

AFS BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING – MINUTES

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

6:00 pm

Virtual – MS Teams & In-Person



ATTENDANCE

AFS BOARD MEMBERS:	William Johnson, Chair Dan Swystun James Agnew	David Petersson Megan Bernard Lucia O'Connor	Dania Kuzbari Wes Lavergne
REGRETS:	Rick Hamilton Jane Omollo	Patricia R. Lofstrom	Jennifer Geenen
STAFF/LEADERSHIP:	Ali Juma Stephanie Fetherston Brian Kelly	Arlene Smith Natalie Young Obianuju Fadijo	Brian Lester Emily Tremblay

MINUTES

1.0 Quorum

Quorum established.

2.0 Constitute Meeting

2.1 Call to Order

The Board Chair calls the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

2.2 General Welcome

The Board Chair welcomes everyone to the meeting, both in-person and online.

2.3 Land Acknowledgement

The Board Chair provides the land acknowledgement.

2.4 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest declared.

3.0 Presentation – Youth Hub

Emily Tremblay provides a presentation and update of the Youth Hub

4.0 Agenda & Minutes

4.1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION BIRT, the board approves the May 22, 2024, Public Board Meeting agenda as presented.

Moved by: Dania Kuzbari
Seconded by: David Petersson All in favour. CARRIED.

4.2 Approval of Minutes

MOTION BIRT, the board approves the April 24, 2024, Public Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Moved by: Dan Swystun
Seconded by: James Agnew All in favour. CARRIED.

4.3 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

No business arising.

5.0 Consent Agenda

MOTION BIRT, the board approves the May 22, 2024, consent agenda as presented.

Moved by: David Petersson
Seconded by: Dania Kuzbari All in favour. CARRIED.

6.0 Items Removed from Consent

No items removed from consent.

7.0 New/Ongoing Business

7.1 Board Orientation

The first session was held on April 29. However, the second session scheduled for May 6th was rescheduled to June 17th because Ali and Bill were attending the FSO Conference in Toronto and falling the same week as the children's mental health week. A reminder will be sent to the board members.

7.2 Strategic Plan – Update

Ali stated that due to some challenges, which will be elaborated further in the in-camera segment, the formal launch of the strategic plan will be moved from later this month/earlier in June to the AGM in October. Alternatively, we could hold it at a different time. There will be service planning and organizing of our meeting agendas around the new strategic priorities.

7.3 Non-Residential Attendance Centre

The lease of the NRAC building will expire at the end of the school year, which is June 28. We are facilitating a transition of the two workers and four youths into the Youth Hub. Meanwhile, an elevator is set to be installed at the Hub and construction will begin in June. Therefore, we can use the upstairs of the Hub between 9 am and 12 pm for the morning component of the NRAC program.

Additionally, we finalized a letter of agreement with the union so that the two NRAC staff will roll all their benefits and rights into our collective agreement. There will be cost savings with moving the program from Queen Street as the \$2500 currently being paid on the lease can be used to pay for the mortgage at the Youth Hub.

7.4 By-Laws

The recommended changes raised at the last board meeting have been captured. It will be further adopted at the AGM.

MOTION

BIRT, the board approves to adopt the amended By-Law No.1

Moved by: Wes Lavergne

Seconded by: James Agnew

All in favour.

CARRIED.

7.5 Intimate Partner Violence – Update

Ali and Stephanie are participating in a two-day VAW forum happening in Sault Ste. Marie. Stephanie attended an IPV training by Dr. Peter Jaffe and Pamela Cross in April – there were about 50 agencies that participated in the training.

The government has announced gender-based violence funding and they will come in form of grants. We proposed a gender-based violence specialization master’s program in Sault Ste. Marie. Algoma University are excited about the proposal, as they could become a potential pioneer of such a specialization. However, there are three components to this such as the research to support the need for the specialization, the development of the program, and the micro-credential. There is no other program in Canada that offers this type of specialization for MSW. FSO is also excited at the proposal. Our Clinical Manager, Sue Bryden, and her team will liaise with Algoma University in developing a curriculum.

7.6 HR Downloads

The HR downloads have been sent to the board members to complete.

7.7 CPIC

The CPIC records are being updated as members renew their police checks.

8.0 CEO Report

8.1 Ali Juma reviewed the CEO Report as provided in the board package. Highlights include:

- The children’s mental health week was packed with activities
- A successful FSO Conference in Toronto attended by Bill, Ali and Brian
- Last year, the Ministry advised us that our complex special needs can no longer have mental health as a primary diagnosis, but it had to be developmental neuro diverse. If a youth needs live-in treatment, they must go to a funded live-in treatment program, which is challenging because the kids will have to go to Southern Ontario.
- Sudbury was approved for a \$2.5 million Step-Up Step Down program. However, they don’t have a facility yet. Ali offered a proposal to contract with us so that they can utilize our Live-in treatment and take advantage of the funding while they construct their facility.
- We received a \$288,750 OAP funding to help with the dissemination of findings from our research conducted last year in collaboration with Garden River regarding incorporating indigenous perspectives in autism assessments.
- In the past, the board has had to approve the risk assessments before the government will accept it. We may revisit this process if the government requires it.
- We received another resignation from a child and mental health addictions counsellor at the Youth Hub. We will be posting for the position immediately.
- AFS won the 2023 community non-profit business of the year award.

9.0 Board Committee Updates

Wes Lavergne provides the Governance Committee updates.

The board members were advised to review the Board Service and Advocacy Committee minutes.

10.0 Adjourn to In-Camera

MOTION

BIRT, the board moves to adjourn to the in-camera segment of the meeting at 7:49 pm.

Moved by: Lucia O'Connor

Seconded by: David Petersson All in favour. CARRIED.

11.0 Resume Regular Public Board Meeting

MOTION

BIRT, the board moves to resume the regular public board meeting at 8:33 pm.

Moved by: David Petersson

Seconded by: Dan Swystun All in favour. CARRIED.

12.0 Accept Motions Made In-Camera

No In-camera motions

13.0 Adjournment

MOTION

BIRT, the board moves to adjourn the regular public board meeting at 8:36 pm.

Moved by: Lucia O'Connor

Seconded by: Dan Swystun All in favour. CARRIED.

14.0 NEXT MEETING

- Next Regular Board Meeting June 26, 2024 @ 5 PM

Submitted by: Obianuju Fadijo, Executive Assistant