



**ONEOHIO RECOVERY FOUNDATION
GRANT MAKING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The OneOhio Recovery Foundation (the “Organization”) Grant Making Oversight Committee (the “Committee”) held a board meeting on February 16, 2023, via Zoom.

Board Members in Attendance:

Tom Gregoire (Committee Chair), Josh Cox, Denise Driehaus, Jeff Fix, Keith Hochadel, David Matia, Greta Mayer, Deborah Matz, Ilene Shapiro, Kevin Tighe

Non-Board Members in Attendance:

Claudia Herrold (Philanthropy Ohio), Jim Quinn (Chief Financial Officer) Anne Trakas (Callender Law Group)

I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Gregoire at 2:30 p.m.

II. Welcome and Update from the Chair

Minutes from the previous Committee were sent out to all Committee members for review. The latest draft of the Grant Making Policy (the “Policy”) was sent to all members. The Meeting will focus on specific sections of the Policy.

III. Grant Decision Appeal Process

In the MOU, there is verbiage where an applicant’s region can appeal to the Board of Directors if the Board of Directors denies an applicant's application.

Mr. Fix stated that based on the MOU, the regions are required to screen all applications. However, if a region approves an application but the Board of Directors determines the application does not meet specific criteria, it would be appropriate for the applicant and the region to appeal.

Director Matia asked how the Board of Directors could deny a request. Chairman Gregoire stated there are criteria in the MOU for the Board of Directors denying grants which are recommended from the regions. This appeal would only come into place when the Board of Directors believes that the request does not meet the mission and vision of the Organization as laid out in the MOU.

Director Fix stated his recommendation is that the region is the proper party to appeal to the Board of Directors on behalf of their applicant. Chairman Gregoire agreed.

Director Fix stated that his region is contemplating an appeal process specific to applicants whose projects are denied by the regional board. Director Fix suggested Article XI of the Policy be amended to state that the regional boards be the body to appeal to the Board of Directors.

Director Matia agreed, stating that offering too much due process can bog down the process.

Chairman Gregoire stated that he would like the Policy to specifically state that the Board of Directors will not hear appeals from individual applicants.

Director Matia asked whom a proper appeal would be made to. Chairman Gregoire stated that the Executive Committee should be the Board Committee that hears the appeal and then makes a recommendation to the Board of Directors. Director Matia agreed.

IV. Conflicts of Interest

Chairman Gregoire stated that the Organization's Conflict of Interest Policy does not contain any language on how grant decisions with regards to any conflicts of interest. He recommended that no Director vote on the recommendations made by their region. Director Fix concurred. Director Shapiro agreed.

Director Matia asked how this would apply to the Expert Panel. Director Mayer stated she has the same concerns and that precluding the organization whom Expert Panel members work or are affiliated with from receiving funding because of a conflict of interest would discourage many from serving on the Expert Panel. She recommended that if a member of the Expert Panel recused themselves from voting, their organization should still be considered for funding.

Director Matia asked if an applicant could give an oral presentation for funding. Chairman Gregoire stated he believed all requests should be in writing. Ms. Herrold said that based on the MOU it will be up to each region to decide how presentations will be made.

Chairman Gregoire stated that during the first rounds of grants, the Organization will learn a lot, but he prefers to give the regions the flexibility to design their grant process how they see fit. Director Cox agreed.

Director Fix stated the Board of Directors has a detailed Conflicts of Interest Policy that would likely cover any scenario with a Director or Expert Panel member having a conflict.

Chairman Gregoire stated that he believes the Committee should add language specifically for the Expert Panel that states Expert Panel members must recuse themselves from evaluating proposals that are submitted by an organization which the Expert Panel member works or is affiliated with.

Ms. Herrold recommended that Expert Panel members sign the Conflict of Interest disclosure form signed by all Directors. Directors Fix and Cox agreed.

V. Post Grant Compliance

Chairman Gregoire said the Policy states that all grantees will be required to perform fiscal reporting and performance reporting. Fiscal reporting should go to the Finance Committee. Chairman Gregoire is not a fan of reporting that would significantly burden grantees, but the Organization has a responsibility to ensure the funds are producing results.

Director Fix stated that because the regions do not handle any grant funding and do not make the final decision on approving or denying applications, the Board of Directors should be responsible for overseeing performance reporting.

Director Fix asked what would occur if a grantee did not submit the required performance report. Chairman Gregoire stated that it's his experience that a grantee who does not submit required reporting would be disqualified from future funding.

Director Shapiro asked whether grants would be for one (1) year or multiple years. Chairman Gregoire stated that this had not been decided yet. Director Shapiro said that for multiple-year grants, the Committee could require annual reporting to ensure the funding is being spent in line with the grantee's application.

Chairman Gregoire stated that he favors having milestone reporting every six (6) months or every year. Director Driehaus agreed.

Director Shapiro asked if the regions would share best practices with other regions in Ohio. Director Fix stated that a topic at the next Board Meeting should be how regions can collaborate to apply best practices. Director Cox said the Expert Panel has a role in recommending best practices to other regions.

Director Driehaus asked for clarity as to whether the Expert Panel could veto applications approved by a region. Chairman Gregoire stated that is not the role of the Expert Panel. Director Fix stated that the role of the Expert Panel is defined in the Memorandum of Understanding.

Director Fix stated that the regions should receive copies of the performance reports sent to the Board of Directors.

Director Shapiro asked if a flow chart could be created regarding how the grant process will look once operationalized. Chairman Gregoire stated he was in support of this idea.

Ms. Herrold stated she would amend the Policy to reflect that all grantees will be responsible for submitting fiscal and performance reports.

Chairman Gregoire stated that the Policy states it will be reviewed by the Committee after the first year.

VI. Open Discussion

Chairman Gregoire stated a topic for future consideration will be whether grantees can use Organization funding for administrative overhead. Ms. Mayer stated she is a proponent of permitting administrative overhead expenses.

Chairman Gregoire thanked all Directors for attending and thanked Ms. Herrold for her work in drafting the Policy.

VII. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

The Committee will meet on March 3, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

VIII. Adjournment

Chairman Gregoire adjourned the Meeting at 3:35 p.m.

The undersigned being the Chairman of the OneOhio Recovery Foundation Grant Making Oversight Committee Meeting, hereby attests that these minutes are a true and correct original of the February 16, 2023, Board Meeting.

Tom Gregoire
Tom Gregoire (Feb 20, 2023 10:10 EST)

Signature

Feb 20, 2023

Date







Grant Committee Minutes-Please Sign

Final Audit Report

2023-02-20

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