

**From Cradle to College Foundation, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Of**  
**June 23, 2021**

The From Cradle to College Foundation, Inc. held a Board of Directors meeting on June 23, 2021, at 10:00 AM through a Zoom Meeting initiated at 600 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Palmetto, Florida

**Board Members Present:**

Marc Gilner  
Diana Dill  
Linda Guritz  
Rachel Quinn  
Andrew Minor (no-voting)  
Paul Sharff, Managing Director

**Board Members Absent:**

Scott Kallins (excused)  
Dianne Kopczynski (excused)  
Howard Veltz (excused)

**ELC Staff Present:**

Darrell King

**Foundation Staff Present:**

Marie O'Connell

These minutes are a summary of the discussion and action items of the From Cradle to College Foundation Board of Directors meeting on June 23, 2021.

**Welcome and Roll Call**

Marc Gilner called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.  
Paul Sharff conducted roll call and determined a quorum was present.

**Foundation Update**

**County Funding/Contracts**

Mr. Sharff shared with the board that the WIT program has been approved for continuing funding in the amount of \$210,000 and also noted that there has not been any clarity as to the availability or use of the CARES funds designated for Manatee County. The prior CARES funding allowed FCTCF to operate a much-needed food program, secure a bus for community services, distribute hand sanitizer stations throughout the county's schools, and also secure tents and tables to provide on-going services for the citizens of Manatee County.

Mr. Sharff noted that the WIT program now has a waitlist and is fully utilizing the funding granted by the County. With the program being a startup for the first three months, it took some time to build to that point, but it is well-received in the county. Darrell King also pointed out that WIT is increasing due to community contacts that have been helpful in enrolling participants in the program.

**PEARLS**

Marie O'Connell shared with the Board that PEARLS had been approved for another year, which will be its 4<sup>th</sup> year of training around the state. She also discussed how COVID had created the need for Zoom trainings and that they were found to be a valuable resource for smaller providers based on expanded availability, particularly family childcare home providers. For this reason, the Zoom format will continue even when not necessitated by COVID concerns. PEARLS continues to receive positive feedback from its participants even though this is a tough topic.

**Golf Tournament 2021**

Mr. Sharff noted that the Association of Early Learning Coalitions will be holding its annual meeting here in Manatee County at the time of the Golf Tournament so we will be gaining participation. Darrell King pointed out that this is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the tournament providing opportunity for more sponsorships. Mr. Sharff mentioned that the Galvano tournament nets \$500,000 and Jim Boyd is anticipated to become Senate President which will increase interest in our tournament. Several board members stated that this event is always a fun event.

**Leadership Prayer Breakfast 2021**

Mr. Sharff reported that the Leadership Prayer Breakfast has gained great momentum and we have hope to raise at least \$150,000. The event is being held on October 28<sup>th</sup> which is National First Responders Day and provides a great opportunity to honor the heroes who have dedicated themselves to the safety and welfare of others. We hope to have at least 1000 attendees and possibly expand that to 1200 by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Darrell King noted that in the last couple of weeks, the event has been gaining attention with local companies donating \$10,000 in one week. Many companies will not be able to attend but are instead donating their seats for first responders to use the morning of the breakfast. This will be a special event with photos of 1<sup>st</sup> responders on the walls, and entertainment such as Del Couch, high school drumline and fifth graders with buckets. Attendance would have been too limited due to have held it on the original date, but we believe that the October date will draw many attendees, which is so appropriate to honor our First Responders after the service they have provided for the last year.

Andrew Minor noted that the Leadership Prayer Breakfast has become a brand awareness event for the Foundation.

Darrell King also reported that the Foundation has a new website and encouraged the board members to review the site when they have an opportunity.

#### **FCTCF Financials**

The March 2021 financials were reviewed by the Board. These documents indicate that the Foundation is operating in a financially sound manner. Ms. O'Connell shared with that board member Veltz reviews the checking account reconciliations each month.

Mr. Sharff noted that the expenditure of funds raised would be at the board's discretion and suggested scholarships may be a valuable option. Mr. Minor brought up the possibility of using a grant application for this type of funds award. Diana Dill agreed that scholarships for kids at high risk would be a good option, noting that Florida Prepaid will match dollar for dollar.

Andrew Minor was interested if there was a certain percentage that should be given away and Mr. Sharff will check with external auditors, Moss Krusick, to get clarification for the board.

#### **Items for Approval on Consent Agenda**

The March 2021 Financials were presented to the Board for approval under the Consent Agenda.

***Upon a motion duly made by Diana Dill and seconded by Linda Guritz, the motion to approve the Consent Agenda item was unanimously approved as presented.***

#### **Approval of the Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2021**

***Upon a motion duly made by Diana Dill and seconded by Howard Veltz, the Minutes for the Board of Directors Meeting of March 1, 2021, were unanimously approved as presented.***

#### **Old Business**

None

#### **New Business**

None

#### **Public Comments**

None

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Linda Guritz moved to adjourn, and Diana Dill seconded the motion. The Meeting was adjourned at 10:29 AM.

Minutes Prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

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Marie O'Connell

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Marc Gilner, Esq.