

Children's Trust Fund Board Meeting
Minutes
Thursday, January 18th, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
[1988 Act 151](#)

10:00am - Call to Order and Introductions

Bruce Clash, CTF Board Chair

Notes/Actions:

Bruce Clash, Board Chair conducted introductions of all present.

10:20am

Item: Approval of the October 19th, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes

Purpose: Ensure accuracy of last meeting

Lead: Bruce Clash, CTF Board Chair

Action: All board: Approve minutes (with potential amendments)

Notes/Actions:

A motion to approve the October 19th, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes as presented was made by Paul DiLorenzo, Seconded by Cathleen Palm, The motion was passed unanimously.

10:20am

Item: Fiscal Report

Purpose: Provide summary of fiscal report to date.

Lead: Andrew M. Dietz, Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL)

Action: All board: None required

Notes/Actions:

Discussion on PennDOT Donations and other donation sources occurred.

Question: Andrew Dietz, OCDEL was asked regarding if PennDOT had data on how many total vehicles were renewed and the percentage of those renewals that donated each year. Andrew Dietz, OCDEL noted he would need to reach out to PennDOT to inquire about the data. PennDOT does have an annual report of registrations linked here: <https://www.dmv.pa.gov/VEHICLE-SERVICES/Title-Registration/pages/annual-report-of-registrations-.aspx>. Most recent data is for 2022.

10:30am

Item: Center for Schools and Communities (CSC) Updates

Purpose: Provide updates to CTF Board on CSC Work

Lead: Karen Shanoksi and Rijelle Kraft, Center for Schools and Communities (CSC)

- CSC Updates

Action: All board: Approve necessary revisions to Grantees Programs if applicable

Notes/Actions:

Discussion: Karen Shanoksi, CSC presented on:

- Orientation and networking sessions with CTF grantees.
- Indicated that CSC planned to provide Parent Cafés, but some were cancelled due to lack of attendees.
 - Four Parent Café trainings will be offered this spring.
- Discussed webinars and newsletters.
- Updates to CTF website.
- A List of grantees and dates of site visits for the quarters.

Question: Cathleen Palm inquired about Parent Cafés and how they work into the grants. Karen Shanoksi, CSC explained how they are used by the grantees but not exclusive to a certain model.

Question: Paul DiLorenzo asked about board members joining on a site visit. Karen Shanoksi, CSC stated not in the past and explained a little more about what goes on during the visit.

Rijelle Kraft, CSC provided an update on the cohorts and dates.

Cohort 29 Exit call coming up after grant closes in September 2024.

Cohort 30 in their second year, looking to see if they need to make some changes. Currently no revisions are needed before the board. A few on improvement plans. On the state fiscal year calendar.

Cohort 31 Brand new group just started in October. Had first quarterly calls. Jen Esposito (TA) has been working with the new grantees. On the October to September fiscal year.

Upcoming Events Noted

Strengthening Families 2024, Partnering to Build Resilient Families and Communities, <https://site.pheedloop.com/event/PASfconference2024/home>

May 7 to 9, State College. Annual meeting on May 9. The board are encouraged to attend. Invitations incoming.

Rijelle Kraft, CSC provided a quick overview of the speakers and workshops at the conference.

11:00am Items: Chair Report, Discussions, and Updates

Purpose: Item(s) of Discussion

Lead: Bruce Clash, CTF Board Chair

Actions: Indicated Below

- Public and Legislative Board Member Updates
 - Bruce Clash, Board Chair discussed membership being down after his resignation from the board, following this meeting, by one public member and by two senators and one representative.
 - **Action:** None
- Working Group to Update CTF Statute
 - Bruce Clash, Board Chair discussed that there were no meetings on this topic recently. Cathleen Palm mentioned that a piece of proposed legislation mentioned Children's Trust Fund and to keep an eye out for any additional that may mention it.
 - **Action:** None
- Cohort 32 Request for Application (RFA)
 - Bruce Clash, Board Chair discussed the history of the current version of the RFA, and the focus the previous board members had on evidence-based and evidence-informed programming that supported families and had evidence to show it helped or prevent child abuse and neglect.
 - Andrew Dietz, OCDEL presented the RFA as drafted for board approval, noted to the board that the legislative match requirement has been a major deterrent in recent years for those who applied for funding.
 - **Question:** Paul DiLorenzo asked about the supports smaller organizations could be given to help them apply. Andrew Dietz, OCDEL discussed that he would need to check in with Procurement to determine what is allowable.
 - Cathleen Palm, spoke about learning from other grants that respond to community needs. Agreed with the idea of innovative practices and potential non-evidence-based models.
 - Dr. Rachel Berger spoke about research and delivery discussion. Which direction does the board want? Service or research? We are providing service delivery.
 - **Question:** Cathleen Palm and Dr. Rachel Berger inquired about the RFA process in full, Andrew Dietz, OCDEL walked them through the process as he understands it at a high level. Cathleen Palm and Dr. Rachel Berger also asked if there was any way to identify a grantee intending to serve a high-risk area and if priority was given. Andrew Dietz, OCDEL explained that this version of the RFA did not include something like that but the board could explore that idea further in future RFAs.
 - **Action:** A **motion** to approve the approve the RFA as drafted was made by Phil Flavo, Seconded by Cathleen Palm, The motion was passed unanimously.
- 2022-23 - Children's Trust Fund Annual Report
 - Karen Shanoski, CSC summarized the current annual report for 2022-23 and explained what was included in the report. Bruce Clash, Board Chair requested that board members send feedback no later than the end of January for any addition edits, comments, or clarifications.
- Board Chairperson Election
 - 8. Section 4 (e)
 - The board shall elect a chairperson every two years from among the public members and may elect other officers and establish committees as it deems necessary and has provided for in the regulations it promulgates.
 - **Action:** Cathleen Palm made a **motion** to nominate Paul DiLorenzo as chair. Dr Rachel Berger seconded the motion. Paul DiLorenzo accepted the nomination. The motion was passed unanimously.
 - **Action:** Lindy Keefe made a motion to nominate Cathleen Palm as vice chair, Dr. Rachel Berger seconded the motion. Cathleen Palm accepted the nomination. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Adjourn Official CTF Board Meeting
 - **Action:** Cathleen Palm made a motion to adjourn, all seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

