

**From Cradle to College Foundation, Inc.  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Of  
January 31, 2023**

The From Cradle to College Foundation, Inc. held a Board of Directors meeting on January 31, 2023, at 8:30 am through a Zoom Meeting initiated at 525 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Palmetto, Florida.

**Board Members Present:**

Marc Gilner  
Dianne Kopczynski  
Diana Dill

**Board Members Absent:**

Linda Guritz (excused)  
Rachael Quinn (excused)

**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 January 31, 2023.

**Welcome and Roll Call**

Marc Gilner called the meeting to order at 8:34 am.

Marie O'Connell conducted roll call and determined a quorum was present.

**Foundation Updates**

**Scholarships**

Board members discussed the award of scholarship funds to Take Stock Manatee on January 23, where a \$20,000 check was presented. This donation established the Paul Sharff and Harry Kinnan Scholarships. These scholarships will be used to further the education of individuals seeking careers in both early education (Sharff) and K-12 education (Kinnan). These scholarships will be distributed through Take Stock utilizing matching funds from Florida Prepaid to increase the benefit for the community. This donation was the result of fundraising in October 2021 and the Foundation is very excited to be partnering with Take Stock to maximize the impact of these funds.

As discussed in the December board meeting, the Board agreed to award these monies to Take Stock in Children Manatee during the month of January 2023 to honor Paul Sharff around the first anniversary of his death.

**PEARLS Program**

Ms. O'Connell shared with the board that trainings for the PEARLS program continue to be scheduled and demand is still high. She also shared that the Local Funding Request for 23-24 has been submitted to Kathy Galea, assistant to Senator Boyd earlier this month.

**Approval of the Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2022.**

*Upon a motion duly made by Dianne Kopczynski and seconded by Diana Dill, the Minutes for the Board of Directors Meeting of December 15, 2022, were unanimously approved as presented.*

**Old Business**

To provide an opportunity for the Board to discuss the Interim Director position, Ms. O'Connell excused herself from the meeting. When the Board had concluded its discussion, Ms. O'Connell was alerted via text to rejoin. The Board concluded that they would like to change Ms. O'Connell's title to Executive Director and for her to continue to lead the Foundation. Rather than a salary review being conducted at this time, the Board awarded Ms. O'Connell a bonus to be paid in an upcoming payroll. Ms. O'Connell thanked the Board for both its confidence and the bonus.

**New Business**

The Board discussed the board membership application of Mr. Andreasen. It was agreed that the board would like to meet Mr. Andreasen in person. This meeting will be arranged in the upcoming month.

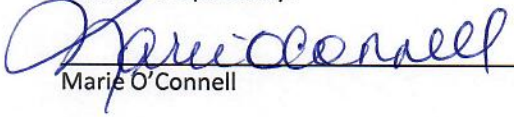
**Public Comments**

None

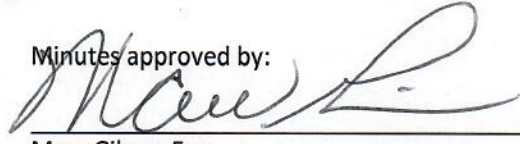
**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Diana Dill moved to adjourn, and Dianne Kopczynski seconded the motion. The Meeting was adjourned at 9:26 AM.

Minutes Prepared by:

  
Marie O'Connell

Minutes approved by:

  
Marc Gilner, Esq.