

FY23 Q4 Board of Directors Meeting

Date: 01/30/2024

Time: 5:30 pm

Attendees: Bradford Volz, Lisa Ikerd, Zack Saunders, Shawn Pelletier, Sean Shea (via phone/zoom)

Quick update:

- Evan Jones – resigned from the board at the end of his tenure as he did not feel he was making as much of a difference as he would have liked.
- Dave Haverly – resigned from the board as he had an issue come up at his business that really required his full attention.
- Bradford reached out to Angela Hayden to get her status as she had not been involved for quite some time – she has also advised that she is not able to commit the time she had hoped for and has resigned.
- Kate Choquette’s last day was today; she returned all equipment. She did not work out her full notice.
 - We would like to conduct an exit interview with her.

Executive Director

Happy to welcome Joseph Gray Somers, III (Gray) as our new Executive Director. He has accepted the offer and if all background checks and paperwork are good to go, he will start on 2/12/24. Brad and Shawn expect that he is going to be able to hit the ground running without any issue. He is already reviewing the Policies and Procedures to be sure we are on track. We are looking forward to “New beginnings.”

Nomination for Board Member: J.W. Brooks

- Motion made and seconded and passed by voice vote. Welcome aboard J.W.!

We expect to have two other Board Member nominations to be coming shortly.

Progress Report for FY23 Q4; this document is available for review in Google Drive.

- Brad reviewed the Progress Report
 - One of the items in the report was our relationship with Milford High School to partner with them on a School Suspension Diversion Program. Instead of students getting suspended and staying home, the students come to the Center from 9 am to Noon and complete small projects and have 1:1 support. A Question was raised as to how many students have come through this program thus far – Brad would find out and advise.
 - Brad was able to find that it has been going on for approximately 6 months and in that time, we have supported 12 students!
- Reviewed the Grants; did note that several have been “Denied” and we are hopeful that we will hear about the pending grants soon.
 - Is there a particular reason that they are not more successful?
 - It does not seem that anything is “missing” from our program that is causing us to get denied, but the number of organizations that are trying to get them may make it more difficult.
 - The one that we “Missed” getting last year due to an “Accounting issue” is coming back around so we are hopeful that we will be back in the running for that one.

- Brad advised that we had an accounting person who was great and was donating her services to ARCNH. Unfortunately, sometimes that can cause issues when things need to be done timely. We have engaged the services of a local Accountant in Milford who is great!
- Board Support:
 - **Policies & Procedures** – as indicated above, Gray will be reviewing these to be sure we are on track. These can be found in Google Drive for our review.
 - **Strategic Plan** – the BOD has agreed that we need a separate meeting just to discuss this. We would like to look at a 3- and 5-year strategic plan. We will look at some dates for the end of February to set a time to discuss this specific topic.

Brad realized he forgot to send us the Budget for approval. He will send that out for our review.

He will be flying back to Florida and then coming back to NH for when Gray starts.

No further discussion – Meeting adjourned 6:50 pm

Submitted by, Lisa M Ikerd, Secretary