

**Prosperity Denver Fund
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**January 12, 2022
7:30 - 9:30 AM MT
via Zoom**

Attendees:

Board members: Steve Kurtz, Theresa Peña, Mark Goodman, Angela Cobián, Chris Herndon, John Kechriotis, Danielle Shoots

Staff: Matt Jordan - CEO, Lauren Sisneros – Director of Programs, Rebecca Andruszka - Project Manager

Guests: Nathan Cadeña - DSF, Robin Camfield – Rec Design, Jim Chavez - LAEF, Kat Jarvis - OCA, Tasha Jones - LV Jones Consulting, Dianne Myles – Dope Mom Life, Tracy Williams – TradeWinds Communications

Call to order: Steve Kurtz, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:33 AM. A quorum was present.

Motion to approve November 2021 board meeting minutes: *Angela Cobián moved, Mark Goodman seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Community Outreach

Matt Jordan introduced the team selected from the communications and marketing RFP process. Each team member (Robin Camfield, Tasha Jones, Dianne Myles, and Tracy Williams) shared their qualifications and reviewed their proposal. Angela Cobián asked about how success would be evaluated. Mark Goodman suggested that one marker of success would be the number of new Supported Organizations we were able to onboard.

Motion to approve the contract with LV Jones Consulting: *Angela Cobián moved, Danielle Shoots seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Matt introduced Kat Jarvis, the new Deputy Director of the Office of Children's Affairs.

Data & Finance Committee

Matt reviewed the FY21 audited financial report, which had no management requests. Mark Goodman pointed out that the report highlighted some financial risk with our

investments, but that these are in-line with the City's investment guidelines. Steve Kurtz highlighted that some of the fund titles were changes to better reflect their true purpose.

Motion to approve FY21 audited financials: *Mark Goodman moved, John Kechriotis seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Board Discussion - FY22 Strategic Initiatives

Matt reviewed data on issues related to college completion. Given to persistent equity gaps and the added pressures of COVID (which the data pre-dated), he offered some suggestions on how PDF can use our funds to make a positive impact on this issue:

- Consider removing cap on the scholarship reimbursement amount (would require a PDF policy change)
- Provide Service Enhancement Grants to SO's (allocate a certain amount or percentage for grants rather than reimbursements; would require an ordinance change)
- Expand reimbursements to include services provided at the high school-level and/or for the college-to-career transition (would require an ordinance change)
- Accept DPS attendance as proof of Denver residency (would require an ordinance change)
- Clarify/expand definitions of certificate programs that would be reimbursable by PDF (would require an ordinance change)

The Board was asked to explore these options in this board meeting and to join a study group to examine the ramifications in-depth. Theresa Peña, Mark Goodman and Angela Cobián volunteered to participate in this group.

The Board and guests had a wide-ranging discussion of how to address completion and the options above in particular. There were questions about implications of getting involved in more traditional grantmaking (which might redirect funds on overhead rather than funding). Concern was expressed about scholars who self-select out of the college pipeline before graduating from high school. It is something that we could help address.

Nathan Cadeña was gratified that the conversation focused on systemic change and being nimble to address emerging needs. Mark Goodman also encouraged us to clearly report on what we have done within the current ordinance rules before we request more changes to it. Danielle Shoots said that if the ordinance doesn't allow us to fulfill our mission, it should

be changed so that resources are used appropriately. Chris Herndon offered to help begin conversations needed with the City Council.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 AM: *Mark Goodman moved, Theresa Peña seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*