

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

October 24, 2024

**PRESENT:** Lorna Bemis, Tim Conklin, Jennifer Darlinger, Landon Faivre, Nicole Fisch, Kyle Gerdes, Jeanne Isabel, Sushil Keswani, Tim Lehan, Tait Lundgren, Dave Schafer, Karen Simmons, Maura O'Toole

**ALSO PRESENT:** Tom Matya, Carol Parsons, Chanette Oeser, Norma Farfán, Tracey Sosin, Laura Chessman

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

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** 4:02 p.m. by Landon Faivre.

II. **INTRODUCTIONS:**

- A. **Board Member Recognition:** Tom recognized Tim Conklin for his dedicated service for three terms on OH's Board of Directors.
- B. **New Board Members:** The board welcomed Kyle Gerdes, Tait Lundgren, Dave Schafer, and Karen Simmons.
- C. **New Residential Director:** Tracy Sosin introduced herself and was welcomed to OH.

III. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Moved by Maura O'Toole, seconded by Lorna Bemis.

- A. **Minutes:** From September 2024.
- B. **Financial Reports:** For September 2024. Additional clarification was requested on the Variance Report.

TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED: Carried.

IV. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. **Executive Committee:** No meeting.
- B. **Finance Committee:** Met with Danielle Abendroth via Teams on Monday, October 21 to review audited financials for Opportunity House, Inc. No findings or concerns. Moved by Nicole Fisch, seconded by Jennifer Darlinger.

TO APPROVE AUDITED FINANCIALS FOR OPPORTUNITY HOUSE, INC. AS PRESENTED. Carried.

C. **Marketing & Communication Committee:** No meeting.

V. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. **Quarterly Meeting Communication:** Meetings are held to update all staff on changes, updates, and events an OH. Tom provided the slide deck for review.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **Election of Officers:** OH, Inc bylaws permit nominations from the floor, provided the nominee has consented to serve if elected. Moved by Tim Conklin, seconded by Sushil Keswani:
  - 1. Chair: Landon Faivre
  - 2. Vice Chair: Nicole Fisch
  - 3. Secretary: Lorna Bemis
  - 4. Treasurer: Maura O'Toole

TO APPROVE ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Carried.

- B. **FY 24 Performance Measurement and Management Report:** Carol Parsons reported the successes, challenges, and enrollment of each program over the past fiscal year.

- C. **Organizational Process Review and Design:** Tom reported plans to restructure the finance department, which is facing significant challenges due to recent and upcoming retirements. RSM will be evaluating the needs of Opportunity House and recommending a path forward.

VII. **DATES:**

- A. **November Annual Appeal Launch**  
B. **Learning for Life Graduation:** November 20  
C. **Next Board Meeting:** December 5  
D. **OH Staff Holiday Party:** December 12

VIII. **TRIVIA: Northern Lights**

- A. What's another name for the Northern Lights? **Aura Borealis**  
B. What are the lights caused by? a) Lighting; **b) Solar Wind**; c) Thunder; d) Sun  
C. What is the most common color? a) Red; b) Purple; **c) Green**; d) Blue  
D. Aurora is named after the Roman goddess of what? **a) Dawn**; b) Wind; c); Sun  
The lights can be up to \_\_\_\_\_ miles wide. a) 3,000; **b) 2,000**; c) 10,000

- IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** 5:06 p.m. Moved by Jennifer Darlinger, seconded by Nicole Fisch.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lorna Bemis, Secretary

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Laura Chessman, Recording Secretary