

Youth Ventures Joint Powers Authority

Board of Trustees Meeting

MINUTES

May 7, 2015

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

The California Endowment

1111 Broadway Street, 7th Floor Conference Room

Oakland, CA 94612

CALL TO ORDER: Co-Chair James Harris called the meeting to order at 2:17 PM.

Board of Trustees in Attendance: Sara Bedford, LaDonna Harris, James Harris, Lynette Gibson McElhaney, Ammar Saheli, Libby Schaaf, Roseanne Torres, Annie Campbell Washington, Andrea Youngdahl.

Guests: Alicia Dixon, Marcus Foster Education Fund; Karen Monroe, Alameda County Office of Education; Janet Spears, East Bay Community Foundation; Dr. Thomas Stewart, Patten University; Larry Best, Consultant, Matt Wilka, FSG

Welcome and Introductions: James Harris opened the meeting. Kathleen Harris reviewed the meeting goals, roles, agenda, and meeting norms. Trustees and guests introduced themselves and each shared a single hope for our children.

Approval of the Minutes

Review and approval of JPA March 5, 2015 minutes: A motion to adopt the minutes was proposed and seconded. No objections. The minutes were approved.

Review and approval of the strategy screen. A motion to adopt the strategy screen was proposed by Trustee McElhaney and seconded by Trustee L. Harris. No objections. The strategy screen was approved.

Presentations:

Kathleen Harris opened by recognizing the shared commitment of all attendees to improve the lives of children, youth and families in our community. Since this is the last board meeting of the fiscal year she recapped the major milestones, most significantly, reaching agreement on our strategic direction which includes our identity, approach to our work, and unique value. She noted that the JPA is uniquely positioned to: (1) set a vision for children and youth, and bring cohesion among partners, (2) create a focused agenda and common narrative, (3) affect policy change, (4) create a platform for sharing data and sharing outcomes, (5) direct public resources. Kathleen acknowledged the many community partners and thought leaders who helped inform our strategy.

Kathleen shared that the impact teams (health, wealth and education) will convene during the summer months during the board recess. She outlined the 14 core tasks, including

selecting target populations, milestones, metrics, and indicators. The impact teams will bring up to 9 priorities for the board to consider when it reconvenes in September.

Mayor Schaaf asked about the mission statement that Kathleen presented. [Improving life outcomes of children, youth and families in Alameda County, with a focus in Oakland.] Kathleen relayed that the mission statement was a follow up item from the retreat. [Is the current mission relevant? Does it need to be changed to better reflect the desired role and impact of the JPA?] She reminded the board the admin team was charged with making a recommendation, which was circulated in April. Kathleen said the revised mission statement was being shared today to help determine if the statement resonated with the board and reflected the themes we surfaced at the retreat. Trustee McElhaney suggested that the process for revising the mission was not clear and recommended that the admin team provide another opportunity for the board to give input.

Urban Strategies Council

Alison Feldman from Urban Strategies Council presented a summary of major initiatives in Oakland and Alameda County. The mapping attempts to begin to bring coherence to the many cross-sector efforts targeting children/youth in the East Bay region. Alison shared the various types of collaboratives, targets and sample indicators, and programs by life stage. The next phase of their research will be to provide a deeper analysis of opportunities for alignment.

Kathleen mentioned that the analysis by Urban Strategies was initiated prior to the JPA's decision to align the work so it doesn't specifically map to the health, wealth, and education framework that the JPA adopted in September, however the research provides insight about what's happening and helps determine next steps.

Trustee McElhaney commented that we could further our understanding of what's happening with children and families if we looked at the outcomes and determined where there are gaps and disparities. It would help us to connect what's currently happening to the interventions the JPA needs to make. Are issues generational? Are outcomes affected by single-parent led households? Our work in juvenile justice for instance needs to connect to what's currently happening.

Karen Monroe mentioned that there are many initiatives, perhaps less formally established than collective impact, which have a variety of related missions. This work can be complementary, not competing. Families often have too few resources to support the multiple issues they face in their lives. Perhaps we could consider a collaboration compact to help align the services/efforts that support families that need it most.

Matt Wilka, FSG

Matt Wilka shared opportunities for the JPAs collective impact approach in Oakland/Alameda County. While the JPA does not intend to launch a new impact effort it can use the principles of collective impact to align the multiple efforts already underway. He stated that the JPA has a unique set of assets that could be leveraged. Mark Kramer commented that FSG could help the JPA to mobilize and get results within a year.

A Conversation with philanthropy.

Kathleen introduced the guests and invited them to share their perspectives on the JPAs strategic direction as well as the lessons they've learned in their respective roles as agents of social change. The panelists included Dr. Thomas Stewart, President, Patten University; Larry Best, Consultant; and Janet Spears, Chief Operating Officer, East Bay Community Foundation.

The panelists stressed the importance of:

- 1) Achieving greater efficiency by aligning public and philanthropic funds toward common issues and a common agenda for children
- 2) An early win for the JPA may look like a comprehensive community blueprint – to show unity of vision. This can take the form of a community compact.
- 3) The JPAs strategy should favor abundance of resources, rather than scarcity.
- 4) JPA may want to consider testing an innovation. Sometimes it's necessary to develop new evaluation tools and measures to identify what's happening in specific populations.
- 5) The power of this opportunity is that the silos can be penetrated. This is a good moment to reconsider assessments etc. and gather information across sectors.
- 6) Consider how the entire family is impacted as strategies are selected – unpack the family structure.
- 7) There's a link to existing efforts such as Men and Boys of Color – build on them.
- 8) Don't duplicate – look at the macro level and determine what's possible from that vantage point. Support the work that's underway.
- 9) Have conversations with philanthropy early and often. The sustainability questions should be discussed early so that private investment (innovations/startup) transitions to the public sector (sustaining) can be discussed together.

Board/Staff Communications

The board recognized Andrea Youngdahl for her many years of service. Andrea's expertise, commitment and leadership was essential to the JPAs success.

Public Comments

Co-Chair Harris called for public comments. There were none.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 PM.

The next meeting of Youth Ventures Joint Powers Authority is in September 2015.