

Children's Trust of Alachua County

Monday, October 21, 2019 | 4:00 pm | Alachua County Health Department
(Thomas Coward Auditorium)

Members Present: Ken Cornell, Alachua County Commissioner (Interim Chair); Susan Wilson-Bullard (Interim Vice Chair); Tina Certain, Alachua County School Board Member (Interim Treasurer); Karen Clarke, Alachua County School Superintendent; Cheryl Twombly, DCF Community Development Administrator

Staff Present Bob Swain, Senior Assistant County Attorney; Claudia Tuck, Community Support Services Director; Larry Sapp, Procurement Manager

1. Call to Order

Interim Chair Cornell called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

2. Agenda Review, Revision and Approval (including Approval of Consent Agenda Items)
Member Clarke moved to accept the agenda and approve the consent agenda items. Seconded by Interim Vice Chair Susan Wilson-Bullard. Motion carried 5-0

3. Executive Director Selection Update

Akpan and Swain provided information and answered Board questions regarding Sunshine Laws and the executive director recruitment process. Akpan advised she can choose the screening questions herself as a staff function; Board will not see the assessment questions until applications are referred. Board selection of screening questions would need to be done in the Sunshine. There are 33 qualified applicants to be screened. There will likely be a large pool remaining after screening; Board will need to determine the criteria for reducing the pool to a manageable number for interviewing. Board members can score applications individually without discussion amongst themselves and meet Sunshine requirements.

Discussion followed regarding desired candidate attributes and prospective interview process with input from Board nominees and meeting attendees. Akpan stated she can provide access to applications via NewWorld and can provide a survey of attributes to Board members to complete individually. Interim Vice Chair Bullard suggested obtaining information and advice from other Children's Trust boards.

Member Certain moved to direct staff to screen applicants to first level, to obtain screening criteria from other Children's Trust Boards, and to provide an attribute survey by the next Board meeting. Interim Vice Chair Bullard seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

4. DRAFT RFA #20-937 Capacity Increases and Infrastructure Improvements for...
Procurement Manager Larry Sapp walked the Board through the changes in RFA 20-937. Discussion of contracts extended to September 2021 followed. Community Support Services Director Tuck provided clarification. Concerns were voiced over how the extension would work, relationship of time-frame for needs assessment, and short time period for grant expenditure and agency ability to show program progress. Discussion of requirement for background checks followed with some attendees voicing concern over expense. Attorney Swain agreed to do further research on State requirements.

Member Certain voiced concern over revision of rural concerns criterion in application scoring. Addition of economic disparity to the category would allow greater Gainesville agencies to score as high as rural programs. Voiced concern that this negated the intent of rating rural concerns as a priority.

Sapp reviewed method of reimbursement, evaluation criteria, the modified appeal process, and the staff application evaluation process. Swain gave an explanation of “shade” vs. “sunshine” meetings and advised both are public meetings. “Cone-of Silence” begins with submission of bids for service and they would not be considered public record at this point. Advised could have “shade” meetings for bid presentations. Discussion followed regarding process for awarding funds after evaluation committee scoring.

Interim Treasurer Certain moved to add language granting no-cost extension through FY21 to RFA, removal of economic disparity language from scoring criterion 9 and add it to #6, to approve staff evaluation committee members as listed, to direct staff to request guidance from the Florida Children’s Council on insurance requirements in the RFA, and to change the wording on application question #4 to reflect what opportunities agencies will create for the disadvantaged youth of Alachua County rather than focusing on unique challenges. Seconded by Member Clarke. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Comprehensive Needs Assessment Technical Advisory Committee Appointments
Dr. Knopf provided a brief review of duties for Technical Advisory Committee. He and Dr. Houchen provided a list of 12 prospective members and requested inclusion of two more, Carol Ruth, of Partnership for Strong Families and Roger Dolz of Alachua County Health Department. Staff advised meetings of Technical Advisory Committee must be publicly noticed and will require staff assistance for minutes-keeping and other support functions.

Member Twombly moved to form the Technical Advisory Committee and appoint the 14 recommended nominees, seconded by Interim Treasurer Certain. Motion carried 5-0.

6. CTAC Gubernatorial Nominees Status Update and General Comments
Director Tuck advised there is no still no update on status of gubernatorial nominees.

7. Call for Public Input
Interim Chair Cornell called for comments from the public. Candice King, Sherry Kitchens, and Dorothy Benson provided comment.

8. Board Member General Comments
There were no Board Member Comments

9. Adjournment
Interim Chair Cornell adjourned the meeting at 6:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved November 4, 2019 – Consent Agenda

Cindy Bishop, Interim Staff Liaison