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

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*Minutes of the August 17, 2011, Board Meeting*

*Attendance:*

*Leon E. Ashford, Ph.D.*  
*Mary Calzaretta*  
*Stephen F. Doss*  
*Robert Franken*  
*Marguerite E. Grandelious*  
*Linda Grayson*  
*Philip Minden*

*Don Cuvo, Executive Director*

*The meeting was chaired by President Philip Minden.*

**Community Comments** — David Kessel, Employment Connection, introduced three young participants in the MHB funded Building Blocks program. Each described the benefit they derived from participating.

**Announcements** — Don Cuvo announced that Allison Weaver resigned in order to move out of state to attend graduate school.

Don said that MHB will achieve the milestone of \$100,000,000 in grant making this fiscal year. Would the Trustees like a plan for a commemorative event? Don said he would bring back some ideas at future meeting.

Don introduced Jeanne Schutte, Queen of Peace Center, who described the vandalism to their newly acquired property at 4800 W. Florissant. MHB facilitated the acquisition of the property from the St. Louis Equity Fund and provided a rehab grant. She said the damage was covered by insurance and that the construction is back on track.

Don said that MHB was advertising to fill a Project Director position which was unfilled for the past year.

**Minutes** — Minutes of the June Meeting were approved as mailed.

**Funding for Children of Metropolitan St. Louis Report** — Don said that MHB received a request from Vision for Children at Risk (VCR) to again fund the printing of the biannual *Children of Metropolitan St. Louis* Report. This report is a description and analysis of the conditions impacting the wellbeing of Children in St. Louis by zip code. The Report is especially useful to those attempting to analyze the needs of children in specific geographic areas. The Trustees approved support in the amount of \$20,000.

**Continuation Funding for ARCHS** — Trustees approved a Resolution providing 3<sup>rd</sup>-year continuation funding for after school programs operated by ARCHS. Trustees reviewed a report which indicated that ARCHS met both student and program outcomes associated with their contract.

**Finance Committee Interim Report** — Chair Phil Minden said that the Finance Committee met twice to review matters related to budgeting and reserve. While there is need for future meetings, the discussion centered on increasing spending for grants in order to significantly reduce the reserve and budgeting based on anticipated revenues, rather than revenue already collected. Phil said that some decisions should be deferred so they can be reviewed more thoroughly during strategic planning.

**Resolution to Approve Capacity Building Proposal** — Don said that he was proposing several approaches to increasing grant making, as was the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Capacity building seeks to improve the effectiveness of organizations in key areas such as governance, development, finances, among others in order for the organizations to be more sustainable. Linda Aitch, representing Nonprofit Services Center, reviewed their proposal and answered questions. There was considerable uneasiness with capacity building and whether the proposal was properly targeted (to current grantees). A motion to table the issue until the September meeting was seconded. It was clarified that the motion to table was non debatable. The motion to table was approved with Leon Ashford voting *no*.

**Resolution to Approve Continuation Funding for High Performing Investments** — Don said a 2<sup>nd</sup> approach to increasing spending for grants was to continue into the next grant cycle certain investments which were meeting at least 100% of their outcomes after two years. They would still complete an annual application and budget, but would not be required to compete. The 3-year expenditure would be \$3,800,000. Trustees approved a motion to provide continuation for the six organizations which met the criteria.

