



REGIONAL ACCESS PROJECT FOUNDATION
 ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
APPROVED MINUTES

January 24, 2024, at 9:00 AM
 41550 Eclectic St., Palm Desert, CA 92260
 415 N. Main Street, Blythe, CA 92225

- I. CALL TO ORDER- **At 9:00 by Chair J. Pye.** Roll Call: **S. Benoit, C. Borba, G. Colangeli, A.Dew, M. Gialdini, M. Gonda, B. Gonzalez, J. Hayes, B. Kroonen, M. Meyer, R. Ortega arrived at 9:08, T. St. Johns, A. Wilson, K.Quintanilla, Supervisor Perez, J. Pye. E. Romero arrived at 9:20 approx.**

Excused Absence: C. Galvez, R. Gutierrez, V. Tanner.

Also Present: M. Reyes, G. Montano, D. Morales, B. Sanchez, V. Arroniz-Espinoza, M. Alaniz, K. Livreri and a guest accompanying Ms. Livreri.

- 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:	To approve with moving item VIB. To follow III.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	A.Dew	15	0	0

- III. PUBLIC COMMENT / PRESENTATIONS

RAP CEO announced that Diane Morales has been promoted to the newly created position. Also, that she is expecting a baby due in June.

- IV. CLOSED Session Personnel CA Code 54957.6
 CEO Annual Performance Evaluation

Report Out J. Pye announced that the CEO Evaluation was completed, and the Board approved a 20% effective July 1, 2023.

- V. CONSENT ITEMS: Action Required

- A. December 13, 2023, Board Meeting Draft Minutes - Receive and file (Attach. #1)
- B. CEO Report - Receive and File (Attach. #2)
- C. Grant Manager’s Report - Receive and File (Attach. #3)
- D. Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report – Receive and File (Attach. #4)

- E.** American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) Report – Receive and File (Attach. #5)
- F.** NPO Centric Report - Receive and File (Attach. #6)

Staff Recommendation: To receive and file the December 13, 2023, BOD Minutes, CEO Report, Grant Manager Report, Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report, ARPA Report and NPO Centric Report.

Motion:	To approve Staff Recommendation as stated above.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>E. Romero</i>	<i>G. Colangeli</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Dew abstained from approving the Dec. 13, 2023 Minutes due to absence.</i>

VI. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS – Action May Be Required

A. Reappointment of Board Members.

The Nominations Committee met on January 11 and considered the following board member’s participation with board requirements.

- Maria Meyer
- Van Tanner
- Beatriz Gonzalez
- Bill Kroonen
- Jan Pye

Nominations Committee Recommendation: To recommend to the Board to reappoint M. Meyer, V. Tanner, B. Gonzalez, B. Kroonen, and J. Pye.

Motion:	To appoint the following members to a 4 year term: M. Meyer, V. Tanner, B. Gonzalez, B. Kroonen, J. Pye.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>C. Borba</i>	<i>K. Quintanilla</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

B. New Board Member

The Nominations Committee interviewed Kenny Rogers for the one vacancy on the Board.

Nominations Committee Recommendation: To appoint Kenny Rogers to the Board.

Motion:	To appoint Kenny Rodgers (spelling corrected)			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>A. Wilson</i>	<i>C. Borba</i>	<i>16 E. Romero and R. Ortega were not present during vote.</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

C. Nominate Chair

Nominations Committee Recommendation: To appoint M. Gialdini.

Any other Nominations?

Motion:	To appoint M. Gialdini as Chair.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
Supervisor Perez	B. Kroonen	17	0	M. Gialdini

D. Nominate Vice-Chair

Nominations Committee Recommendation: To appoint A. Wilson.

Any other Nominations?

Motion:	To appoint A. Wilson as Vice-Chair			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
Supervisor Perez	B. Kroonen	18	0	0

E. Nominate Secretary

Nominations Committee Recommendation: To appoint M. Meyer.

Any other Nominations?

Motion:	To appoint M. Meyer as Secretary			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
Supervisor Perez	B. Kroonen	18	0	0

F. Nominate Treasurer

Nominations Committee Recommendation: To appoint M. Gonda.

Any other Nominations?

Motion:	To appoint M. Gonda as Treasurer			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
Supervisor Perez	B. Kroonen	18	0	0

G. Supervisor V. Manuel Perez or his Representative- to provide update on County matters of interest. Supervisor Perez reported on following topics:

- 1. Point in Time Count for homeless will be done every two years, will skip this year.**
- 2. Homelessness Symposium will be held Feb. 1 from 9-12 at CV Rescue Mission**
- 3. State of the 4th District event will be held on March 18**

- 4. Recognized Nick Negosian for his contributions to the community and announced his passing.**
- 5. Gave update on his health. His health is improving, and he expects a full recovery.**

H. REQUEST FOR RAP TO SERVE AS FISCAL SPONSOR FOR CODEX CREATION COMMITTEE.

Codex Creation Committee was formed in May of 2023 and is in the process of applying for a 501(c)3 designation. Their mission is: To empower the community through educational opportunities in the fields of art, culture, health, wellness, technology, and entertainment. This group has hosted the Run with Los Muertos event in Coachella in recent years. The organization has received donations in the past and have determined a need to form a nonprofit to continue their work.

The NPO Centric Committee met on Monday, December 18, 2023 and recommended approval. The Executive Committee Met on December 20 approved the NPO Centric recommendation after receiving a presentation from Tizoc De Aztlán. The action is to be ratified by the RAP Board.

Executive Committee Recommendation: For the Board to ratify their action to approve the request to serve as a Fiscal Sponsor for up to one year and include the 5% Administrative fee.

Motion:	<i>To ratify Executive Committee action to approve the request to serve as a Fiscal Sponsor for up to one year and include the 5% Administrative fee.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>C. Borba</i>	<i>G. Colangeli</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>	

I. REQUEST FOR RAP TO SERVE AS FISCAL SPONSOR FOR THE STATE OF THE FOURTH DISTRICT

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez will be hosting the event on February 29, 2024. The request to the Executive Committee was for RAP to serve in the same role as we do with the Senior Inspiration Awards to receive sponsorships, and pay bills related to this event. Due to the date being very soon the request was made to the Executive Committee on December 13 at 8:30. The Executive Committee approved the request and waived the 5% Administrative Fee in lieu of being acknowledged as an event sponsor.

Executive Committee Recommendation: For the Board to ratify the Executive Committee action to serve as the Fiscal Sponsor for this event and waive the 5% Administrative Fee in lieu of being acknowledged as an event sponsor.

Motion:	To ratify Executive Committee action to approve the request to serve as a Fiscal Sponsor for up to one year and include the 5% Administrative fee. Acknowledged that the event date has been changed to March 18.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
C. Borba	G. Colangeli	17	0	Supervisor Perez

J. Board Member Committee Assignments (Attach. #7)

Staff Recommendation: For the Board to adopt these committee assignments.

Motion:	To continue to next month by consensus.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):

K. Earthquake Policy- The current earthquake policy expires in early February. The proposed annual cost provided by Cornerstone Insurance is \$ 14,821.03 last year's cost was \$12,763.58 - a 16% increase).(Attach. #8)

Executive Committee Recommendation: To recommend to the Board to authorize the CEO to enter into contract for this policy if the cost does not increase more than 10% and there is no decrease in coverage. Also, to require the CEO to provide "to the extent possible" explore every 3 years if a change of brokers is necessary. Also, each year, ask the broker to provide 3 different providers.

Motion:	To approve the extension of Earthquake Policy.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
M. Gonda	D. Borba	18	0	0

L. Annual Review of Resolutions in effect. Renewal of existing policies listed in Resolution 2024.01 (Attach. #9). Each Resolution listed has a link as requested by the Executive Committee. The following resolutions will be deleted:

- 2021.07 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2021.08 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2022-02 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2022- 03 - The Credit Authorized use and Maintenance Policy for RAP Foundation Funds –
Amending Resolution 2015.05 and 2019.06 – Replaced by 2023.06
- 2022.07 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2022.08 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2022.09 –Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Period of 30 days from the Date of
Adoption Pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.
- 2022.10 - Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Period of 30 days from the Date of
Adoption Pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.
- 2022.11 - Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Period of 30 days from the Date of
Adoption Pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.
- 2022.12 -RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2022.13 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2022.14 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2022.15 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2022.16 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2022.07 - RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2023.03– Signatures First Bank Republic Bank – Amending Resolution 2020.06
- 2023.04 -RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2023.05 -RATIFYING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY & RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE MEETINGS
- 2023.01 Renewal of Existing Policies and Procedures

Executive Committee Recommendation: For the Board to adopt Resolution 2024.01 and directed staff to link the actual attachments listed in 2024.01 for the Board meeting.

Motion:	To adopt Resolution 2024.01			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	C. Borba	18	0	0

M. Employment Law Changes Effective January 1, 2024. (Attach. #10) The 2024 Employee Handbook will be provided in February. In the meantime, these changes require immediate adoption.

Executive Committee Recommendation: For the Board to adopt these changes effective immediately.

Motion:	To adopt these changes effective immediately.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
A. Dew	B. Kroonen	18	0	0

N. 2024 Desert Fast Pitch Event – The CEO is working on planning the 2024 event. We have a tentative date of October 3, 2024, at UCR Palm Desert Campus.

The CEO would like to explore with the County of Riverside Housing and Workforce Solutions having a county wide Fast Pitch that would be held in Riverside in late 2024. RAP’s role is unclear at this time. The CEO will present proposal for consideration if there is a good plan that develops.

Executive Committee Recommendation: For the CEO to pursue the idea of participating in a countywide Fast Pitch event instead of hosting a Desert Fast Pitch as previously planned. RAP to possibly serve as a Fiscal Sponsor – bring Agreement/proposal back to the Executive Committee for consideration. not host a Desert Fast Pitch event this year.

Motion:	To proceed with cancelling our Desert Fast Pitch for 2024 and participate in the County wide Fast Pitch event with the request that it be held in the 4th Supervisorial District which is supported by Supervisor Perez.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
C. Borba	J. Pye	18	0	0

O. Review Grants Tracker (Attach. #11)

P. GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS:

Small Grant #1	Asthma & Allergy Foundation
Program:	Asthma Newly Diagnosed Kit
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
The Asthma Newly Diagnosed Kit program consists of a free backpack filled with easy-to-understand educational materials on asthma management, medical supplies, books, and hypoallergenic and washable teddy bears for families who have a child recently diagnosed with asthma or struggling with that condition. Historically, these kits have been assembled and distributed through a network of recruitment partners including school nurses, medical providers, and community health workers. To promote health equity, AAFA St. Louis works to concentrate recruitment efforts among communities that have historically suffered poor asthma-related health outcomes (e.g., minority and low-income populations).	
Reviewer’s Average Score:	87%
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve the request for \$10,000. Designate the funding to the regions with the highest cases of asthma.

Motion:	To approve the request for \$10,000. Designate the funding to the regions with the highest cases of asthma.
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Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Ortega	J. Hayes	16	A. Dew, M. Meyer	0

Small Grant #2	Vision to Learn
Program:	Free Vision Services for Students in the Desert Cities
Requested Amount:	\$60,000
VTL is requesting \$60,000 to provide vision screenings, exams and glasses to students in eastern Coachella Valley. In these desert cities, school districts are in high need with each district being considered 100% Title 1. Vision To Learn (VTL) estimates that out of a sample group of 100 students, 30 students need eye exams and 24 of those students need glasses. This statistic raises significantly when looking at desert cities where, in VTL's most recent project, 48% of students were referred by vision screenings for eye exams, and 83% of those referred are getting glasses. This amount of need is not seen in most communities served by VTL.	
Reviewer's Average Scores:	86%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY21-22 Small Grant: \$5,000.00

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$60,000. To utilize unallocated funds to increase the Small Grants Budget.

Motion:	To approve request for \$60,000. To utilize unallocated funds to increase the Small Grants Budget.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Ortega	J. Hayes	18	0	0

Small Grant #3	Coachella Valley Beautifying Solutions
Program:	Easter Outreach: Nourishing Lives, Sharing Hope
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
The core essence of Easter Outreach goes beyond the act of distributing care packages; it encapsulates a profound commitment to compassion, community support, and human dignity. The program unfolds as a collaborative effort, with dedicated volunteers embodying the spirit of Easter as they venture into the streets, reaching out to those in vulnerable situations. Our volunteers become beacons of hope, bridging gaps in accessibility to essential resources. These are not just distributors; they are advocates for change, contributing to a brighter, more compassionate future for all. Our event will be a transformative experience for both volunteers and recipients, transcending the conventional notions of charity to embrace the principles of dignity, respect, and collective responsibility.	
Reviewer's Average Score:	77%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY19-20 Small Grant: \$3,932.00

Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request for funding.

Motion:	To refer back to Grants Committee for reconsideration.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	Denial	Abstention (Name):
J.Hayes	C. Borba	16 (A. Dew and K. Quintanilla left)	0	0

Sponsorship #1	Coachella Valley Beautifying Solutions
Program:	Refresh Fest: A Celebration of Health, Hygiene, and Wellness in the Park
Requested Amount:	\$5,000.00
Refresh Fest aims to bridge this gap by creating a community-centric event that offers a comprehensive approach to health and wellness. By bringing together local guest speakers and community organizations, the project provides a one-stop platform for individuals to access vital resources. These include hygiene kits, literature and education on hygiene and self-grooming, plus connections to ongoing support services.	
Prior RAP Funding:	FY19-20 Small Grant: \$3,932.00

Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request for funding.

Motion:	To refer back to Grants Committee for reconsideration.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
J. Hayes	C. Borba	16	0	0

Q. The FY 2023- 2024 Juvenile Intervention Grant Funding Allocated \$300,000 - Proposed Change

The FY 2023-24 Juvenile Intervention Grant is a two-year grant. The year one program must continue into year two FY 2024-25 aligning with our Juvenile Intervention Strategy Map. Juvenile Intervention funding requests should range from a minimum of \$25,000 to a maximum of \$100,000 per year. Funds will be disbursed in two installments.

Depending on satisfactory compliance of FY 2023-24 determined by the Grants Manager, the applicant will be eligible for up to the same amount for a second year, FY 2024-25 grant. Compliance will be reported to the Board for funding authorization.

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve the Juvenile Intervention Grant Process proposed changes described above.

Motion:	To approve the Juvenile Intervention Grant Process proposed changes described above.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R.Ortega	B.Kroonen	15 (M. Meyer left the room prior to vote)	0	0

VII. Information Items

- A. BOARD ATTENDANCE for 2023 (Attach. #12)
- B. Grants Committee: Met on Jan. 16 and Dec. 4. Approved Minutes attached (Attach. #13). Next meeting February 20 at 1:30 PM .
- D. Executive Committee: Met on Jan. 16. Approved Minutes for Dec. 4, December 13, and December 20 attached. (Attach. #14a) (Attach.#14b) (Attach. #14c. Next meeting February 20 at 9 AM.
- E. Facilities Committee: Met on Dec. 13. Approved Minutes for Oct. 5, 2023 (Attach. #15).

Next meeting Dec. 13 following the RAP Board meeting.

F. Finance/Investment Committee. Next Meeting February 20 at 11 AM or immediately following the Executive Committee meeting.

G. Mental Health Committee: Next meeting TBD.

H. NPO Centric Committee: Met on Dec. 1, Dec. 18 and Jan. 17, 2024. Approved Minutes for Dec. 1, Dec. 18 attached (Attach. #16a, 16b). Next meeting February 21 at 1 PM.

I. Governance Committee meeting: Next meeting TBD.

J. Nominations Committee meeting: Met on January 11. Approved Minutes for Sept. 20, 2023 (Attach. # 17)

K. Audit Committee: Next meeting TBD.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER / STAFF COMMENTS

CV Giving Day kick-off event at Acrisure Arena on February 8th. Be present by 8:30AM-10:30AM (Programming starts at 9 AM-10 AM).

Form 700s are due February 15th.

32nd Senior Inspiration Awards Luncheon on Thursday March 28 at 11:30 at Agua Caliente Resort and Casino. RSVP by January 24th at 5 PM.

Board Chair Gialdini mentioned that in future board meetings he plans to call on board members to speak on Consent/Informational items to increase participation and understanding. He also wants to "show case" a board member each month.

J. Pye announced that Melanie Lyons from the Joslyn Senior Center recently attributed her participation in Desert Fast Pitch for her being recognized for an honor.

L.De Lara announced that Betty attended the Olive Crest Grand Opening on the 23rd and she reported that board member K. Quintanilla was on the program and she delivered an excellent presentation.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: **10:48 AM**