



OneOhio Region 7 Collaborative
Mahoning and Trumbull Counties

Collaborative Meeting
February 6, 2023
Minutes

Present: April Caraway, Erin Bishop, Victor Daprile, Carolyn Givens, Greg Leonhard, Duane Piccirilli, Brenda Heidinger, Joseph Rossi, Lauren Thorp, Eric Ungaro, Rev. Lewis Macklin, Hannah Petrosky, Guest: Kathryn Whittington

Absent: Linda Spies, Sara Voinchak

April Caraway, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Chairperson Caraway called for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2023 meeting.

Carolyn Givens made a motion to approve minutes from January 10, 2023 meeting. Duane Piccirilli seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

April Caraway informed the members that the Trumbull County Commissioners appointed Mr. Jake Jones to the Region 7 Collaborative. Melanie Matsouris, Notary Public, then provided the oath of office to Mr. Jake Jones and swore him in as a member of the OneOhio Region 7 Collaborative.

New Business:

Chairperson Caraway introduced the OneOhio Foundation Interim Executive Director Kathryn Whittington. Kathryn Whittington gave a brief overview of her background and how she came to be the Interim Executive Director of the OneOhio Collaborative.

Status of Funding:

Mrs. Whittington reminded the committee that the breakdown of the funding is specified in the OneOhio MOU, of which 15% remains at the state, 30% goes to local government and 55% will go to the OneOhio Recovery Foundation Board. The Foundation has not received any dollars from the settlement at this time. The Foundation received 1 million dollars from the Attorney General's office from Mackenzie Funds for startup costs of the OneOhio Foundation.

She stated that the Region 7 allocation is 5.628690% of the total. Currently the money is being held at the Attorney General's office. There are 5 more Pharmaceutical



settlements in process right now. Pharmaceutical companies will pay over 6-8 years, Distributors will pay over 18 years and J&J over 10 years. The Foundation is undecided if money will be put out every year or every other year. Each regions' allocations will not change. If the Grant Process is completed by March, first payments should be out by October.

General Discussion:

- Kathryn Whittington shared that the Foundation was brought together in May of 2022 by the Governor. The first board meeting was June 2022.
- Eric Ungaro expressed concerns about grass root projects not getting funded due to the bigger companies and/or bigger regions requesting money.
- April Caraway asked when Region 7 should promote their application for funding. Kathryn Whittington indicated we should wait until funds are received.
- Mrs. Whittington explained that the Foundation is a check and balance system for the projects that are submitted. Each region should have their own vetting system locally.
- Kathryn expressed that there are regions that divided the money equally and regions that have done deeper dives according to population and overdoses.
- Once local funding recommendations are submitted to the Foundation, the Foundation will put them into a portal and at that point the Expert Panel will review the applications and make sure they fit the requirements of the MOU. Once that is done, if the projects meet the criteria of the MOU, they will be approved. The only reason a project will be denied by the OneOhio Foundation is if it does not meet the criteria of the MOU.
- Carolyn Givens explained that the committee discussed having different categories and funding levels and the importance of helping out the grass root organizations that possibly have never written for a grant before.
- Victor Daprile asked if the allocation will be made in one distribution to the Regions or multiple throughout the year. Kathryn Whittington shared that multiple allocations throughout the year is the plan.
- Kathryn Whittington shared that the Foundation hired an expert to help with the Grant Process policy development and hopes to have the policy reviewed at the March Foundation Board meeting.
- April Caraway questioned who is responsible for tracking outcomes and making sure the money is used? Kathryn Whittington explained that each region will be responsible for reporting outcomes and spending to the State Foundation Board.
- Kathryn Whittington shared that if the Board does not have a Grant Policy approved in March, the timeline for payments will shift and money will not be available on October 1st.
- Kathryn Whittington explained that the OneOhio Foundation Board will decide the percentage that will go to investments, operating expenses, regional and



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statewide initiatives. If there are trends across the state funding could be kept at the Foundation for statewide initiatives.

- Kathryn Whittington expressed the importance of investments for the Foundation. The more money made in investments, the longer the Foundation will exist past the original 18 years. It is required that the Foundation hires an investment advisor as part of the MOU.
- Carolyn Givens questioned if regions can issue multiyear grants. Kathryn Whittington expressed that this is something that the Foundation will consider.
- Kathryn Whittington explained that as the regions are awarding these dollars and looking at the different projects, it is important to look at the sustainability plan. An example was used that if these dollars were used to hire counselors for a school district, after 2 or 3 years, will the school district be able to afford to sustain the counselor to be there?

The next Meeting will be held on March 6, 2023, at 5:00pm at Direction Home of Eastern Ohio, 1030 Meridian Road, Youngstown, OH 44509

With no further business to discuss, Chairperson Caraway called for a motion to adjourn at 6:25 pm.

Greg Leonhard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Eric Ungaro seconded the motion.

Minutes reported by:

Minutes recorded by:

Joe Rossi
Secretary

Jenny Morales