



REGIONAL ACCESS PROJECT FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

September 27, 2023 9:00 AM

41550 Eclectic St. Palm Desert, CA 92260

6114 Terrace Dr Johnson, IA. 50131

74130 Country Club, Ste 106, Palm Desert, CA 92260

- I. CALL TO ORDER at 9:00 by Board Chair J. Pye**- Roll Call : ***S. Benoit, M. Meyer, C. Borba, C. Galvez (arrived at 9:12) , M. Gialdini, M. Gonda, B. Gonzalez (arrived at 9:07), Rudy Gutierrez, J. Hayes, B. Kroonen (arrived at 9:12), R. Ortega, E. Romero, T. St. Johns, V. Tanner, A. Wilson, K. Quintanilla, Supervisor Perez/P. Cooper, J. Pye.***

Also Present: M. Reyes, G. Montano, D. Morales, S. Garcia, V. Arroniz, B. Sanchez, G. Colangeli, Andrea Oliveri, Friday Night Live – 4 youth and coordinator, Angela Colangeli and G. Colangeli.

Excused Absence: A. Dew.

II. Approval of the AGENDA

In order to meet Brown Act requirements, items may be added to the agenda only upon decision by a majority of the Board of Directors to add the item because of a need for immediate action.

***Motion: J. Hayes to approve the agenda as submitted. Second: C. Borba Approved: 16
Opposed: 0 Abstention Name(s): 0***

III. PUBLIC COMMENT / PRESENTATIONS

Friday Night Live Youth Council Presentation - ***Presentation was made.***

M. Gialdini read his email addressed to staff offering congratulations for a successful Desert Fast Pitch event.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS: Action Required

- A.** July 26, 2023 Board Meeting Draft Minutes (Attach. #1) - Receive and file.
- B.** CEO Report (Attach. #2)- Receive and File
- C.** Grant Manager’s Report (Attach. #3)– Receive and File
- E.** Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report – Receive and File (Attach. #4)
- F.** American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) Report – Receive and File (Attach. #5)

Staff Recommendation: To receive and file the July 26, 2023 BOD Minutes, CEO, Grant Manager, Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report and ARPA Report.

Motion:	To approve Staff Recommendation.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
E. Romero	R. Gutierrez	18	0	0

V. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS – Action May Be Required

A. Supervisor V. Manuel Perez or his Representative- to provide update on County matters of interest.

Supervisor Perez delivered remarks on following topics:

- 1. Impressed with the Friday Night Live Youth and their presentation.**
- 2. Disappointed in recent change in leadership at Desert Healthcare District.**
- 3. Fishing Derby presented by Desert Recreation District and the County- 2,000 Lbs of fish were caught and 250 people attended at Lake Cahuilla Veteran’s Regional Park. He announced there will be future improvements at the facility (Restrooms, pool, splash area).**
- 4. Air pollution – he serves on AQMD and CARB boards – there are concerns regarding warehouse projects which will impact region.**
- 5. Recent “thousand year” storm which caused extensive damage to Cathedral City, Oasis, North Shore and Desert Hot Springs.**
- 6. Salton Sea Conservancy Bill update and disappointment that there was a plan approved and instead it will be considered as a 2 year Bill. If approved it will build out the North Lake.**

B. Candidate for RAP Board - RAP usually consider candidates at the end of the year. However, the Board has in the past, made an exception to have a representative from Blythe. Application attached (Attach. #6)

- George Colangeli

Nominations Committee Recommendation: For the Board to appoint George Colangeli effective immediately. Also, to waive the board contribution.

G. Colangeli made a brief presentation introducing himself.

Motion:	To appoint George Colangeli effective immediately. Also, to waive the board contribution for first year and revisit the matter next year.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
V. Tanner	Sup. Perez	18	0	0

C. Audit Presentation by Andrea Oliveri , Coachella Valley Accounting and Auditing The FY 2022-2023 Audit (Attach. #7A Management Letter, Attach.#7B Communication Letter, Attach. #7C Financial Statement) have been reviewed by the Audit Committee.

Audit Committee Recommendation: For the Board to adopt the Draft Audit for FY 2022-2023.

Andrea delivered a summary of the Audit. She stated that there were no disagreements or difficulties. No material differences. The Financial Statements are “clean”. There is an increase of \$32,000 in

unanticipated revenue from the County revenue. L. De Lara acknowledged M. Gonda and especially S. Garcia for their efforts to completing the audit and the favorable results.

Motion:	<i>To adopt the Draft Audit for FY 2022-2023.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
V. Tanner	M. Meyer	19	0	0

D. Review the July (Attach. #8A) and August 2023 Financials (Attach. #8B)

Finance Committee Recommendation: For the Board to approve and accept the July 2023 and August 2023 Financials.

Board Treasurer M. Gonda presented the Financials summary. J. Pye stated that per Board policy she gave authorization for the Board Treasurer and CEO to make decisions on short-term investments which may include purchasing CDs.

Motion:	<i>To approve and accept the July 2023 and August 2023 Financials.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
C. Borba	B. Kroonen	19	0	0

E. Resolution for Procurement Process (Attach. #9) The Executive Committee reviewed the draft policy in July. The Committee directed the CEO to meet with the Board Treasurer to address questions/concerns and return policy in September. The CEO has provided an updated policy to address the issues discussed.

Executive Committee Recommendation: For the Board to approve this policy. Staff to create a Flow Chart to be added as an attachment at a later date.

Motion:	<i>To approve this policy. Staff to create a Flow Chart to be added as an attachment at a later date. Direction to staff to update the name of Secretary on Resolution.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
C. Borba	B. Kroonen	19	0	0

F. Request For Proposal (RFP) for Technology (Attach. #10) - RAP currently does not have a contract with an information technology company. In July, the Executive Committee directed staff to meet with M. Gonda and M. Blue to get their input and bring it back in September.

Executive Committee Recommendation: To ratify the Executive Committee’s approval of the Request for Proposal(RFP) to be released. Also, to change the practice requiring staff to get approval before releasing the RFP. Instead the practice to be adopted is to present to the Executive Committee the top 3 respondents and a staff recommendation for consideration before advancing it to the Board.

Motion:	<i>Ratify the Executive Committee’s approval of the Request for Proposal(RFP) to be released. Also, to change the practice requiring staff to get approval before releasing the RFP. Instead the practice to be adopted is to present to the Executive Committee the top 3 respondents and a staff recommendation for consideration before advancing it to the Board.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>M. Gialdini</i>	<i>M. Gonda</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

G. Grants Tracker for FY 2023-2024 (Attach. #11) **Grants Manager provided Review.**

H. Funding Requests

Small Grant #1:	Palms to Pines Parasports
Program:	Leveling the Playing Field, Providing More Choices for People with Disabilities
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
Palms to Pines Parasports provides a full array of adapted sports-standing/wheelchair basketball, tennis, pickleball, hiking, boccia and other sports for people with disabilities and exposes the neuro-typical, able-bodied community to these sports. They also explore art, music, and sporting events. Their first skating event was held at the Berger Iceplex on July 30. Based on interest they hope to expand skating into possibly special needs and others types of adapted hockey. In addition to offering a wide variety of programs focused on people with disabilities, they are also implementing a school-based program, Sports for everyBODY, geared towards all students. They have worked with over 2300 students in collaboration with CVUSD. This program will continue to be offered during the next school year and beyond, creating greater awareness about capabilities and enabling all students to experience sports.	
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$5,000; Sponsorship FY22-23: \$2,500
Reviewer’s Average Score:	71%

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000

Motion:	To approve request for \$10,000.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	V. Tanner	19	0	0

Small Grant #2:	CSUSB Philanthropic Foundation
Program:	CSUSB Department of Nursing Street Medicine Program
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
<p>The CSUSB Nursing Street Medicine Program (NSMP) engages nursing students and faculty of the California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) Palm Desert Campus to support healthcare services for underserved people in the CV. The NSMP fulfills a human service need in the community for those identified as medically underserved; services benefit the sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations, migrant workers, and their families in the CV, including veterans, seniors, mentally ill people, substance users, uninsured and underinsured, persons of color, and bilingual people. The NSMP treats all persons in need, is compassionate in giving care, and delivers services with our partners through nurse clinics, resource agencies, or food pantries/kitchens in various CV locations where families and persons frequent or reside.</p>	
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$5,000
Reviewer's Average Score:	90%

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000

Motion:	To approve request for \$10,000			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
C. Kroonen	V. Tanner	19	0	0
Small Grant #3:	California CareForce			
Program:	Free Healthcare Clinic Coachella			
Requested Amount:	\$10,000			
<p>The three-day free healthcare clinic will be held on March 8 - 10, 2024, at the Empire Polo Grounds in Indio providing free dental, vision, and medical care to 2,500 underinsured and underserved patients living in the CV. California CareForce provides vulnerable communities access to quality healthcare.</p>				

Historically, these groups are very often disconnected from traditional healthcare settings and require support in accessing healthcare. Delivering the necessary services without fees and complex paperwork, eliminates logistical barriers to traditional forms of healthcare and encourages vulnerable populations to receive the necessary care they need. Barriers to healthcare in the CV include limited English proficiency, lack of insurance, lack of transportation, and fear of deportation. Our plan to increase clinic participation throughout Riverside County, includes expanding our relationship with the University of California-Riverside's (UC Riverside) CV Free Clinic to market the California CareForce free healthcare clinic and increase access to the Latinx and Pure Pecha populations. UC Riverside will utilize promotoras to promote the event and work with the community to establish transportation options to the clinic.

Prior RAP Funding:	2022 Sponsorship for Coachella Clinic
Reviewer's Average Score:	89%

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000.

Motion:	To approve request for \$10,000.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	V. Tanner	19	0	0

Small Grant #4	Transgender Health and Wellness Center
Program:	Marsha P. Johnson Youth Drop-In Center
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
The Marsha P. Johnson Youth Drop-in Center is a juvenile intervention to help mitigate the risk of LGBTQ youth in the foster system, homeless or in abusive homes to end up in juvenile detention centers that do not understand and are ill equipped to deal with transgender, gender diverse, intersex youth (TGI), and LGBQ. This center will help mitigate that risk as well as provide supportive services for the youth in terms of mental health services, programming specific to their needs if they are homelessness, trying to get out of sex trafficking, or kicked out by their families for being who they are. There are opportunities to provide services for the parents willing to be educated on best practices for supporting their youth and school leaders that need best practices for supporting their TGI, LGBTQ students.	
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A
Reviewer's Average Score:	78%

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000

Motion:	To approve request for \$10,000.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
K. Quintanilla	M. Gialdini	19	0	T. StJohns

Small Grant #5:	Pregnancy Refuge Center	
Program:	Refuge Education Center	
Requested Amount:	\$10,000	
<p>A significant number of families from additional cultural backgrounds, such as Portuguese, Persian/Arab and Asian, have been referred from the Galilee Center in Mecca. The majority of the clients speak English, but are more comfortable conversing in their native language. The recent increase in families who speak Korean or other languages, has presented new challenges. REC is seeking to purchase translation equipment and software. The REC facility expanded in the Fall 2022 and now includes 3 private rooms for mentoring sessions, a Baby Boutique, reception area, and staff offices. The 3 private rooms can be subdivided for a total of 5 education rooms as demand increases. A large Education/Conference room is utilized for parenting classes and support groups. While expectant fathers are encouraged to participate, individual support is available weekly for expectant mothers. Educational videos in both English and Spanish are utilized with a trained mentor to provide information on pregnancy, the birth process, and care of a newborn.</p>		
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A	
Reviewer's Average Score:	89%	

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000

Motion:	To deny the request.	
Motion By:	Second By:	Abstention (Name):
K. Quintanilla	C. Galvez	E. Romero left the room before the vote and did not return for the remainder of the meeting.

Yes: (10) S. Benoit, M. Meyer, C. Galvez, M. Gialdini, B. Gonzalez, R. Gutierrez, T. St.Johns, V. Tanner, K. Quintanilla, Supervisor Perez.

No: (8) C. Borba, M. Gonda, J. Hayes, B. Kroonen, R. Ortega, A. Wilson, J. Pye.

Small Grant #6:	Ronnies House For Hope (RHH)	
Program:	Youth Peer Support Groups	
Requested Amount:	\$10,000	
<p>There is a large need for grief support services in our valley. Requests for services have almost doubled over the last year, especially with the rise in overdose/poisoning deaths. RHH groups support children, teens, and guardians through the grief process. They do this by doing grief activities to help clients understand the very complex feelings of grief with others who have similar experiences. Due to the increase in requests for support, RHH is having to acquire a permanent space to allow us to do evening groups as well as school-based groups. The goal is to address topics including: self-medicating, isolation, depression, anxiety, loss of interest, and suicide.</p>		
Prior RAP Funding:	COVID-19: \$10,000	
Reviewer's Average Score:	75%	

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000 and award an NPO Centric Premium Local Membership

Motion:	To approve request for \$10,000 and award an NPO Centric Premium Local Membership.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	V. Tanner	18	0	0

Small Grant #7:	Alzheimers Coachella Valley (ACV)
Program:	ACV- East Valley Project
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
ACV seeks support for its mission-based outreach and expansion project, ACV-East Valley Project, to promote health equity for the cognitively impaired and their caregivers in eastern Coachella Valley regions, with concentrated populations of Latinx and migrant workers. ACV has physician space in Palm Desert. The Coachella Valley is home to many retirees who are aging in place or residing in numerous assisted living, memory care, and retirement facilities; 39% of the population is 60 years of age and older. ACV is supported by 2 paid staff, a very active Board, 2 contract support team members and 20+ dedicated volunteers. ACV understands our region is home to an aging population, prone to diagnoses of cognitive impairment.	
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$3,000; Small Grant FY20-21: \$5,000
Reviewer's Average Score:	83%

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$10,000

Motion:	To approve request for \$10,000.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	V. Tanner	18	0	0

Sponsorship #1:	Palms to Pines Parasports
Program:	Fishing Derby and Community Inclusive Fair
Requested Amount:	\$5,000.00
The eastern Coachella Valley lacks resources for people with disabilities. SoCal Adaptive Sports has been working with Coachella Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) since December 2022. Their program (Sports for everyBODY (SEB) is continue to this school year. SEB is providing consistent 1day/week adapted sports. According to applicant, Desert Recreation District-Adaptive is providing limited programming in the eastern CV. This Project is designed to offer a fishing derby through We Can Fish!, and also provide disability resource information and adapted sports activities for participants.	
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$5,000; Sponsorship FY22-23: \$2,500

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve \$2,500 of the request

Motion:	To approve \$2,500 of the request.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	M. Blue	18	0	0

Sponsorship #2:	Family Service Association
Program:	HOPE for the Holidays
Requested Amount:	\$5,000
Every year, a large toy drive is held across Riverside County known as "HOPE for the Holidays". This event not only provides foster children and youth with a toy, but they also receive a warm blanket, essential toiletries, and a duffle bag to tote their belongings with integrity in a difficult period of life. Children who are in foster care within our County have their basic needs met, but often lack additional security and comfort items. HOPE for the Holidays was specially designed to make the holidays brighter for many of the children in our foster care system. Through this grant, FSA will provide a range of toys, books, clothing, and/or hygiene items for children and teenagers in foster care. This grant is specifically focused on supporting the cost of toys/gifts for children who are in foster care in the CV.	
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$5,000

Motion:	To approve request for \$5,000.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	M. Meyer	18	0	0
Sponsorship #3:	Alzheimers Coachella Valley			
Program:	Open House 2023			
Requested Amount:	\$5,000			
On November 1st, 2023, Alzheimers Coachella Valley (ACV) will be hosting an Open House to welcome members, community partners and leaders to tour a new space and learn about ACV's programs. ACV will showcase their expansion at the Berger Charitable Center on Cook Street. Food and beverage will be provided by local businesses. A live jazz ensemble will provide entertainment and ACV will announce the Annual Chuck Olson Caregiver Award to an outstanding caregiver who has been providing countless volunteer hours of support. With the RAP sponsorship, they will purchase A/V equipment for the Club Journey and Education space where the announcement activities will take place. The A/V equipment will be used to highlight recent projects, including the Screening Center, as well as showcase other ACV programs. Without the use of A/V equipment, visual demonstrations will not be possible.				
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$3,000; Small Grant FY20-21: \$5,000			

Grants Committee Recommendation: To match the contribution from Indian Wells, not to exceed \$4,000.

Motion:	To match the contribution from Indian Wells, not to exceed \$4,000.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	M. Meyer	18	0	0

- I. Request for RAP to serve as Fiscal Sponsor for Baskets of Luv (Attach. #12)

NPO Centric Committee Recommendation: For RAP to serve as Fiscal Sponsor for Baskets of Luv.

Motion:	For RAP to serve as Fiscal Sponsor for Baskets of Luv.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
V. Tanner	R. Gutierrez	18	0	0

J. Resolution No. 2023.xx Signature Authorization for Non Profit Organization Centric Consultant Agreements (Attach. #13) RAP approved Resolution 2023.08 on June 28, 2023. Due to organizational structure changes, changes to the resolution are needed and are highlighted.

NPO Centric Recommendation: For the Board to adopt the changes to Resolution.

Motion:	<i>For the Board to adopt the changes to Resolution.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>R. Gutierrez</i>	<i>K. Quintanilla</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

K. 10th Annual Desert Fast Pitch – September 21st event Summary - ***B. Sanchez made a presentation to acknowledge the participants, sponsors, and keynote speaker. L. De Lara acknowledged RAP Team: G. Montano, M. Reyes, S. Garcia, D. Morales, B. Sanchez, V. Arroniz, A. Nieto, M. Alaniz, and two “honorary” team members S. Minor and B. Sowell. Board members made comments expressing their appreciation to staff for creating a great event.***

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS- No Action

- A. BOARD ATTENDANCE for 2023 (Attach. #14)
- B. Grants Committee: Met on September 18. July 17, 2023, Minutes attached (Attach. #15). Next meeting October 16 at 1:30 PM.
- C. Executive Committee: Met on September 18. Approved July 17 ,2023 (Attach. #16A) and July 26 (Attach. #16B) Minutes . Next meeting Oct. 16 at 9 AM.
- D. Facilities Committee: Next meeting TBD.
- E. Finance/Investment Committee. Met on September 18. July Minutes (Attach. #17). Next Meeting Oct. 16.
- F. Mental Health Committee: September 27, 2023, meeting canceled. Next meeting is October 25.
- G. NPO Centric Committee: Met on Sept. 20. July 19 Minutes (Attach. #18). Next meeting Oct. 18 at 1 PM.
- H. Audit Committee: Met on Sept. 20. Minutes for April 14, 2023 (Attach. #19) Next meeting in October/November.

VII. BOARD MEMBER / STAFF COMMENTS

- Introduce Vanessa Arroniz- Espinoza - ***Made a brief presentation to introduce herself.***
- C. Galvez mentioned the recent Flying Doctors event where 400 people were treated – 184 received medical treatment, 215 received vision tests and 2 pairs of eye glasses.***
- R. Gutierrez mentioned the Fishing Derby at Lake Cahuilla- Veteran's Regional Park.***
- M. Meyer expressed thanks to Rudy for his work on behalf of Veterans.***
- K. Quintanilla mentioned the tennis event featuring tennis legend Rosie Casales on Oct. 7 ant Palm Desert Civic Park.***
- G. Colangeli mentioned the Sept. 9 Peace From Chaos Suicide Awareness and Candlelight Vigil in Blythe attended by over 500 people. IEHP will be hosting a community event this weekend in Blythe.***

*CEO mentioned the Lift to Rise Community Investment event planned for Oct.14.
CEO mentioned the CA Forward Event for Oct. 11-13 in La Quinta.*

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: **11:15** Next meeting is on October 25 2023, at 9 AM.