

ECOA Board Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2021
8:30am

Present: Heidi Boyd, John Dropick, Jay Sigler, Nancy Ignacio, Janice Belisle; Administrator Lyndsay Famariss. **Absent:** Marvene O'Rourke

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Rosemary Cunningham at 8:35 am.

Rosemary Cunningham made remarks about the loss of our beloved Board member, Dr. Stephen Miller, who passed away in November.

Approval of the Minutes

Rosemary asked for the Board's approval of the minutes from November 19, 2021. John Dropick made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Nancy Ignacio seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

Administrator's report:

Lyndsay reported on the Kelley House parking agreement, and shared that the Kelley house sent an updated parking plan that reflected what we discussed with them at our site visit in November. Lyndsay will share this plan with the Board via email. Lyndsay reported that James Hagerty asked that our Board call a Special Meeting in the first week of January to vote on the Kelley House proposal. Rosemary led the discussion, and we decided to meet on Friday, January 7, 2021 at 8:30am.

Rosemary spoke of the need to set up a task force to address the issue of a long term plan for the ECOA building and the needs of the people we serve. She shared that she hopes we will solidify that plan at our regular meeting in January 2021. The task force would consist of (at the least) a Board member, an ECOA participant, and select board member and they would look into the risks the ECOA faces in its current location and potential solutions.

Lyndsay reported that she presented our Capital Programs request to the Town committee this past week, and that it had been received well. The request, which is now \$45,000 after James Hagerty's review, is to pay for the exterior painting of the ECOA building in fiscal year 2023. If the Capital Programs committee approves the request, It will be submitted as a warrant article for the next Town Meeting in April 2022.

Lyndsay reported that the VTA/HAMV/ECOA van pilot program continues to inch forward, and that she will be asking to increase the FY23 ECOA operating budget by approximately \$6000 to fund the auto insurance and fuel costs of the van. Lyndsay reported meeting with James Hagerty and getting his OK to submit a request for this budget increase for the Town Finance Committee's review. She reiterated that the VTA will provide the van free of charge, with the exception of typical maintenance expenses.

Budget:

Lyndsay reported that the FY23 operating budget is due to Town Hall next week, and that she will be making the changes to the aforementioned (November 19, 2021 Board meeting) postage line item, as well as increasing the maintenance budget to meet the needs for our higher cleaning budget now that our cleaning services have been grouped with several other Town departments. She also noted that she is trying to tease out line items that might require an increase due to inflation. She asked for questions or comments from the Board, but there were none.

Director of Senior Services Report:

Meris Keating reported that we have hosted several holiday events recently, including a pared down version of our annual Open House event, which was fun for all who could attend. She also organized two crafting events that were very popular- holiday centerpiece making with Cookie Perry and scallop shell light project, for which Meris gathered all of the shells herself, bleached them and prepped them for the participants. Meris announced that Adele Dreyer will have a holiday piano concert via Zoom today, and she encouraged everyone to attend.

Meris shared that her programming plans for January include weekly painting classes and a presentation on medical marijuana from Fine Fettle Dispensary of MV.

Meris mentioned that she will greatly miss Stephen Miller, and she noted how much she appreciates the contributions Stephen made to the ECOA.

Outreach Report:

Victoria Haeselbarth reported that she has spent the past week checking in with older residents who might enjoy receiving a delivery of a meal on Christmas Day. She stated that she always enjoys the process of reaching out for these calls, as some residents don't wish to get regular outreach calls, but they welcome the check-in at the holidays. Victoria gave a report on a recent Home Modification visit, and how much of an impact these changes will make in one couple's ability to safely and enjoyably live in their home.

Friends of the ECOA Report:

Janice stated that the Friends continue to support the ECOA programming, including purchasing items for the recent craft workshops and buying artwork for the downstairs area. Janice encouraged the staff to contact them for any future needs that arise..

New Business:

There was no new business.

Rosemary Cunningham adjourned the meeting at 9:17 am.

The next Special Board Meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 7, 2022.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 21, 2022 at 8:30am.

