Minutes
Kids First Trust Fund Board
October 20, 2022

Present: C. Shelton, D. Weinberg, W. Young, R. Hug, E. Whetstone , E. Kominowski, S.M. Finnell
A quorum WAS present.

Call to Order: Chair Shelton called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM and introduced KFTF's newest board member, Ed Kominowski of Fort Wayne.

Minutes: The group unanimously (7-0)approved the minutes of the April meeting on a roll call vote.

Framework Pilot Expansion Proposal: Sandy Runkle reviewed the Prevent Child Abuse Indiana (PCAIN) proposal to expand the current Child Abuse Prevention Framework program by adding support for four more pilot counties. There was a long discussion of the history of the Framework proposal; the role of the Indiana Commission on Improving the Status of Children; the history with Deborah Daro, Colorado, and Nebraska; the current counties with pilots underway; the toolkit used in the Framework, and related issues. It was noted that Allen County will be taking the lead in working with a total of 8 counties in the northeastern part of the the state. Sandy noted that the Framework project can be implemented by any community using the toolkit but that only the pilot counties would be provided extensive technical support by the Framework project team.

After the discussion, the Board voted unanimously (7-0) on a roll call vote to approve the project IN PRINCIPLE, with final budget details to be reviewed and acted upon at the next meeting.

Recognition of Sandy Runkle: At this point the board recognized the contributions of PCAIN program director and thanked her for her 22 years of service to PCAIN. Sandy had indicated that she would be leaving PCAIN on January 20, 2023. The board then voted unanimously (7-0) on a roll call vote to adopt a formal resolution of recognition reflecting the sentiments expressed at the meeting.

Communications Policy: Will Young presented the proposed new communications policy for the Board which will allow the board to conduct meetings electronically as long as at least two members are physically present (given the current board size). There was a discussion of the requirement that members indicate seven days in advance that they will participate electronically. Objections to the long timeframe were dropped when it was explained that the chair could waive the requirement and allow members to participate electronically on short notice if transportation plans changed at the last minute. The new policy was approved unanimously (7-0) on a roll call vote.

At the conclusion of Will Young's report the group congratulated him on his new position and thanked him for his service on the board.

Committees:

Governance: Chair Rick Hug proposed a slate of Doug Weinberg (Chair) and Candes Shelton (Vice-Chair) for election at the next meeting. He noted that the slate fulfills the requirement of having one appointee of the Governor and one appointee of the legislature in the leadership positions. Nominations from the floor will also be allowed at meeting.

The group also noted that it was time to review the by-laws again to update them after the recent legislative changes. The Governance committee will take this on.

Planning: Chair Doug Weinberg suggested that the next operating plan for the board cover calendar year 2023 rather than the July – June format currently used. The committee will begin work shortly using the priorities suggested by members. Members were encouraged to review last year's plan and recommend priorities for 2023 if they had not done so already. Doug will compile the results and present them at the December meeting.

Communications: Chair Rick Hug reported on the activities of the Alliance of Children's Trust Funds' Communications Committee including their plans for continuing a series of webinars addressing issues of concern to communications programs within member organizations. The Communications committee works closely with the Alliance Policy Committee. That committee reported that bipartisan efforts to reauthorize the major federal program by the end of the year were going forward. Relatively large increases in authorizations are expected.

Parent Advisory Committee — Doug and Candes reported on their meeting with DCS to review the DCS parent advisory committee. While the DCS advisory committee includes only parents whose children are (or have been) involved in the state child welfare system rather than a general cross-section of parents, Doug and Candes concluded that KFTF has much to learn from that group and suggested that consideration should be given to collaborating with them in the future.

Alliance Annual Conference — Rick Hug noted that the Alliance annual conference would take place in Denver in mid-November and asked that the Board support his attendance and the attendance of whoever else on the board wished to attend. Will Young noted that there was money in the budget for this purpose. The expenditure was approved unanimously (7-0) on a roll call vote.

Chair Shelton noted that Mr. John Van Arx, one of the leaders responsible for legislation establishing KFTF, will likely be invited to address us about the history of the 501c3 question for KFTF at a meeting in the near future. He had been invited to one of the recent meetings that had to be cancelled.

Calendar Invitations — Maria requested that future board meeting schedules be sent in such a way as to be automatically added to member calendars. The next meeting will be Thursday, December 15 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM (Eastern).

The meeting ended at approximately 2:50 PM.