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**\*\*\* MEETING MINUTES \*\*\***

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*Minutes of the May 20, 2021, Virtual Board Meeting*

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Trustee	Web meeting	Trustee	Web meeting
Mary Calzaretta	X	Phil Minden	X
Terrell Carter	X	Cassandra Pinkston	
Marguerite Grandelious	X	Robert Poirier	X
Linda Grayson	X	Carla Rose	X
Carolyn Jackson	X	Donna Schmitt	X
Julia López	X	Yusef Scoggin	X

Others Attending:

William Kuehling

Jama Dodson, Executive Director

MHB Staff

**Call to Order** – The Meeting of the Saint Louis MHB Trustees was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Chair, Linda Grayson.

**Comments from the Chair** – Chair Linda Grayson announced that the executive director search process has been completed with Cassandra Kaufman has been selected as MHB’s new Executive Director. She thanked the entire Board for their diligence during this process. She next asked Julia López to speak about her plans for upcoming DEI efforts the Board will undertake.

**Community Comments** – Dan Glazier, Executive Director with Legal Services of Eastern Missouri spoke regarding LSEM’s annual thanks to the partnership with MHB and how important this partnership has been during difficult times. Others from LSEM also described ways in which this partnership has been demonstrated.

**Approval of the April 2021 Board Minutes** – The motion was made by Carolyn Jackson and seconded by Carla Rose to approve the April 15, 2021 Minutes of the last Trustees meeting as distributed. The motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution to Approve FY22 Continuation Grants from the Community Children’s Services Fund (CCSF)** – The motion was made by Yusef Scoggin and seconded by Terrell Carter to approve a

continuation funding resolution for the extra (4<sup>th</sup>) year of the existing Community Children's Services Fund grant cycle. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Resolution to Approve FY22 Continuation Grants from the Community Mental Health Fund**

**(CMHF)** – The motion was made by Mary Calzaretta and seconded by Donna Schmitt to approve a resolution for continuation funding for year three of the three-year Community Mental Health Fund grant cycle. The motion passed unanimously.

### **MHB FY21 Third Quarter Financials**

Susan Kabat, CPA and Controller with MHB, presented the FY21 3Q Financials. Basically most things are on track or underspent, so it is likely that several agencies will be unable to spend down their grants. Consequently the budget will require a lower transfer from net assets to balance.

### **Staff Report**

Jama Dodson presented the Executive Director's report for the period April 16, 2020 – May 21, 2020. A written report was distributed as usual. Among other items, the report included the following highlights:

- The board publicly announced May 14 that Cassandra Kaufman was hired as the next MHB Executive Director. Cassandra has an accomplished 25-year career in the non-profit and philanthropic sectors. She has been with MHB for over 8 years and has done an outstanding job during that time. She will take her new role as of July 1, 2021.
- MHB welcomes Keshia Hair as the Early Childhood Project Coordinator. Keshia has a background in Journalism and Communications and is finishing her MSW with a concentration in Non-Profit Administration at Saint Louis University. She comes to MHB from the St. Louis Public Schools where she worked as a Family and Community Specialist at both Herzog and Bryan Hill Elementary Schools. Keshia also has experience as an afterschool site supervisor for Provident at Bryan Hill. Most recently Keshia served as a community reviewer for the CARES Act Federal funding and the St. Louis County COVID-19 Humanitarian Fund. She is a member of the 27<sup>th</sup> Ward Education Committee. Keshia will begin on Monday, May 24.
- Kristin Cowart and Jama Dodson are working with Bill Kuehling to develop a charge statement and qualifications for the Early Childhood Community Advisory Board (CAB). The CAB is envisioned to provide guidance and advisement to support MHB's early childhood funding strategy and approach, with the MHB Board of Trustees providing final approval for all funding awards.
- Congresswoman Cori Bush has recommended the VPC Gun Violence Response Network for \$601,700 in funding through the Federal Community Projects program. VPC was selected as one of ten finalists from more than 100 applicants seeking funding for special projects in the St. Louis region. Finalists must be approved by Congress, so final notifications will be made in mid-July. A complete list of finalists, several proposing behavioral health projects, can be found at <https://bush.house.gov/services/community-project-funding>

**Adjournment** – There being no further business, Yusef Scoggin made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Julia Lopez. The motion passed, and the meeting of the Saint Louis MHB Trustees adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

The next meeting of the Trustees will be held on **June 17, 2021**.