



REGIONAL ACCESS PROJECT FOUNDATION

Approved Minutes

Wednesday October 23, 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
415 N. Main Street Blythe CA 92225
1830 Avenida Del Mundo, Unit 1006, Coronado, CA

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/85388851637>

Call-In: 1 669 900 6833 Meeting ID: 853 8885 1637

I. CALL TO ORDER- At 9:00 by Board Chair J. Pye. Roll Call: S. Benoit, C. Borba, G. Colangeli, A. Dew, C. Galvez, M. Gonda, R. Gutierrez arrived at 9:15, J. Hayes, B. Kroonen, M. Meyer, R. Ortega, E. Romero arrived at 9:10, T. St. Johns, V. Tanner, A. Wilson, K. Quintanilla, Supervisor Perez, J. Pye.

Excused absences: B. Gonzalez, K. Rodgers, M. Gonda.

Also Present: L. De Lara, M. Reyes, T. Fantini, J. Frank, A. Huesca, A. Lackie, V. Arroniz, S. Minor, N. Maclellan from Vision to Learn, 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.

Motion:	To approve as submitted.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
C. Borba	A. Wilson	16	0	0

III. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

IV. Closed Session:

Included: L. De Lara, M. Reyes, N. Ramos in addition to board members.

California Government Code Section 54956.8 - Property

No action taken

V. CONSENT ITEMS: Action Required

- A. September 25, 2024 Board Meeting Draft Minutes - Receive and file (Attach. #1)
- 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 September 30, 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 September 25, 2024 BOD Minutes, CEO Report, Financials up to September 30, 2024, Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report, Grants Report and NPO Centric Report.

Motion:	<i>To receive and file the September 25, 2024 BOD Minutes, CEO Report, Financials up to September 30, 2024, Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report, Grants Report and NPO Centric Report.</i>			
	<i>J. Pye asked questions on the CEO Report and asked CVHL staff to provide a brief overview of their activities. M. Meyer asked NPO Centric Director to provide an oral report of attach. #4.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>M. Meyer</i>	<i>B. Borba</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

VI. 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 reported on the following:

- 1. The County's involvement in Blythe. The Sheriff's Dept. Is expressing interest in one of the 2 building being considered as joint nonprofit county agencies space, similar to the Family Resource model. Discussions are continuing with Peace From Chaos and the Supervisor's office to explore different option and possibly having RAP having a role.*
- 2. Discussed the 3rd Annual Symposium on Probation recently held at UCR PD. It included Chief Probation Officer Chris Wright and several inspirational speakers who had first-hand experience with law enforcement and were now serving as peers to help others. Supervisor Perez invited RAP to consider partnering with the County to expand the justice system to make it more community focused. He is looking to have this be a countywide focus.*
- 3. Invited members to attend the State of the County event on 10/24 in Temecula.*
- 4. Mentioned his reasoning for his support of the Rancho Ordinance which allows property owners to rent their properties for special events.*
- 5. His continued efforts to address animal policies, including increasing spay and neutering. He is involving CVAG and cities in collaborative efforts to host more clinics.*

B. Mental Health Initiative Results Based Accountability Scorecard Presentation – *Stephanie Minor, RAP Director of Development - S, Minor delivered a power point presentation to deliver information on the data received from the MH RFP.*

C. Approve the Form FY 2023-2024 Form 990 (Attach. #7) Coachella Valley Accounting and Auditing completed the forms required to be filed.

Audit Committee Recommendation: The Audit Committee is scheduled to meet on Oct. 23 prior to the Board meeting and will provide a verbal recommendation.

Motion:	To continue to next month and have the Form 990 be reviewed by the Finance Committee before/instead of Audit committee.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
M. Meyer	B. Kroonen	18 – A. Dew left prior to vote.	0	0

D. To allow Vision to Learn the opportunity to submit an application for a higher amount than the maximum \$10,000. Vision to Learn would like to provide free eye screening, and two pairs of eyeglasses to elementary students in Blythe. (Attach. #8)

Executive Committee Recommendation: To allow Vision to Learn to submit an application and go through the Grant Review Process.

Motion:	To allow Vision to Learn to submit an application and go through grant review process.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
M. Meyer	K Quintanilla	17 – E. Romero was not present at vote	1 – C. Galvez stated that A. Dew had asked her to vote No on her behalf before leaving the meeting.	0

E. GRANTS TRACKER FY 2024-2025: (Attach. # 9)

F. SMALL GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF FULL AMOUNT REQUESTED – Grant #1, #2, and #3:

SMALL GRANT #1	Grassroots Junior Tennis, Inc.
Requested Amount:	\$5,000
The Grassroots Junior Tennis program provides an opportunity for children who come from low/middle income, under-resourced families to learn an activity that includes the benefits of enhancing social and physical abilities, health fitness, confidence and integrity. While having fun and enjoying the sport of tennis as led by a certified professional tennis instructor, the participants gain the ability to discover their abilities that could lead to advanced skills (whether in tennis or other sports/activities).	
Reviewer's Average Score:	71%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY21-22 Small Grant: \$5,000; FY23-24 Small Grant: \$5,000

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

	To approve request for \$5,000 as requested.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Gutierrez	M.Meyer	15 – J. Hayes and M. Gonda were not present during block motion vote	0	0

SMALL GRANT #2	Palm Springs Community Concert Association – Concert Series 2024-2025
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
PS Concerts relies on season and individual ticket sales, donations and grants to support its concert season that includes four adult concerts and four daytime children’s concerts, which are provided at no cost to the students. Funds will be used to help underwrite the four performances of the 2024-2025 concert series.	
Reviewer’s Average Score:	71%
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve \$10,000 as requested. The Amount to be disbursed in four payments with an \$2,500 upfront payment. Provide a free annual NPOC membership.

	To approve \$10,000 as requested. The Amount to be disbursed in four payments with an \$2,500 upfront payment. Provide a free annual NPOC membership.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Gutierrez	M.Meyer	15 – J. Hayes and M. Gonda were not present during block motion vote	0	0

SMALL GRANT #3	Variety Children's Charities of the Desert - Freedom, Future, Care and Outreach Programs
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
Variety delivers children equity, independence, social inclusion, mobility, and self-esteem by funding and delivering equipment and services under four core programs: Freedom * Future * Care * Outreach. The Program delivers vital life-changing equipment and services for mobility, independence, and social inclusion for children. The Adaptive Bike Program is an initiative dedicated to providing mobility equipment for children with mental and physical disabilities. The Program honors the academic success and good citizenship of underprivileged and deserving CV fourth-grade students by awarding bicycles, locks, and helmets during the holiday season each year. The Outreach Program launched in October to fill an identified gap in services for children with disparities and special needs. The program will offer case management support, referrals, and resources, as well as support to caregivers. Variety is a Certified Autism and Resource Center.	
Reviewer’s Average Score:	84%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY21-22 Small Grant: \$5,000; FY22-23 Sponsorship: \$8,000; FY23-24 Sponsorship: \$5,000; FY23-24 Small Grant: \$10,000; FY22-23 Juv. Int.: \$12,500

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve \$10,000 as requested.

	To approve \$10,000 as requested.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Gutierrez	M.Meyer	15 – J. Hayes and M. Gonda were not present during block motion vote	0	0

G.SMALL GRANT FUNDING REQUEST – GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL FOR A LESSER AMOUNT THAN REQUESTED – Grant #4

SMALL GRANT #4	Ronnie's House for Hope
Requested Amount:	\$10,000
Applicant provides peer grief support helping kiddos to understand their grief, what they feel, how it presents in their body, and the changes they go through. A safe space is provided to youth to be surrounded by their peers with like experiences. It is a non-specific grief center in the valley that approaches healing the whole family, using evidence-based activities. The goal is to help kids avoid unresolved grief that can have major negative effects on their lives. Each group starts with time for each individual to share anything they need to talk about. They do a grief activity for each group that focuses on one topic of grief.	
Reviewer's Average Score:	77%
Prior RAP Funding:	FY23-24 Small Grant: \$10,000; FY20-21 Historical COVID-19: \$10,000

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$5,000 of \$10,000 requested. The Committee is recommending a lesser amount because the budget states that funding was requested to cover the cost of the facility and the organization is in the process of moving to a location with lower rent.

Motion:	To approve \$5,000			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Ortega	R. Gutierrez	15	0	0

H. SPONSORSHIP GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS- GRANTS COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING DENIAL OF REQUESTS– #1 and #2

SPONSORSHIP #1	Variety Children's Charities of the Desert - 29th Annual Bikes for Kids
Requested Amount:	\$5,000.00
The Bikes for Kids Program honors the academic success and good citizenship of underprivileged and deserving CV fourth-grade students by awarding bicycles, locks, and helmets during the holiday season each year. For the second year, the Bikes For Kids program will be held at the Acrisure Arena. The Firebird mascot will be attending and assisting. The venue is easily accessible for students and their families across the CV. We anticipate a larger public turnout and to distribute 300 bikes, helmets and locks. The project is part of our Freedom Program with the goal of helping children reach their full potential, experience social inclusion and all the joys of childhood.	
Prior RAP Funding:	FY21-22 Small Grant: \$5,000; FY22-23 Sponsorship: \$8,000; FY23-24 Sponsorship: \$5,000; FY23-24 Small Grant: \$10,000;

	FY22-23 Juvenile Intervention: \$12,500
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Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request since RAP already funded this request previously and to encourage them to pursue other funders.

Motion:	To deny the request since RAP already funded this request previously and to encourage them to pursue other funders.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Gutierrez	R. Ortega	15	0	0

SPONSORSHIP #2	My Baby My Way Foundation - Chicano Wellness & Heritage Festival
Requested Amount:	\$5,000
The "Chicano Wellness & Heritage Festival" is a free public event designed to celebrate Chicano / Latino culture while promoting health and wellness in Cathedral City. The event will host a boxing clinic and personal training demonstrations to encourage physical fitness and well-being.	
Prior RAP Funding:	FY23-24: Small Grant \$5,000

Grants Committee Recommendation: To deny the request for \$5,000 due to limited advance time for the Nov. 2nd event. The applicant volunteered to change it to a later date. However, there are concerns with planning and cost issues.

Motion:	To deny the request for \$5,000.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
R. Loretta	R. Ortega	15	0	0

I. NPO Centric Technical Assistance Grant Request:

Grant Request #1:	Joslyn Foundation - \$4,500
Request Description:	Grant to cover the cost of NPO Centric Consulting Services.
	The request is for 30 hours of consulting services specifically for strategic Planning and a Board Retreat. The cost associated with this request is \$4,500

NPO Centric Committee Recommendation: The Committee will provide a verbal recommendation since they would have met on October 21.

Motion:	To approve \$4,500 as recommended by NPO Centric Committee.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
B. Kroonen	C. Borba	15	0	0

J. Blythe Community meeting on November 19 at 5:30 to present the HARC Survey results and formalize the priorities for a Future Funding Opportunity.

Executive Committee Recommendation: For the Board to approve a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Blythe. The RFP would be considered by the Mental Health Committee with a recommended amount.

Motion:	<i>For the Board to approve a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Blythe. The RFP would be considered by the Mental Health Committee with a recommended amount.</i>			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
<i>S. Benoit</i>	<i>R.Gutierrez</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

K. Desert Fast Pitch in the Fall of 2025- RAP staff is exploring plans to have an event. As in prior years, RAP would provide the grants funding for participants and winners and would be expected to generate revenue with sponsorships and admittance fee to offset the cost of the event including staffing cost which is needed to manage the extra duties for a successful event.

Staff Recommendation: For the Board to give the direction to staff to proceed with this concept and present a more detailed plan at the next Board meeting.

By Consensus there is support for staff to proceed and provide more information at the next meeting.

VII. Information Items

- A. Notification of Board and Committee meetings – Calendar invites for the year and email reminders closer to the meeting date. (Attach. #10a)
- B. Board Committee Assignments (Attach. #10b)
- C. BOARD ATTENDANCE for 2024 (Attach. #11)
- D. Grants Committee: Met on October 14. Approved Sept. 16 Minutes (Attach. #12). Next meeting Nov. 12.
- E. Executive Committee: Met on October 14. Approved Sept. 16 Minutes (Attach. #13a) Sept. 18 Minutes Attach.#13b) and October 7. (Attach. #13c) Next meeting November 12.
- R. Finance/Investment Committee: Met on Oct. 14. Approved Sept. 16 Minutes (Attach. #14) Next meeting Nov. 12.
- G. NPO Centric Committee: Did not meet on September 18. Draft Minutes for June 12 (Attach. # 15). Next meeting Oct. 21.
- H. Governance – Human Resource Committee: Next meeting TBD.
- I. Facilities Committee: Met on Sept. 25. Approved August 13 Minutes (Attach. #16) Next meeting October 23 after the Board meeting.
- J. Audit Committee – Met on Oct. 17, 2024. Approved Minutes for Sept. 16 (Attach. #17). Next meeting TBD.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER / STAFF COMMENTS

CEO reminded all board members to the Give or Get contribution.

R. Gutierrez reported on the Nov. 9 Fishing Derby at Veteran's Park at Lake Cahuilla from 2 pm-8:30 PM

M.Meyer offered 4 tickets to the Golf Cart Parade on Dec. 18

IX. ADJOURNMENT: ***11:50*** Next meeting December 18, 2024 at 9 AM.