



REGIONAL ACCESS PROJECT FOUNDATION APPROVED MINUTES

Wednesday September 25, 2024, at 9:00 AM
 41550 Eclectic St. Palm Desert, CA 92260
 6114 Terrace Drive Johnston, Iowa 50131
 51625 Desert Club. Ste 101, La Quinta CA 92253

Board members must attend in person. The public may participate in person or by way of Zoom/Teleconference:
 Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84650059445>
 1 669 900 6833 Meeting ID: 846 5005 9445

I. CALL TO ORDER *By Board Chair J. Pye at 9:00 AM*- Roll Call: *S. Benoit, C. Borba, C. Colangeli, C. Galvez, M. Gonda, B. Gonzalez, R. Gutierrez arrived at 9:03, J. Hayes, B. Kroonen, M. Meyer, R. Ortega, E. Romero arrived at 9:04, K. Rodgers, T. St. Johns, V. Tanner, A. Wilson, P. Cooper and J. Pye.*

Excused absence: A. Dew and K. Quintanilla

Also present: L. De Lara, M. Reyes, G. Holliday, T. Fantini, V. Arroniz, J. Frank, A. Lackie, A. Huesca, Judy Tobin, Andrea Oliveri, Joe Mota and Ian Gabriel, Noel Ramos.

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.

<i>Motion:</i>	<i>To approve the agenda as submitted.</i>			
<i>Motion By:</i>	<i>Second By:</i>	<i># Approve:</i>	<i># Oppose:</i>	<i>Abstention (Name):</i>
<i>C.Borba</i>	<i>M. Meyer</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

III. PUBLIC COMMENT / PRESENTATIONS

Big Brothers Big Sisters – Back to School Backpack Giveaway - Presenter Judy Tobin - *provided a brief summary of the impact of RAP’s funding and the benefit to the community.*

Board member G. Colangeli presented a brief powerpoint of the recent Blythe Suicide Awareness and Candlelight event sponsored by RAP. It was attended by approximately 567 people and 73 persons were memorialized. The event included vendors, a community resource fair, and people affected by suicide. He reported that Brown University has granted them \$20,000 to support future events/functions.

IV. FY 2023- 2024 Annual Audit - Coachella Valley Accounting and Auditing conducted the annual audit for FY 2023-2024. (Attach. #1). Andrea Oliveri will present and be available to address questions.

Audit Committee Recommendation: To approve the Audit Report and forward to Riverside County Executive Office.

Motion:	To approve the Audit Report and forward to Riverside County Executive Office.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
K. Rodgers	M. Meyer	18	0	0

V. Closed Session:

California Government Code Section 54956.9 - one case

California Government Code Section 54956.8 - Property

Report out: Direction given to CEO on actions to take but no action taken.

VI. CONSENT ITEMS: Action Required

- A.** July 24, 2024 Board Meeting Draft Minutes - Receive and file (Attach. #1A)
- B.** CEO Report - Receive and File (Attach. #2)
- C.** Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report – Receive and File (Attach. #3)
- D.** NPO Centric Report - Receive and File (Attach. #4)
- E.** Financials for Period ending August 31, 2024– Receive and File (Attach. #5) - Recommended for approval by the Finance Committee.
- F.** Grant Report - Receive and File. (Attach. #6)

Staff Recommendation: To receive and file the July 24, 2024 BOD Minutes, CEO Report, Financials up to August 31, 2024, Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report, Grants Report and NPO Centric Report.

Motion:	To receive and file the July 24, 2024 BOD Minutes, CEO Report, Financials up to August 31, 2024, Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report, and Grants Report.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
E. Romero	R. Gutierrez	18	0	0

M. Meyer made a motion to Recieve and File the NPO Centric Report after T. Fantini made a presentation of the material included in the report. Maria also asked for future reports to include cumulative summary and a month to month comparison. Seconded by V. Tanner

Approved: 17 – E. Romero left before the vote was taken. Oppose: 0 Abstention: 0

VII. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS – Action May Be Required

- A.** Supervisor V. Manuel Perez or his Representative- to provide update on County matters of interest.
 - P. Cooper mentioned the Supervisor’s Justice System Symposium that will be held on Oct. 10 at UCR Palm Desert. It will be the third year that it is held.**
 - B. Gonzalez mentioned COD’s Rising Scholar grant for former or presently incarcerated youth.**

Block Motion by P. Cooper and seconded by R. Gutierrez to approve the Executive Committee/Staff Recommendation as presented. Yes: 17 No: 0 Abstention: B. Gonzalez abstained on item E.

B. To ratify action taken by the Executive Committee - Sponsorship Grant Request

Organization:	Association of Fundraising Professionals, Desert Communities Chapter
Program:	18 th Annual National Philanthropy Day Awards
Requested Amount:	\$7,500.00
AFP Desert Communities Chapter is a professional association of fundraising professionals, organization staff and volunteers, and allied professionals committed to advancing effective and ethical fundraising. AFP allows for monthly networking and educational programs which are open to everyone. AFP's 18th Annual National Philanthropy Day in the Desert offers the Coachella Valley community the opportunity to come together and reflect on the true meaning of philanthropy, defined as love of humankind.	
Prior RAP Funding:	FY23-24 Sponsorship of the Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy Award: \$5,000 FY20-21 Sponsorship Grant: \$1,500 FY22-23 CEO Discretionary Fund: \$2,500 FY23-24 Sponsorship \$5,000

Executive Committee Recommendation: To ratify the action to approve \$5,000 Sponsorship. The allocation from two sources - \$5,000 from the Sponsorship budget and 2,500 from the NPOC marketing budget.

<i>Motion:</i>	<i>To ratify the action to approve \$5,000 Sponsorship. The allocation from two sources - \$5,000 from the Sponsorship budget and 2,500 from the NPOC marketing budget.</i>			
<i>Motion By:</i>	<i>Second By:</i>	<i># Approve:</i>	<i># Oppose:</i>	<i>Abstention (Name):</i>
<i>P. Cooper</i>	<i>R. Gutierrez</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

C. Changes to the 2024 Employee Handbook – RAP's HR attorney provided suggested language to be considered to address Conflict of Interest for RAP employees. (Attach. #7)

Executive Committee Recommendation: To adopt the Policy with addition to the documentation requirements by CEO in the determination of potential conflicts of interest.

<i>Motion:</i>	<i>To adopt the Policy with addition to the documentation requirements by CEO in the determination of potential conflicts of interest.</i>			
<i>Motion By:</i>	<i>Second By:</i>	<i># Approve:</i>	<i># Oppose:</i>	<i>Abstention (Name):</i>
<i>P. Cooper</i>	<i>R. Gutierrez</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

D. Amendment For Nutrition and Tobacco Prevention Education Services Between County of Riverside and RAP. This Amendment extends the Agreement to September 30, 2026. (Attach. #8A)

Executive Committee Recommendation: To approve the Amendment.

<i>Motion:</i>	<i>To approve the Amendment.</i>			
<i>Motion By:</i>	<i>Second By:</i>	<i># Approve:</i>	<i># Oppose:</i>	<i>Abstention (Name):</i>
<i>P. Cooper</i>	<i>R. Gutierrez</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

E. RAP Coachella Valley Healthy Living (CVHLP) Program and CV Unified School District Agreement (Attach. #8B) - CVHLP will provide nutrition education to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education eligible students and their families for the period of Sept. 1, 2024-August 30, 2026. The funding to administer the program includes portions of the \$420,000 is to be provided by the County of Riverside.

Staff Recommendation: To approve the Agreement.

Motion:	To approve the Agreement.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
P. Cooper	R. Gutierrez	16	0	B. Gonzalez

F. RAP Coachella Valley Healthy Living (CVHLP) Program and Palm Springs Unified School District Agreement (Attach. #8C) - CVHLP will provide nutrition education to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education eligible students and their families for the period of Sept. 1, 2024-August 30, 2026. The funding to administer the program includes portions of the \$420,000 is to be provided by Riverside County.

Staff Recommendation: To approve the Agreement.

Motion:	To approve the Agreement.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
P. Cooper	R. Gutierrez	17	0	0

G. FY 2023-2024 Annual Report – The Annual Report requires adoption before it is forwarded to the Riverside County Executive office per our agreement. (Attach. #9)

Executive Committee Recommendation: To approve the Annual Report with minor changes.

Motion:	To approve the Annual Report.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
G. Colangeli	K.Rodgers	17	0	0

H. GRANTS TRACKER FY 2024-2025: (Attach. # 10)

I. SMALL GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF FULL AMOUNT REQUESTED – Grant #1 -#2:

Small Grant #1	Friends of the Desert Mountains (FODM)
Program:	Environmental Connections por Vida
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
FODM is educating youth through their Environmental Connection por Vida (ECV) education program. This pilot program provides environmental education for school age children. ECV is the only afterschool program of its kind here in the CV. Since 2020, it has expanded into all 14 CV Unified School District (CVUSD) elementary schools. Located in eastern CV, CVUSD serves many disadvantaged communities in the region.	
Reviewer’s Average Score:	87% - Previous RAP Funding: \$10,000

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

Motion:	To approve request for \$10,000			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
V. Tanner	R. Ortega	15	0	B. Gonzalez, M. Gonda
Small Grant #2	PS Test Inc.			
Program:	HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Prevention and Treatment Program			
Requested Amount:	\$10,000			
PS Test's goal is to reduce health disparities to at risk and affected by HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) residents by linking patients to medical care to improve health outcomes and reduce community infection transmission. Disparities are exacerbated by stigma and cost, two of the most significant barriers to testing and treatment. Opened in 2021 in Palm Springs, PS Test was the first clinic to offer free STI testing and treatment and is 1 of only 2 in Riv. County.				
Reviewer's Average Score:	84%			
Prior RAP Funding:	Small Grant FY22-23: \$10,000			

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve \$10,000 to be disbursed in 4 payments with a \$2,500 upfront payment.

Motion:	To approve \$10,000 to be disbursed in 4 payments with a \$2,500 upfront payment.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
V. Tanner	R. Ortega	17	0	0

J. SMALL GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING DENIAL OF REQUESTS – Grant #3, #4, and #5.

Small Grant #3	Palm Springs Section 14 Survivors Inc.
Program:	Intergenerational Racial Trauma Program Development
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
	The devastation to Section 14 survivors and descendants is deep and ongoing, causing extreme trauma to hundreds of families. Section 14 Survivors wants to address this trauma, helping to foster understanding and promote healing and filling a gap as there is no program currently addressing this. Many of those impacted individuals cannot get the help they need on their own.
Reviewer's Average Score:	81%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY23-24 NPO Centric TA Grant

Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request for \$10,000 due to limited scope and program deliverables, unclear as to funding benefiting only CV residents.

Motion:	To deny the request for \$10,000 due to limited scope and program deliverables, unclear as to funding benefiting only CV residents.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
J. Hayes	B. Kroonen	15	K. Rodgers, R. Gutierrez	0

Small Grant #4	Rescue + Residence
Program:	Ambo Conversion to Transitional Housing
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
The Ambo Conversion to Transitional Housing project is to assist veterans experiencing homelessness through a unique, holistic, 3-phase process that includes designing and building a custom home in the back of a retired ambulance to be used as transitional housing, along with job training, and coordinated health services.	

Reviewer's Average Score:	73%
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request of \$10,000 due to unclear referral process for CV residents and concerns regarding financial sustainability of the program.

To approve the annual NPO Centric membership and to invite the applicant to apply for a NPO Centric TA grant. Suggest that the applicant reapply for cash grant after a year to allow for program development.

Motion:	To deny the request of \$10,000 due to unclear referral process for CV residents and concerns regarding financial sustainability of the program. To approve the annual NPO Centric membership and to invite the applicant to apply for a NPO Centric TA grant. Suggest that the applicant reapply for cash grant after a year to allow for program development.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
J. Hayes	C. Kroonen	15	R. Gutierrez, K. Rodgers	0

Small Grant #5	Nickerson Rossi Dance
Program:	Dance in Desert Hot Springs
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
Nickerson-Rossi Dance initiated steps to work with the City of Desert Hot Springs to provide low-cost affordable dance programming. They hope to provide 7 full scholarships for students with financial need to assess services.	
Representative:	Chad Allen Ortiz
Reviewer's Average Scores:	71% - Prior RAP Funding: N/A

Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request for \$10,000 due to concerns regarding financial sustainability and due request not meeting the funding criteria and concern for using funds for scholarships.

Motion:	To deny the request for \$10,000 due to concerns regarding financial sustainability and due request not meeting the funding criteria and concern for using funds for scholarships.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
J. Hayes	B. Kroonen	15	R. Gutierrez, K. Rodgers	0

K. SPONSORSHIP GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF REQUEST– Grant #1.

Sponsorship #1	Alzheimers Coachella Valley (ACV)
Program:	Open House 2024 on November 6
Requested Amount:	\$5,000
According to Desert Healthcare District 105,000 seniors live in the CV. Approximately 12% have Alzheimer's. The 3rd Annual Chuck Olson Caregiver Award and Open House event will offer a welcoming and informative environment with food, beverages and entertainment provided by local businesses, and a mini resource fair.	
Prior RAP Funding:	FY23-24 Small Grant: \$10,000; FY23-24 Sponsorship: \$4,000 FY22-23 Small Grant: \$3,000; FY20-21 Small Grant: \$4,500

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

Motion:	To approve request for \$5,000.
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Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
V. Tanner	R. Gutierrez	17	0	0

L. SPONSORSHIP GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING DENIAL OF REQUESTS– Grant #2 and #3

Sponsorship #2	Lift To Rise
Program:	Second-Annual Community Investment Awards (CIA)
Requested Amount:	\$5,000.00
CIA will recognize extraordinary individuals and organizations working to improve equity and thriving community in the CV and beyond through their significant investment of time, energy, and resources. The award categories demonstrate meaningful investment in public service, activism, philanthropy, politics, and community leadership.	
Prior RAP Funding:	FY22-23 CEO/Discretionary Fund: \$100,000

Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request due to request not meeting the grant criteria requiring that the event be open to public. The presenter stated that the event was by invitation only.

Motion:	To approve the Sponsorship request of \$5,000, use the discretionary funds (Board contributions).			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
V. Tanner	P.Cooper	8	6 - E. Romero left the room prior to the vote.	K. Rodgers, M. Gonda, B. Gonzalez

Sponsorship #3	Boo2Bullying Inc
Program:	Kick Bullying To The Curb Wellness Festival & Celebrity Kickball Game on September 28, 2024
Requested Amount:	\$5,000
This family-friendly event in Palm Springs (PS) has two goals: to raise awareness of local resources and community organizations that combat bullying and youth suicide in the CV; and to empower children, teens and their families to develop a healthy self-image, learn to accept diversity, speak their truth, and positively impact those around them. Prospective community leader speakers include PS Police Chief Andy Mills PSUSD, Superintendent Dr. Tony Signoret, PSUSD Foundation director, Ellen Goodman, and more.	
Prior RAP Funding:	Desert Fast Pitch FY19-20: \$17,000

Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request due to limited time before the event, Sept. 28. The applicant stated that he is okay with this decision. He will apply next year two months prior to the event.

Motion:	To deny the request due to limited time before the event, Sept. 28. The applicant stated that he is okay with this decision. He will apply next year two months prior to the event.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
V. Tanner	R. Gutierrez	17	0	0

VIII. Information Items

- A. Board Committee Assignments (Attach. #11) - CEO reported recent changes to committees – **V. Tanner is back on Grants, K. Rodgers joined NPO Centric.**
- B. BOARD ATTENDANCE for 2024 (Attach. #12)
- C. Grants Committee: Met on September 16. Approved July 15 Minutes (Attach. #13). Next meeting October 14.

- D. Executive Committee: Met on Sept. 16. Approved July 15 Minutes (Attach. #14) and August 13 (Attach. #15). Next meeting October 14.
- E. Finance/Investment Committee: Met on Sept. 16. Approved July 15 (Attach. #16A) and August 13 Minutes (Attach. #16B). Next meeting October 14.
- F. NPO Centric Committee: Did not meet on September 18. Next meeting TBD.
- G. Governance – Human Resource Committee: Next meeting TBD.
- H. Facilities Committee: Met on August 13. Approved June 26, 2024 Minutes (Attach. #17) Next meeting Sept. 25 after the Board meeting.

IX. BOARD MEMBER / STAFF COMMENTS

CEO:

- 1. Reported that California Bank and Trust bought 4 First Bank Coachella Valley banks. - The 2025 CV Giving Day event will take place.*
- 2. Introduced Ashley Huesca who proceeded to provide a brief intro.*
- 3. Announced that there is a board vacancy.*

C. Galvez reported on the Flying Doctors event that took place on Sept. 21. There were 335 people who participated in receiving dental care, mammograms, chiropractic care, vision care, medical care (vaccination, blood pressure, blood sugar) and even haircuts.

A. Wilson – concerned that Joe Mota would not understand the reason for the Grants Committee’s recommendation was based on following the process and criteria guideline. She supports LTR work and hopes that CEO will communicate this to him and encourages LTR to make changes in future year’s invite process.

M. Meyer – Wants to follow guidelines and not set precedent to disagree with committee recommendations.

R. Gutierrez – Torres Martinez Boys and Girls Club Executive Director started in this position 2 months ago. He wants to see if there are opportunities to support the program which is open to the entire community. Also, the County just entered into a 30 year agreement to invest \$30M in Lake Cahuilla to make upgrades in the facility and would like RAP to support this project/programs in the future.

X. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting October 23, 2024 at 9 AM. *Adjourned at 11:42*