

Denver College Success Corporation
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2020
7:30-9:30 AM MT
Via Zoom

Attendees: Board members: Stephen Kurtz, Theresa Peña, Akasha Absher, Angela Cobiàn, Mark Goodman, Chris Herndon, John Kechriotis. Advisors: Trey Rogers, Lori Fox, Maren Stewart, Rob McDaniel, Jon Amar, Meagan Helseth, Ali Weeks, Rebecca Andruszka. Guests: Lorii Rabinowitz – DSF, Nate Cadena – DSF, Charles Dukes – OCA, Dionne Williams – OCA, Jim Chavez – LAEF

Call to order: Steve Kurtz, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:36 AM. A quorum was present.

Legal

Approval of March 2020 minutes: Mark Goodman moved; Theresa Peña seconded. Passed unanimously.

Denver City Council Update: Lori Fox (Taloma Partners) reviewed the current status of city council member meetings and anticipated votes. Proposed ordinance changes likely will be requested through a “direct-file” option the week of April 13th in order to expedite the first distributions to SOs. Targeted strategic outreach continues with City Council members and most will be supportive.

Approval of Do Better Consulting contact: Akasha Absher moved; John Kechriotis seconded. Passed unanimously.

Insurance: Steve Kurtz reminded everyone about the cyber insurance required of certain subcontractors who have access to personally identifiable information about the student beneficiaries.

Board terms: Steve Kurtz referenced that two Board members' terms will expire in May. One will be stepping down due to professional demands and the other will seek re-appointment. Board members were asked to suggest possible candidates.

Data

Update on Preparing for First Distribution: MetrixIQ is working with SOs to develop procedures for tracking that meets the requirements of the ordinance but does not cause undue burden. The goal is for as many eligible reimbursements as possible in the first distribution.

Timeline: Assuming City Council approves the proposed ordinance changes in late April, the data/legal committee will make recommendations for the first distribution, to be approved at the May board meeting - or possibly before, depending on the schedule.

Finance

COVID-19 Impact: Mark Goodman referenced the financial statements and called out the obvious impact on the stock market and our investments due to COVID-19. Akasha Absher explained that we are in "risk management mode" and that we will be risk-averse in order to protect our assets.

Repo: Mark Goodman and Akasha Absher will review the \$5M repo and give recommendations to Steve on how to move forward.

Revenue: The City will release sales tax projections by late April, at which time we will be able to understand the impact of COVID-19 on our revenue. We have not yet received our April distribution yet.

2019 True-Up: Steve Kurtz explained that we received a true-up for 2019 and we were overpaid \$61,700, for which we will need to refund the city. There is

a meeting with the Budget Office next week to discuss. We expected \$11,968,000 for the calendar year 2019. We should have received \$11,906,000. We should expect this on an annual basis.

Bank Fees: Bank continues to charge us bank fees. Steve Kurtz asked Mark Goodman to discuss waiving these fees with the bank.

Administrative Costs: Steve Kurtz shared that March is the first month we paid out more in administrative costs that we took in - the 5% of estimated \$1M monthly revenue is \$50K and this month we were billed for \$60K. He explained that the expenses were reasonable, and some were for one-time expenses. Additionally, he noted that there is more than \$1M of unused admin funds in the account at this time.

Audit. Steve suggested a later due date for the initial audit materials request, but work is moving forward. The finance committee should expect a draft of the audit in the next week.

Communications/outreach

Outreach Summary: Lori Fox reviewed the outreach summary document, which provides a snapshot of the outreach done to more than 100 organizations. We've been using this document in our city council meetings.

Interactive Map: Rob McDaniel demonstrated the interactive map of city council districts and our current distribution numbers - the map shows where the students are from whose scholarships will be reimbursed. Separate reports have been developed that show where they graduated from high school. This map will be added to the DCSC website when it is launched. Chris Herndon and Rob McDaniel discussed digging into this information by census block/zip code to allow council members to do outreach to SOs to make sure that all of the students in their districts are being served.

Website: Megan Helseth walked the board through the current draft of the website. Board members have access to the review it after the meeting and Onword will collect feedback for the following week. Board members were also requested to submit/edit their bios for the website.

Public Comment

Lorii Rabinowitz, Denver Scholarship Foundation (via chat function): Thank you so much to everyone, on behalf of our students. Our students and families have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 Crisis, so your efforts to expedite reimbursement, have the 1:1 Council meetings, build the heat map and website, are deeply appreciated and will have even greater impact than originally anticipated. You are helping to build bright, trajectory-changing futures during a time of general uncertainty. Thank you!

Executive Session

Motion to move to executive session: Steve Kurtz accepted a motion to move into executive session, 1) pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f)(I), to discuss a personnel matter, in particular our CEO search and current staffing, and 2) pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b), for a conference with legal counsel on specific legal questions concerning interpretation of our organic statute. Angela Cobian moved; John Kechriotis seconded. Passed unanimously.