

# CRCOG FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

CRCOG, 241 Main Street, Hartford (Conference call option provided)

Monday, October 7, 2019

10:00 a.m.

## **Attendees**

Stephen Cassano
Marcia Leclerc
Chip Beckett
Lyle Wray
John Carson (phone)
Lee Erdmann
Robert Lee
Paul Shapiro
Mohamad Alkadry
Hedy Ayers
Brian Heavern

## **CRCOG Staff**

Emily Hultquist Tim Malone

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by President Steve Cassano. He welcomed the Board and thanked those who called in.

# 2. Action Item: Approval of Minutes (May 28, 2019 Meeting)

Marcia Leclerc made a motion to approve the Minutes of "May 28, 2019 as presented. Chip Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

# 3. Action Item: Vote to approve new members

Tim gave an update on efforts to involve new members. Emily Hultquist contacted Thea Montenez, who is chief of staff for Mayor Bronin. She was interested in becoming a member.

Chip Beckett moved to approve Thea Montenez as a new member; seconded by Mohammed Alkadry. Passed unanimously

## 4. Action Item: Officer Vacancies

Tim Malone explained that the Vice Chair position is now vacant due to Dave Kilbon's departure. It was suggested that anyone interested in taking over the position contact Tim. Staff would then bring a nomination to the group next meeting.

## 5. Expiring Terms

Tim explained that the terms of eight members (John Adams, Lee Erdmann, Doug Fisher, Brian Heavren, Brandon Robertson, Robert Lee, Richard Porth, and Diane Smith) expire in 2019. Chip Becket motioned to extend the terms of the eight members pending confirmation that they wish to continue with the foundation; seconded by Marcia Leclerc. Approved unanimously.

Brian Heavern, Lee Erdmann, and Robert Lee indicated their desire to remain on the board.

Paul Shapiro noted that he would not be seeking reelection in Mansfield and would thus be retiring from the board. Board members thanked him for his service and wished him well in his future endeavors.

# 6. Work in Progress

- October 31: third in a series of policy discussions
  - Resend flyer to foundation and board
  - Lunch at 11:30 at Hartford Library
  - o 75 RSVPs
  - Commissioners and local officials
  - Jay Williams moderating
  - Steve Cassano: when the minimum wage bill was passed, we left 16-18 year olds drifting.
     Grocery store employment seems to be down. Wasn't addressed by the legislature. Needs to be defined.
  - Chip: every business in a high tax state has to have workforce
    - OCEA makes it difficult for kids to work with equipment
  - Alkadry: there needs to be a comprehensive approach to workforce in the state
    - Need to do it quickly
    - Need to take care of replacing the workforce of government
    - Need a comprehensive gaps analysis
  - Chip
    - Can we talk about the distribution of the workforce and some small business
    - Small businesses can't compete on the regulatory front
  - Will send out the Las Vegas website
  - Half the prosecutors could be lost
  - Alkadry: has someone done a gaps analysis
    - Hard to believe nobody has done it
  - Robert: where should the leadership on this come from?
  - Chip: CRCOG should lead
  - Leclerc: have we talked to them and said that we would be a big part of the state efforts

- Lyle: need to follow-up with them
- Alkadry: would be more effective if we get legislative buy-in
  - Would be good to engage early with legislature
  - Create a mini-taskforce
- o Robert: we haven't even brought up the workforce development boards
  - Do they need to get reorganized?
- Alkadry: might want to bring back to the board a proposal for who should be involved in this
- Steve C: if we can get some top management and just lay it out; state that we have a crisis
- Alkadry: make sure the key actors are at the table early
- CEDS status update
  - Retention
    - Why is Uhart retaining students?
    - Uconn has outreach people
    - Cassano: community college charges for the degree, many students transfer out
    - Alkadry: evidence based practices are really important
    - P Shapiro: when the incoming president gave his inaugural address, the only college he talked about was Santa Monica Community College
      - I think he'd be very receptive
    - Trinity reducing number of full-payers each year
- Advancing TOD
  - Emily: part of retaining talent
    - Started a new initiative this year
    - TOD Collaborative focusing on state agencies, developers, anchors
    - Had our first meeting in early June
    - Second meeting organized on October 24
    - Group from Harvard coming to help facilitate
    - Will have someone who is inspiring talk about TOD

## 7. Other Business

## 8. Adjournment

Chip Beckett moved to adjourn. Seconded by Robert Lee.

Unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30am.