



Board of Commissioners Meeting

Virtual – Zoom

Thursday, March 28, 2024

8:30-10:30 a.m.

Minutes

Present: Co-Chair Kate Pew Wolters, Kevin Clay, Anthony Queen, Josh Sayles, Flora Ma, Michelle Van Dyke, Hanna Jaworski, Leah Adkins, Milt Rohwer, and Sean Welsh

Absent: Co-Chair Lew Chamberlin, Krashawn Martin, Melinda Johnson, Ron Koehler, Howard Earle, Joslyn Ward, Randy Thelen, Claire Guisfredi, Amanda Barbour and Kelsey Perdue.

Guests: Erica Harris (The Source)

Staff: Shelby Glover, Cati Cortes, Christine Timbol Larson, Jennifer Headley-Nordman, Heather Boswell, Awilda Diaz and Kiana Zaderej.

Welcome:

Kate Pew Wolters called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Consent agenda:

Kate Pew Wolters asked for a motion to adopt and approve the consent agenda, including the minutes from the November 16, 2023 meeting.

Motion to adopt and approve the consent agenda: Michelle VanDyke

Support: Milt Rohwer

Motion: Passes

Public Comment:

None today.

Investing Early:

- **Treasurer's Report**

- **January Financials:**

- Josh Sayles presented the January First Steps Kent Financials and Ready by Five financials.

- Motion to approve as presented: Sean Welsh

- Support: Milt Rohwer

- Motion passes

- **Ready by Five Reallocation Update:**

- This is the reallocation of funds that was given to ELCN, but we need to reallocate to Hispanic Center Of West Michigan for translation & interpretation services.

- Motion to approve as presented: Michelle VanDyke

Support: Hanna Jaworski
Motion passes

Accessible Resources for Families:

- **Parent Leader Update** – Anthony is in DC for ELN.
- **President’s Update** –National League of Cities has chosen Grand Rapids for a Technical Assistance Award Context Expert. Jennifer & Heather will be headed to Denver in April about communities of practice by Childrens Funding Project, the millage advertising has increased so you may see more now.
- **Grants Update-** \$500k in asks out right now. We continue to have great conversations with funders and how they can continue to support the work that we do

Systems Foundations:

- **Nominating Committee** – We continue to look for folks to fill seats. Claire Guisfredi has retired from her position at North Kent Connect, subsequently resigning from the First Steps Kent Board. Parent Representative Joslyn Ward passed away March 14th leaving a vacant parent seat. KISD Ron Koehler has retired, leaving Ron Gorman in his place, we are reaching out to Ron G. to ensure his spot on the Board.
- **Adjournment & Executive Session** - Kate Pew Wolters ended the meeting at 9:00a.m.

Next Commission Meetings:

Thursday, June 27, 2024