

Lamoille Family Center Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, July 26, 2023
5:00-7:00 PM

Marilyn May, Chair	Sandy Paquette, Treasurer	Pixie Loomis
Reeva Murphy	Kerrie Johnson	
Carol Lang-Godin, ED	Dean Burnell, Business Manager	Julia Skonicki

Virtual meeting via Zoom

Absent Board Members: Brenda Christie, Eileen Paus, Kathleen James, Adam Lory
The Lamoille Family Center (LFC) Meeting called to order by Marilyn May at 5:12 PM

1. Julia Skonicki, Director of Development and Communications provided the Board with a preview of the Annual Meeting planned for September 13, 2023. Julia will not be at the August Board meeting. Planning is well underway, and a lot of preparation is already in place. There will not be a Keynote speaker this year. The focus is on dedicating the new playset to Cecile Languerand and Kathy Murphy. The meeting will begin at 4:30 at the Family Center. Board members available to help set up can arrive at 3:30. The vent will occur outside, weather permitting. Black Diamond Barbeque will provide food. Families of honorees have been invited – not sure yet who is attending. There will not be a Board meeting as part of the Annual Meeting. The Board will meet in August and September on scheduled dates. Julia would like to take a photograph of full Board if most people are present.

The proposed agenda is as follows:

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Marilyn May, *Chair, Board of Directors*

Carol Lang-Godin, *Executive Director*

Playset Dedication: Sue Morre and Vicki Rich???

Song by John Gailmore

There was a discussion of how to encourage group participation in the ceremony and it was suggested that bottles of bubbles be provided for attendees to use to add to the festivities. Julia is going to look into that idea. If there are Board members who would like to say a few words about Cecilia or other ideas for group participation, let Julia know.

Outstanding Supporter of the Year Julia Skonicki, *Development Director*

Susan and Robert Titterton

The Tittertons are honored to accept the award and want to keep the presentation low key.

Rockstar Volunteers of the Year Julia Skonicki

Cecelia Wolters *for work on the diaper drive*

Steve Burnett and Pete Hussey *both employees (or former employees?) of Stowe resort who contribute time, energy, some materials and use of equipment to work on the center and helped to prepare for playset installation.*

VTSU Upward Bound

Staff Awards Carol Lang-Godin *Board is encouraged to nominate candidates for these awards and vote.*

Scott Johnson Leadership Award: TBA

Staff Service Awards:

Jeff Hunsberger 5 years

Kerri O'Halloran 10 years

Jackie Stanton 15 years

Alison Link 5 years

Barb Strong 5 years

Dean Burnell 5 years

Cecile Languerand Core Values Award: TBA

Closing Remarks Carol Lang-Godin

2. Dean Burnell, Business Manager presented the Quarterly Investment Report which was provided to LFC Board members prior to the Board Meeting. Explanations were presented to the Board Members to support their oversight and fiduciary responsibility. Final fiscal wrap up for FY 23 is pending an audit which will make it all official. This should be ready for Board review by October Board meeting. It appears LFC may have ended with a surplus of approx. \$80,000.

Morgan Stanley Investment Summary 6/30/2023, FY 2023 Q4

- The breakdown is within the parameters established by the LFC Board, 35% Bonds, 60% Equity, 5% cash (+/- 10%). The combination of both growth of investments and the input of cash from LFC demonstrates a 10 – 11% increase in balance since January. Investments are in good shape. If LFC needed to draw down from the fund for an emergency or a specified need, 4% of 3-year average (\$71,931) could; be removed without a negative effect on investment performance.

- Vermont Community Foundation (VCF) Investment Funds report are as of March (June statement is not yet available). If we are part of the VCF we have access to their resources, their pool of donors, etc. Some growth over the 8 years we have participated.
 - Total Investment value of both = \$2,131,883 Investments are on target and in good shape.
 - Local cash in three locally owned banks is stable and \$408,155 combined balance meets target for having 2 months of expenses in available reserve. All local accounts are insured.
3. Approve minutes from the May 24, 2023 Board Meeting
Pixie Loomis moved to accept the May 24, 2023 Board Meeting minutes, Sandy Pacquette seconded the motion. The Board voted to accept the meeting minutes of May 24, 2023.
4. July Executive Director report provided by Carol Lang-Godin 7/25/2023

Executive Director Report

July 2023

Highlights/Summary from the last 2 months:

Staffing:

- After 24 years at LFC, DeAnne Blueter will be finishing sometime between August and November. DeAnne works with the CIS team doing Family Support. Her husband is retiring and they're moving to Florida. We'll post the job vacancy internally and in papers once we know her actual end date.
- FY'24 Salary schedule meetings were held with all staff in June. Staff were very appreciative of the Boards commitment to the Salary Schedule and increases made. A card of thanks was sent via Marilyn to the Board.

Parent Child Center Network (PCCN)

- Attended June monthly meeting and July Annual meeting.
- Attended Executive Committee meeting
- Attended several 2023 PCC Innovations Conference wrap-up meetings. 9 staff attended the conference. Already starting to plan for next year.

Building Maintenance Projects/Bridge St. Property

- Spring clean-up at LFC on 6/5 with a staff lunch and get together at Elmore State Park was a hit.
- Work has been done on the Story Stroll in preparation for 7/27 event (See Development Report for more info).

Legislative Updates

The veto session flew by in the wink of an eye, starting Tuesday 6/20 in the morning and ending by dinnertime on the same day. The Legislature voted to override the Governor's veto of the FY24 Budget, so there is no change to the budget bill. The House voted to override the veto 105-42, and the Senate voted to override 25-5.

Both chambers needed two-thirds of legislators present to vote in favor of a veto override, which they had. Here is the FY24 Budget as passed:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/Docs/BILLS/H-0494/H-0494%20As%20Passed%20by%20Both%20House%20and%20Senate%20Unofficial.pdf>

- PCC +\$2m base increase is still intact and we're working out details around this.
- The \$100k in onetime funding for diapers was set to go to the Foodbank but it's since been agreed that Foodbank will pass that money to PCC's. Details are still being worked out.
- Funding was approved for a two-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program. This would include DULCE for us. Medicaid public comment period is open and as of now it looks like our local Blueprint will receive enough funding for our Family Specialist and pass to us. Another case where we're still working out the details.
- H.217 CHILDCARE. The Legislature also voted to override the Governor's veto of the big childcare bill, which the Gov vetoed June 6. The House voted 116-31 and the Senate voted 23-7 in favor of the veto override. Here is the childcare bill as passed: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/Docs/BILLS/H-0217/H-0217%20As%20Passed%20by%20Both%20House%20and%20Senate%20Unofficial.pdf>. At this point we've been notified we'll receive additional funding to boost the childcare financial assistance work we do because of the increased eligibility. This would likely mean hiring at least one additional person plus increasing some current staff hours.

Flood/Community Updates

- We had one staff member lose their housing in Johnson due to flooding. He has family in the area and is staying with them for now but looking for a new apartment.
- We host a playgroup (during the school year) at the United Church in Johnson. They saw significant damage and we may need to relocate our playgroup.
- LFC Staff have pitched in all around the area to help families and businesses impacted.
- The LFC building survived the flooding with no major issues. There is minor leaking in basement which was present before 7/10. Working with Solid Choice Building & Remodeling to address this.
- Jeff is now sitting on the Lamoille Flood Response Team representing LFC. The group is assessing the impact of the flood on our community and providing support.
- The United Way webpage is continually updated with Flood Resources <https://uwlamoille.org/get-help/>

Other

- The week of 7/31 I'll be sending two strategic planning proposals for the Board to review.
- I'm participating in several "summer camp" trainings through Common Good. Topics so far have been: Engaging Board Member, Introduction to Story Telling, Succession Planning & Building Inclusive Benefits Packages.

Programmatic Updates

Health Lamoille Valley (HLV)

- The best way to receive updates on HLV is to sign up for the newsletter. Email Jessica (jessica@healthylamoillevalley.org) to be put on the list.

- VDH - Department of Substance Use is consolidating their structure to create a more sustainable infrastructure for funding coalitions. They will now be giving out grants to 4 Prevention Lead Organizations who will then be managing subgrants to other coalitions. HLV will be included in the Northeast Kingdom. Currently, Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital holds a prevention center of excellence grant that provides the funding for their coalition as well as the One Coalition in Newport. We've just submitted our budget and initial work plans for this.

Youth & Young Adult Services (YAYA).

- After finally seeing the RFP for the Reach Up contract we opted not to apply for the funding. Our current contract ends on 9/30/23. This impacts one staff member who will end employment at LFC as of the end of the contract. This wasn't an easy decision but does make sense for LFC.

Early Childhood Programs

- Continuing to wait for a final Parents as Teachers contract.
- Applied for a CIS Stabilization grant to support training, staffing and clinical supervision. We were "apparently successful" but no official notification or funds yet.

Discussion

YAYA: Re decision not to apply for a state grant to assist Reach Up clients this year. The work has never been fully funded by the grant. It appears the state is seeking a single state-wide entity. At minimum, services for Morrisville will be combined with services for St. J. Other PCCs have already given up this grant. It ends up being primarily support for DCF ESD staff rather than for youth or young adults themselves. This impacts one staff person – Zoe Martin, who has been in the job for just over a year. Timing is good for Zoe. She is moving and may decide to move on or to apply for other jobs in LFC.

Diaper Drive (Legislative Update): Diapers will no longer be available at Food Shelves. \$380,000 was requested/needed and the budget includes \$100,000. \$100,000 went to Food Bank but it will disperse funds to PCCs. Junior League will no longer be an intermediary. We'll want to add to the funds we get. Julia will apply for a grant.

Flood/Community Updates: A CIS family was hit hard by the flood. Staff are connecting them to resources.

Two former staff members – Janel Wortham and Carol Maloney were heavily impacted by flood damage. Carol will send Board links to their Go Fund Me campaigns. Local libraries were also hit hard.

Carol is excited to welcome Cyber Sled Dogs to Storytime at LFC tomorrow.

LFC will be hosting a table at Tuesday Night Live in Morrisville on August 1 – come by!

Early Childhood Program : LFC will be bringing on Kate Donnelly to provide clinical supervision to CIS staff. Carol also provides clinical supervision for Supervisors.

4. No Old Business

5. New Business: Policy Review

Revisions to Bereavement Policy is not yet ready to review.

Drug & Smoke Free Policy has minor revisions which were sent to LFC Board members on 7/25/23.

Sandy Pacquette moved to accept the revisions to LFC Drug and Smoke Free Policy, Pixie Loomis seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve suggested revisions to LFC Drug and Smoke Free Policy.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by Reeva Murphy

**Next LFC Board Meeting: Wednesday, August 23, 2023
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM (virtual)**