

Opportunity House, Inc.

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**PRESENT:** Lorna Bemis, Tim Conklin, Jennifer Darlinger, Heather Edwards, Landon Faivre, Nicole Fisch, Jeanne Isabel, Sushil Keswani, Pulchratia Lacey, Tim Lehan, Maura O'Toole, Ben Swedberg, Tom Weaver

**ALSO PRESENT:** Tom Matya, Carol Parsons, Chanette Oeser, Trisha Alexander, Karen Schnell

**LOCATION:** 357 N. California St, Sycamore, Conference Room & Microsoft Teams

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** 4:01pm by Landon Faivre

II. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Moved by Nicole Fisch, Seconded by Lorna Bemis.

A. **Minutes:** From February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

B. **Financial Reports:** From February 2024

TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. Carried

III. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. **Executive Committee:** No meeting.

B. **Finance Committee:** Met March 14<sup>th</sup>, Chanette Oeser briefly discussed a potential update to the current stock portfolio.

C. **Marketing & Communication Committee:** Met March 21<sup>st</sup>. Tom Matya updated the board that currently Opportunity House has reached 91% of the fundraising goal for FY24, with three large fundraisers still upcoming. The Corporate Sponsorship program has begun for the upcoming year, Band Together will be held April 5<sup>th</sup>, and Give Dekalb County is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Board members are requested to thank Give Dekalb County donors via phone or email after the event.

IV. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. **Three-year Financial Outlook:** Was presented by Tom Matya and Chanette Oeser. The greatest unknown in the three-year financial outlook was the possibility of rate increases from the state. Money has been held in reserve from the 2024 rate increases to ensure financial stability in 2025.

B. **Department/Residential Finance Review:** Tom Matya and Carol Parsons spoke regarding the funding changes to the Community Supports Program as well as the importance of continuing that program. Opportunity House has requested that the state reconsider the ICAP scoring when determining funding per client.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **Rule 116 Review:** Tom Matya reported that in the recent Rule 116 audit regarding the nursing staff at Opportunity House, the auditor gave positive feedback and scores were improved from the previous audit in 2023.

B. **CARF Annual Plan Approvals:** Moved by Tim Conklin, Seconded by Sushil Keswani.

1. Risk Management Plan
2. Technology Plan
3. Accessibility Plan
4. Corporate Compliance Plan

TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO CARF PLANS FOR 2025 AS WRITTEN. Carried

VI. **TRIVIA: National Developmental Disability Awareness Month**

- A. What year was March declared National Developmental Disabilities Month? **1987**
- B. Who declared March the month for National Developmental Disabilities Awareness? **Ronald Reagan**
- C. True or False: Over six million Americans live with developmental disabilities.  
**True**
- D. What year did the first Special Olympics Games take place? **1968**
- E. In what city did the first Special Olympics competition take place? **Chicago**
- F. According to the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD), a disability needs to occur before what age to be considered a developmental disability? **22**

VII. **ADJOURNMENT:** 4:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lorna Bemis, Secretary

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Karen Schnell, Recording Secretary