



**ONEOHIO RECOVERY FOUNDATION
GRANT MAKING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The OneOhio Recovery Foundation (the “Organization”) Grant Making Oversight Committee (the “Committee”) held a meeting on March 10, 2023, via Zoom (the “Meeting”).

Directors in Attendance:

Tom Gregoire (Committee Chair), Josh Cox, Denise Direhaus, David Matia, Greta Mayer, Jane Portman, Jeff Simmons, Ilene Shapiro, Jeanette Wierzbicki

Non-Directors in Attendance:

Kathryn Whittington (Interim Executive Director), Claudia Herrold (Philanthropy Ohio), Jim Quinn (Chief Financial Officer) Mike Garcar (Callender Law Group)

I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Gregoire at 10:00 a.m.

II. Welcome and Update from the Chair

Minutes from the previous Committee were sent out to all Committee members for review. The latest draft of the Grant Making Policy (the “Policy”) was sent to all members. A draft agenda was reviewed by Committee members.

III. Recap of Board Meeting Discussion on Grantmaking

The Committee discussed the grant allocation conversation at the March Board Meeting. Director Fix stated he supported the idea that any multi-year grant allocations receive all the project funding in one allocation. Chairman Gregoire also favored the idea and stated that this would need to be a shared responsibility with the Finance Committee.

Director Wierzbicki stated as the application process is being developed, the Board will need to decide whether finalizing the application will be done by in-house staff or by Ms. Herrold. Ms. Herrold stated that she had drafted an application for grantees. Director Wierzbicki stated that there should be a standard application that is used by each region.

Director Matia stated that the Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) does not discuss the interaction between the Expert Panel and the Committee. The Committee should decide on this level of interaction soon.

Ms. Whittington stated that the next steps would be to send her a final Policy and grantee application by early April for the draft Policy to be presented for discussion at the April Board meeting and a likely vote at the May Board meeting. Director Fix asked if there was any way to send out a draft Policy earlier with the expectation that Directors would have more time to review the document and be prepared to vote on the Policy at the April meeting. Ms. Whittington stated that once the Policy is finalized, she will speak with the Executive Committee to see if this is possible.

IV. Communication and Coordination with Regions

A discussion was had regarding informing regions about the expected funding levels they will receive in the initial allocation. Director Wierzbicki stated that when the Organization opens up applications to be submitted, the regions should be informed as to how much funding they will receive. Director Driehaus agreed and stated the Board should consider providing training to the regions on how to apply.

Ms. Herrold asked whether the online application should be available only to regions or all applicants. Chairman Gregoire stated the online application should only be available for regions to submit approved projects. Director Fix agreed. Ms. Whittington agreed. Director Matia asked whether there be a separate portal for statewide project proposals.

Director Wierzbicki stated she believes all applications should be submitted via a centralized online portal, and then the Organization sends all collected applications to each region. This is because her region, like many others, does not have a centralized system to collect applications. Director Matia agreed. Director Mayer agreed. Director Fix stated that if individual applicants apply to the Organization, it may cause confusion.

Chairman Gregoire suggested that the Organization allow regions to determine whether each region will administer their grant application or whether the region will utilize the Organization’s website to collect grantee applications. Mr. Quinn stated the grant software would permit this solution to occur.

Chairman Gregoire asked Ms. Herrold to send a draft RFP to the Committee members. Ms. Herrold stated that whatever process the Board agrees to for the first round of funding, the process can be altered in the future. Mr. Quinn stated that the software could permit each region to have its own portal with all applications sent to the region for their review.

Chairman Gregoire stated he would like to move forward with having all applications sent to the software portal. All Committee members agreed.

V. Expert Panel

A discussion was had on the role of the Expert Panel. Director Fix stated the duties of the Expert Panel are contained in the Policy. He asked if the Expert Panel members could be made available to the regions to provide consultation on best practices. Director Matia stated that the Expert Panel would significantly help the Organization in determining what statewide projects should be funded. Director Wierzbicki stated she hopes the Expert Panel can consult with the regions. Ms. Whittington stated the Executive Committee is in favor of the Expert Panel assisting regions, but their focus should be on providing advice as to what statewide projects should be funded.

Chairman Gregoire stated that the Policy will be revised to reflect that the Expert Panel will provide technical assistance to regions.

A discussion was had on the Duties of the Expert Panel. Chairman Gregoire stated that the Expert Panel will advise the Committee to ensure that all funded programs are consistent with the Organization's purpose, including that no programs are funded that "supplant existing funding."

Director Matia stated all funding received is compensatory damages to the regions for having to pay for the fallout from the opioid epidemic. As such, the regions should be permitted to supplant existing funding if that region feels it is an appropriate use of the money.

Ms. Whittington stated that the Organization could fund existing programs if the funding is used to expand the program. The purpose of grant funding from the Organization is not to sustain a program.

Director Matia stated that regions might feel that they will be handcuffed as to what type of programs can be proposed because the program has to be sustainable.

Director Mayer stated that however "sustainability" and "supplant existing funding" are defined in the Policy, the Organization should be proactive and very clear with the regions on the expectations for what type of projects can be funded.

Director Fix stated if these funds are to reimburse communities for what was spent to combat the opioid epidemic, then the Organization should fund existing programs, but if the goal is to support transformational programs to end the opioid crisis, then the role is to fund new ideas and programs.

Director Cox said there is a difference between statewide funds and regional funds. Statewide funds should be used for transformational projects, while regional funds could assist communities in recouping costs that were incurred throughout the opioid epidemic.

Director Dreihaus stated she would like to discuss this issue with her region to get feedback.

Ms. Whittington stated she would bring the concerns to the Executive Committee and get back to Chairman Gregoire.

VI. Open Discussion

Technical assistance training was discussed. Ms. Herrold stated that issues and questions being brought forward by Directors as to allocation amounts, grant guidelines, and how to apply for grants should be communicated to regions through a webinar or in-person meeting. Chairman Gregoire agreed. Ms. Whittington stated that Ms. Luck and Mr. Bingle would assist in drafting a Frequently Asked Questions document to be posted on the Organization’s website and sent to all regions.


VII. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

Chairman Gregoire will send a Doodle poll for the next date, time, and location of the Committee meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

Chairman Gregoire adjourned the Meeting at 11:12 a.m.

The undersigned being the Chairman of the OneOhio Recovery Foundation Grant Making Oversight Committee Meeting, hereby attests that these minutes are a true and correct original of the March 10, 2023, Board Meeting.



Signature

3/13/23

Date