick Books report, a report from Anderson Financial Partners, a grant tracking log, a summary of grants since 2007, and the by-laws and founding documents.

Amy continued with a financial report. We have had a 10.36% return year-to-date. The index return is only 6%. After talking with Anderson Financial Partners, it was recommended that we close each of the 4 international managers and put that money in a money market with a 5.5% return. Joe moved to do so, seconded by Doug. All approved. Most of our stocks have some international connection. Amy was right all along with her questioning of the value of the international segment of our portfolio. Amy will email AFP to move the international funds (approximately \$323,000) into a money market fund. A question was raised about our investment in Cohen & Steers REIT. Amy will get further information about that from AFP. We have had an \$80,000 cash raise for the Fall distributions, and Ruth has filed our tax return.

As part of our annual Trustee Training, Ruth reviewed a recent Tampa Bay Non Profit survey conducted by the Pinellas Community Foundation. The findings disclosed that few local non-profit organizations can afford to pay for marketing and communications which often puts them at a disadvantage to larger non profits. Many non profits believe they do not have good relationships with donors, private and foundations, but specifically with government agencies. They are seeking trust-based philanthropy: less reporting requirements, more multi-year or unrestricted grants, and looking at overhead and administration as critical costs. The level of giving in the Tampa Bay area is below national averages. Competitive wages hinder staffing. Giving grants to benefit staffing

needs is essential to most organizations. The Board will be open to considering staffing grant requests, but will ask for a breakdown of those staff members who are client-facing and those who are office staff or administration only.

Ruth led the Board in a discussion on how to best bring the next generation onto the Family Foundation Board. This discussion was in follow up to the April all-Board survey. Barry cited an example of the Estee Lauder family who made 2 critical mistakes. They had no good succession plan and too many independent non-family trustees. Currently we have in our by-laws that 1/3 of the trustees be non-family members and 2/3 be family members. According to our current by-laws, the majority will be family members (direct descendants) and at least 3 be non-family. The policy is to be reviewed every 3 to 5 years. The IRS recommends 2/3 family and 1/3 non-family. It was decided to table the wording in our by-laws until Amy consults the IRS.

Ruth then explained the new voting app to make our votes more anonymous. We tested the SLIDO app. Our grants will be voted on using that app. The following grants were considered and decisions made:

A KID'S PLACE TAMPA BAY asked for \$10,464 for their summer enrichment program. They provide homes for foster kids, striving to keep siblings together. They also provide one-on-one tutoring. Doug moved to approve the grant. Jo Ann seconded. All approved.

ACADEMY PREP was again seeking funding for their 11-month program With a motion from Jo Ann and a second from John, all approved.

ACHIEVE PLANT CITY requests \$10,000 for language development for migrant workers. They want to expand their program to others learning English. After much discussion Jo Ann moved and Amy seconded her motion to table the vote, pending a site visit by Lauren and Ruth. All agreed.

ADOPTION RELATED SERVICES would like \$15,000 for retention bonuses of \$1,250 to clinicians. Again it was voted to table this request (Amy/Jay) until the next meeting. Ruth will gather more information from them.

ADVENTURES FOR ALL, a new organization, is asking \$10,000 to provide opportunities for exceptionalities (disabilities). They provide extracurricular activities for special needs individuals (hiking, biking, canoeing, etc.) John moved to grant this request. Jo Ann seconded. All approved.

COMARADERIE FOUNDATION is seeking \$20,000 for counselors for military veteran family counseling. This would provide family counseling with 8 sessions for each family. Jay moved to deny this request; Doug seconded. All approved.

CLEARWATER CENTRAL CATHOLIC asked for \$20,000 for funding to meet the ever increasing need for tuition assistance. Megan excused herself from voting, as she is on

the school's advisory board. Jay moved to grant their request; Joe seconded. All approved.

CHILDREN'S DREAM FUND is now doing 250 dreams. It is noted that each of their board members contributes \$5,000 to their cause. They requested \$20,000. John moved to approve this grant; Joe seconded. Using the SLIDO votes, 8 voted in favor. One voted to deny.

CREATIVE CLAY asked for \$10,000 to aid creative individuals with disabilities. Joe moved to grant their request; John seconded. It was approved with a 7-2 vote.

GENTLEMEN'S QUEST of TAMPA addresses at-risk boys (9-12<sup>th</sup> graders) who do community service and learn basic skills They would like \$20,000 to help 30 teenage boys. Jo Ann moved to grant this request; Doug seconded. It was approved with a 7-2 vote.

GREAT EXPLORATIONS sought \$10,000 for their summer camp program for disadvantaged youth. Lauren is Vice-Chairman and related that the organization is fiscally responsible. With a motion from Jo Ann and a second from Joe, the grant was unanimously approved.

GULF COAST JEWISH FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES is again asking for \$10,000 for video production for children seeking adoption. They have a \$60,000 budget. Amy moved to deny this request, seconded by John. The vote to deny was 8-1.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF PINELLAS requested \$20,000 for low income seniors who cannot properly afford to keep their pets. It provides food on a monthly basis to their pets. Doug moved to deny their request, seconded by Jay. The grant was denied by a 8-1 vote.

LIFT ACADEMY requested \$20,000 to purchase a math intervention program to serve 25 students in every grade, kindergarten through eighth grade. There was much discussion, noting that their placement program seemed inadequate, and they had no individual learning plan. This was noted by three separate parents, whose children were denied placement. Doug voted to deny their request; seconded by Jay, with a 9-0 vote for denial.

LIZ'S LEGACY provides mental health counseling to families, especially kids in crisis. They are located in Orlando and have a great advocate in Jay. He moved to grant this request; John seconded. Approved by a 9-0 vote of the board.

MORNING STAR CATHOLIC SCHOOL is seeking \$30,000 for scholarships for special needs students. Ruth has visited the school many times and gave it good reviews. A unanimous vote to grant the \$30,000 was given after a motion from Joe and a second by Jay.

BOCA CIEGA WRESTLING TEAM requested \$10,000 for wrestling uniforms for their team, composed mostly of disadvantaged students. There was an immediate need. Doug proposed a \$5,000 grant be given; seconded by Jay. A 9-0 vote decided to get them the money as soon as possible.

READY FOR LIFE requested \$10,000 to help young adults exiting foster care. The grant would provide a learning lab, a mentor and counseling program, and helps them meet basic needs. An 8-1 vote approved their grant, with a motion from John and a second by Doug. It was noted that Patsy Stills is the new Executive Director at Ready for Life. Patsy is known to the Board through her previous position at Heart Gallery.

SEWING HOPE sews blankets for children in foster care. There are no salaries. They are seeking \$4,000 for fleece materials to make blankets. The \$4,000 was approved with an 8-1 vote. (John moved; Joe seconded.)

SPEAK UP: LET'S TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH is requesting \$8,000 To purchase books that focus on mental health issues that affect our youth today—bullying, working together, self-esteem, etc. They would use these books in summer camp. With a 7-2 vote, the grant was approved after a motion by Joe and a second from Amy.

STARTING RIGHT NOW is asking for \$20,000 to address homelessness for youth ages 15-19. They are not considered for foster care, as they were not removed from their homes, but chose to leave because of dire circumstances. Lauren moved to grant this request. Jo Ann seconded it, and the grant was approved by a vote of 9-0.

JR. LEAGUE OF TAMPA requested \$5,000 for basic clothing and supplies to children forcibly removed from their homes and put into foster care. It is similar to the Eckerd Raising Hope organization which we gave to previously. With a motion by Jo Ann and a second by Joe, the grant was denied by a 9-0 vote.

SHIRLEY PROCTOR PULLER FOUNDATION would like a grant of \$15,000 to help prepare middle schoolers in south St. Petersburg who are disadvantaged so that they may be successful in high school. The program will be hosted by Pinellas County Schools at Pinellas Technical College. The grant was approved by a vote of 7-2, with a motion by John and a second by Doug.

**Final Grant Decisions for 2023 to be paid in the Spring of 2024 are as follows:**

<b>A Kid's Place of Tampa Bay, Inc.</b>	\$10,464.00
<b>Academy Prep Center of St. Pete</b>	\$20,000.00
Achieve Plant City	site visit 2/29/24

Adoption Related Services of Pinellas, Inc.	site visit 1/25/24
<b>Adventure for All</b>	\$10,000.00
<b>CCCHS</b>	\$20,000.00
<b>Children's Dream Fund</b>	\$20,000.00
<b>Creative Clay, Inc.</b>	\$10,000.00
<b>Gentlemen's Quest of Tampa, Inc.</b>	\$20,000.00
<b>Great Explorations Children's Museum</b>	\$10,000.00
<b>Liz's Legacy Foundation</b>	\$20,000.00
<b>Morning Star Catholic School</b>	\$30,000.00
<b>Ready for Life, Inc.</b>	\$10,000.00
<b>Sewing Hope, Inc</b>	\$4,000.00
<b>Speak Up: Lets Talk About Mental Health</b>	\$8,000.00
<b>Starting Right, Now</b>	\$20,000.00
<b>The Shirley Proctor Puller Foundation</b>	\$15,000.00

The next meeting dates were scheduled for 2024:

- April 28<sup>th</sup> (2-4 pm)
- August 18<sup>th</sup> (2-4 pm)
- November 3<sup>rd</sup>(2-5 pm)

These meetings will be held at Belleair Country Club.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann White  
*Founder*  
*Secretary*  
*The White Family Foundation*