



SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF HAMILTON

350 King Street East, Suite 104
Hybrid Meeting (via In-Person & Zoom)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Tuesday, January 16, 2024
6:00pm

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Rocco Gizzarelli (Chair), Jean Samuel, Kate Flynn, Tran Nguyen, Vanessa Scanga, Marina Fensham, and Armaan Dattani

REGRETS: Kamran Raza

STAFF: Kim Martin, Executive Director; Sarah Burnett-Murray, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Rocco Gizzarelli called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Marina Fensham presented the document “Chiefs of Ontario Justice Sector: Anti-Racism Public Education and Awareness Campaign” and spoke about systemic racism and how policies are reinforcing this issue (i.e., the forced evacuation of pregnant indigenous women, disproportionate flooding in First Nations territories, challenges getting loans, barriers to First Nations access to cancer screenings, inequitable access to voting during provincial and federal elections, and fatal fires on First Nations reserves).

1.1.1 Assign for Next Meeting

Rocco Gizzarelli volunteered to do the next land acknowledgement.

1.2 Equity Placement

The Board reviewed the equity placement.

1.3 Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

1.4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

1.5 Approval of Agenda

Armaan Dattani moved to approve the agenda. Jean Samuel seconded. Motion carried.

1.6 Approval of Previous Minutes – November 21, 2023, and December 2, 2023

Tran Nguyen moved to approve the minutes of November 21, 2023, and December 2, 2023. Marina Fensham seconded. Motion carried.

2. Committee Reports



2.1 Governance & Nominations Committee Update

Rocco Gizzarelli provided an update on behalf of the G&N Committee.

2.1.1 Board Policy Review

The Board completed a final review of the board policies. Armaan Dattani motioned to approve the Board policies as presented. Kate Flynn seconded. Motion carried.

Note: The G&N Committee will review policy 2.1.7 and if there are any changes, this specific policy will come back to the Board for approval

2.1.2 Board Nominations Update

Rocco Gizzarelli updated the board on the board candidates. The nominations committee is comprised of Rocco Gizzarelli, Jean Samuel, Tran Nguyen with support from the Executive Director. The G&N Committee will meet next week, and interviews will take place over the following two weeks. A special board meeting may be called in March to review the slate with the intent new board members will join the regularly scheduled March meeting.

2.2 Executive Committee Report

Rocco Gizzarelli indicated the Executive Committee will conduct the Executive Director's performance review by April 1, 2024.

3. Staff Report

The Executive Director presented the staff report. The Board discussed the 50/30 Challenge and SPRC will join this EDI initiative. Cyber insurance and risk were discussed by the Board. Jean Samuel motioned to accept the staff report. Tran Nguyen seconded. Motion carried.

3.1 Financial Liability Report

The Executive Director presented the report, and the Board discussed the need to have risk mitigation steps in place should funding levels decline. Jean Samuel motioned to accept the staff report as presented. Armaan Dattani seconded. Motion carried.

4. Discussion Items

4.1 Review of SPRC Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Harassment Policy

Following the December Board retreat, the Board reviewed the SPRC Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy.

4.2 Tastebuds Program Funding

The Board approved that the Executive Director would discuss funding options with the funder and approved the allocation of one-time reserve funds if no other funding options were available for the fiscal year 2024/2025. Moved by Armaan Dattani and seconded by Kate Flynn. Motion carried.



4.3 Board Meeting Discussion re In-person and virtual meetings

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

5. In Camera

This item was deferred.

6. Adjournment

Tran Nguyen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01pm. Armaan Dattani seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Director Signature