



## Strategic Partnership Grants Committee

June 1, 2023

1:00 – 3:00 pm

200 College Street, Room 310

### **In attendance:**

#### Committee Members:

In person: Ray Hemachandra, Chuck Rosenblum, Doug Clarke, Kate Burger, Cathy Ray, Amy Russell, Mark Mickey

Virtually:

Absent: Liz Ward, Kim Robinson

County Staff: Rachael Nygaard, Angelica Tyler

### **Opening Remarks**

Kate Burger called the meeting to order.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Kate Burger made a motion to approve the minutes from April 20, 2023. The minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Old Business**

- There was no old business.

### **New Business**

- Volunteers for Commissioner presentation on 8/15/2023
  - Cathy Ray, Amy Russell, and Ray Hemachandra volunteered to present to the Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting (5pm) on Tuesday, August 15, 2023.
- Membership Updates
  - Two current members, Mark Mickey and Liz Ward, are being reappointed by Commissioners on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - Chuck Rosenblum is rolling off service for the committee, which will leave a vacant position to be filled.
- Process Review
  - What worked well
    - Eligibility
      - Ability to refer to other grant programs with a better fit
      - Staff support and consultations
      - Good alignment with focus areas
    - Application
      - Ability to ask follow-up questions
      - Grant writing workshops



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- Scoring
  - Staff review of budgets
  - Software (split screen for scoring)
  - Scoring criteria/matrix
  - Transparent scoring process
- Recommendation Process
  - Improvement ideas for next year
    - Require budget template and provide more explanation on how to complete it
    - More opportunity to discuss specific projects and proposals (not just the overall scenarios/formula) possibly before scoring occurs
    - More outreach and engagement to potential applicants from less represented focus areas
    - Encourage partnership grants across county focus areas (encourage collaborative applications)
    - Possibility of removing “Need” from scoring or change how it is scored, so “Basic Needs” doesn’t outweigh other focus areas (“Need related to category”)
    - Consider a percentage of funds that should go to each focus area
    - Possible addition to application related to ROI or bang for buck
    - Map (geographical) of investments
    - Orientation to county geography, needs, services, etc. prior to application
    - Hard cap maximum request amount of \$80,000
    - Have multiple request levels (e.g. up to \$80k or up to \$20k)
    - Scoring system that incentivizes smaller dollar amount proposals?
    - Possible organization-level pause/ineligibility for one year after receiving sequential funding for 3 years
    - Bonus scoring for things like smallness/newness/innovation
- Parking lot
  - County funding to organizations and projects in more than one grant program
  - Committee make-up and fulfillment for members
  - Committee member orientation
  - Virtual, in-person, hybrid options
  - Commitment to balanced focus areas

### Announcements:

- Thank you to Chuck for your years of service to this committee!

**Next Meeting** – Next meeting is August 3, 2023 at 1:00 pm – 200 College St Room 310