

Buncombe County Strategic Partnerships Committee
March 5, 2020 Minutes

Attendees:

Committee members: Chuck Rosenblum, Rebecca Strimer, Paul Tax, Liz Ward, Annie Carpenter, Kate Burger, Doug Clarke, Kevin McAbee; absent: Davidson Jones

County staff: Rachael Nygaard, Angelyn Johnson

- Welcome and Introductions – Rachael Nygaard welcomed everyone and presented the agenda. Committee members introduced themselves and identified one thing they are excited about in relation to serving on this committee.
- Draft By-Laws were distributed to committee members during the Committee orientation sessions.
 - Feedback: Second paragraph regarding ongoing work for monitoring and review. Will the committee take any actions once we review? Will there be site visits? Rachael reviewed how other committees handle it. Add “and make recommendations for enhancing goal achievement as needed”.
 - Add provide feedback to the overall grant application process and identify potential focus areas and other considerations.
 - Absence guidelines on page 3: update it to attend 75% of meetings or not miss 4 consecutive meetings (per Commissioner guidelines).
 - Paul Tax made a motion to approve the bylaws with the above edits. Annie Carpenter seconded the motion. Vote was unanimously approved.
- Initial Term Assignments were assigned based on committee preferences. The initial term is staggered.

Committee Member	District	Initial 1 year Term	Initial 2 year term	Initial 3 year term	Initial term expires
Davidson Jones	1	√			June 30, 2021
Annie Carpenter	2	√			June 30, 2021
Rebecca Strimer	3	√			June 30, 2021
Paul Tax	1		√		June 30, 2022
Doug Clarke	2		√		June 30, 2022
Kate Burger	3		√		June 30, 2022
Liz Ward	1			√	June 30, 2023
Kevin McAbee	2			√	June 30, 2023
Chuck Rosenblum	3			√	June 30, 2023

- Election of Committee Officers – a ballot was provided for committee members to vote for Committee Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary. These members will comprise the Executive Committee.
 - Doug Clarke was elected Chair
 - Kate Burger was elected Vice-Chair
 - Kevin McAbee was elected Secretary
- Upcoming Schedule
 - March

- 3/16: Deadline to complete all scoring by 8:00am, including questions you'd like sent to applicants
- 3/19: Meeting from 1:00pm to 3:00pm – 200 College St, Room 310
- 3/20: Staff will send questions to applicants with responses due 3/31
- April
 - 4/2: Staff will send applicant responses to committee
 - 4/8: Deadline for scoring changes by 8:00am
 - 4/9: Meeting from 1:00pm to 3:00pm – 200 College St, Room 310
 - 4/16: Meeting from 1:00pm to 3:00pm – 200 College St, Room 310
 - 4/24: Grant recommendations due to Budget Office
- May & beyond
 - We will need to develop a regular meeting schedule going forward
- Grant Scoring Discussion
 - Overwhelmed with trying to score priorities
 - Would like to have spreadsheet of applications sorted by focus areas and amount requested
 - Once initial scoring is complete, add previous year's amount
 - Difficult to remain objective with all the applications
 - Will there be a percentage for cutoff? The overall thought is for scores to be provided by funding areas ranked by overall scores. Then the committee can review to see if there is a natural line or if there needs to be discussion around this.
 - Think it is important to look at all areas/rural areas of county and not focus solely on downtown area
 - Would like to see them mapped somehow (GIS map)
 - Some concern around the question about other county funds being weighted the same as all other questions. Committee decided to leave it for now, but review it going forward.
 - Committee methods for removing implicit bias while scoring
 - Have a problem with some of the budgets. Sometimes it is hard to tell what is going on with the budgets.
 - What do we do with the ones whose budget is over 30%? It is not eliminated, but it will limit the amount we can grant them.
 - Other county funding: City of Asheville funds do not count as county funding.
 - Would like to see the scoring before the next meeting.
- Announcements – there were no announcements

Next Meeting : March 19, 2020, 1:00-3:00 pm, 200 College Street, Room 310 (*Note: March 19th meeting was postponed because of COVID-19 response; meeting to take place April 9th 1:00-3:00 pm via webinar*)

