



Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired SC

MINUTES

Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, March 19, 2024
Bank of South Carolina

PRESENT

Joe Waring, Board Chair	Karl Brady	Paul Keating	Sean Wilson
Kristen Gayeski Tinkler, Vice Chair	Nancy Buchanan	Tricia Leyte-Vidal	Jeanie Farmer, COO
Sam Clawson, Secretary	Ron Colman	Marshall McClure	Anne Reid, CDO
Thomas Smythe, Treasurer	Teddy Gilbreth	Chett McCubrey	Bryson Young, CAO
Bob Baldwin, Immediate Past Chair	Lane Harper	Elizabeth McKown	Tanya Wofford, Controller
Courtney Plotner, Pres & CEO	Jamie Hill	Suzanne Swaffield	

ABSENT

Kari Arnold
John Kulze
Karl Jantzen (Excused, Member Emeritus)

PROCEEDINGS

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm by Board Chair Joe Waring. There was a quorum present for the meeting. The minutes from December 12, 2023 and January 18, 2024 were approved. Mr. Waring reported on a successful Noir. Mr. Waring also announced that Griff Brame has retired from the Board.

Presentation on Fundraising & Events

Anne Reid & Bryson Young

Mrs. Reid and Ms. Young reported on the progress and great successes of ABVI fundraising and Noir. They also reviewed the annual plan and pipeline with the Board.

Treasurer's Report

Tanya Wofford

The financials and investments for July 1, 2023 – February 29, 2024, were reviewed, and Ms. Wofford explained the variances in the Income Statement and Organizational Budget.

Motion was made, seconded and approved by all to adopt the edited Investment Policy.

Motion was made, seconded and approved by all to adopt the edited Gift Acceptance Policy with one change. In the last sentence of I.1.b.3. the term "Board of Directors" will be changed to "Executive & Finance Committee."

Governance & Nominating Committee Report

Kristen Tinkler

Motion was made, seconded and approved by all to elect Sam Clawson, Teddy Gilbreth, Lane Harper, Elizabeth McKown and Joe Waring as the first Board of the ABVI Foundation.

Advocacy Committee Report

Sean Wilson

Sean announced that the Committee meeting is being rescheduled, and he will send the date to the Committee when it is set.

Programs Committee Report

Jamie Hill

Dr. Jamie Hill reported on the growth and incredible successes in both adult and children's services.

Motion came from the Committee to remove the emergency loan from the Guide Dog Scholarship. No second was needed as the motion came from Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

CEO's Report

Courtney Plotner

Mrs. Plotner updated the Board on program growth and diversifying revenue streams, state funding and policy efforts, the ABVI Foundation, TVI dissolution, community relations and speaking opportunities, the Big Data Project, the website and messaging. She also revealed ABVI's new Core Values: Accountability, Collaboration, Inclusion, Innovation and People Centric Leadership. Mrs. Plotner reminded the Board that the budget for FYE25 would not be finalized until the September Board meeting.

The Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Courtney Plotner, President & CEO

Next Meeting: June 25, 2024

2024- 2025 Board of Directors

Chair Kristen Gayeski Tinkler, OD, *Optometrist*, MUSC Storm Eye Institute

Vice Chair Thomas M. Smythe, CFP(c), *Financial Planner*, Smythe Financial

Secretary Samuel R. Clawson, Jr., *Partner and Co-Founder*, Clawson, Fargnoli & Utsey, LLC

Treasurer Paul M. Keating, Jr., *CEO*, Elite Brands, LLC

Immediate Past Chair Joe Waring, *Chief Financial Officer*, Evening Post Industries

Member Emeritus Col. B. Karl Jantzen, *Retired US Army Major and Asset Manager*

Kari Arnold, *Teacher for the Visually Impaired*, Greenville County Schools

Hon. Karl L. Brady, Jr., *Charleston City Councilmember*, District 5

Nancy L. Buchanan, *State Administration State Government* (Retired)

Ronald L. Coleman, MSW, *Director of Community Services State of MD*, Southern Region (Retired)

Edward M. Gilbreth, MD, MUSC Internal Medicine (Retired)

Lane Legare Harper, *Managing Member*, Timberland Capital Investments, LLC

John C. Kulze III, MD, *Ophthalmologist*, Eye Center of Charleston

Marshall G. McClure, *Vice President of Tax*, E. I. duPont de Nemours (Retired)

Everett J. “Chett” McCubrey IV, *Controller*, The Bank of South Carolina

Elizabeth M. McKown, *Director of Vision Services*, SC School for the Deaf and the Blind (Retired)

Suzanne Swaffield, *Coordinator*, SC Department of Education (Retired)

Sean M. Wilson, *Attorney*, Law Office of Sean M. Wilson, LLC

Courtney P. Plotner, *President & CEO*, Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired South Carolina