



Endowment for Equal Justice Board

Wednesday July 17, 2019

Davis Wright Tremaine

MINUTES

Board Members present: Bruce Brooks, Ellen Dial, Kay Frank, John Hoerster (President), Mark Hutcheson, Nancy Isserlis, Ron Knox, Gail Mautner, Michelle Moersfelder, Sal Mungia, Margaret Niles, and Mike Schwab were present in person and Rima Alaily, Ele Hamburger, and Dick Manning were present by phone.

Absent: Beth Bloom, Mark Kamitomo

Staff: Leanne Empinado, Melinda Mann

Guest: Merf Ehman (Columbia Legal Services)

Meeting start: 12:03

Formal election of Beth Bloom and Ron Knox:

Even though Board members had already enthusiastically given their consent, John made a motion to formally elect Beth and Ron to the Board for three-year terms. Ellen seconded the motion, and Beth and Ron were unanimously elected. John reported that he and Melinda met with Beth and Ron prior to the meeting. Beth will be joining the Communications Committee and the Vision 20/20 Team led by Michelle. Ron will be joining the Board Support Committee and the Green Machine led by John.

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved and seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the April 17, 2019 board meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

President's Report:

Report on LFW/Endowment Joint Meeting: John reported that the Operations & Investment Committee and Nolan Wood from Canterbury Consulting attended the annual joint meeting with LFW's Executive Committee and staff members. The first topic discussed was the Endowment's spending policy. John noted that the participants from both organizations parties felt that the meeting was positive, but that there is still work to be done before the Endowment board adopts an updated policy. He also reported that there was discussion of the current increase in cy pres and IOLTA funding and future projections of LFW's revenue and expenses. He noted that LFW intends to first move current surplus into the Goldmark Rainy-Day fund, perhaps to cover as much as three years of funding (\$16M).

John reported that LFW is unsure of the cy pres and IOLTA funding moving forward and made an appeal to the LFW Board to share these funds with the Endowment, especially if LFW's actual revenue proves to be higher than LFW's current projections. Rima noted that the Endowment and the Goldmark Fund should be thought of as one large pool of money, adding that the Board could add a sub fund to be a "rainy-day" fund.

Possible Rescheduling of 9/11/19 Board Meeting: John proposed to move the next board meeting or add an additional meeting to take place after the LFW board meeting in the fall. He noted that it would make the most sense to meet after the LFW board has time to discuss the spending policy.

Race Equity & Justice Initiative Liaison: Ele Hamburger and Mike Schwab will be liaisons between the Endowment Board and the Washington Race Equity & Justice Initiative (REJI).

Committee Updates:

Operations and Investment: Bruce reported that the portfolio has rebounded and as of this meeting is at \$17.1M. He noted that the committee is in the process of investigating the performance and tracking for social responsible investments (SRI) and will see the results of those investments late in the third quarter. He also noted that at the last meeting they did not review the budget and suggested that they defer discussing the summary to the September board meeting. Bruce added that contributions are not where we like to see them and noted that we need to grow the portfolio. Regarding the spending policy meeting, Bruce reported that they shared the adjustments and forecasting information provided by Canterbury to LFW. He added that the committee and LFW participants had different perspectives in how we should think about expenses and spending and suggested that the Board create a projection report similar to LFW's.

Board Support: Kay noted that they are excited to have Beth and Ron on the board and will follow up with them individually on board support. She added that some Board members have terms that are ending, and that she and John will meet with those individuals and will report back to the board.

Donor Engagement: Sal reported that the Paul Mack party was a success and they were able to raise some money and additional contacts in Spokane. He added that handwritten thank you notes were sent out to each attendee. Sal shared upcoming events for the Endowment: 20/20 Vision Party at the Moersfelder Residence, July 26th, and the Paul Boggs Concert, November 19th. Sal requested to the board to write notes and send an annual report to two people, and noted that assignments will be sent out to each individual.

Communications: Ellen reported that the committee plans to meet in August or September.

LFW/Endowment Liaison Report: Nancy shared that the LFW board will meet in September to review the spending policy, and again in November to review the budget and grants.

Reach 20 Fundraising Update: Melinda shared that we have raised \$225,000 toward the \$500,000 LFW match, and \$2.45M toward the \$5M Reach 20 goal. Melinda reported that there are 380 Reach 20 donors in the last three years, and welcomed new Justice Society member Rima Alaily. She also shared upcoming Reach 20 Events and potential cultivation and fundraising activities. She then outlined the

Reach 20 Board and Advisory Council teams and quickly reviewed the point system and status for each Team.

Mission Moment: CLS New Focus: Merf Ehman presented the new strategic plan for Columbia Legal Services and the exciting work that they have completed or are in the process of completing. She outlined their planning process and how the organization is working with other legal aid providers during this transition.

Executive Session: The Executive Session was postponed until the next Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.

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