

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting – June 16, 2022

PRESENT:

Karen Bargy
Grace Ronkaitis
Shirley Roloff (remote)
Larry Levensgood (remote)
Rev. Gerald (Jerry) Cook
Truman Bicum
Debbie Bishop
Gwenne Allgaier
Peachy Rentenbach
Sam Getsinger
Pam Niebrzydowski (remote)
Marc Milburn
Phillip Haner

ABSENT:

Marna Robertson (E)
Art Jeannot (E)
Tonya Schroka (E)
David White
Lindsey Walker
Bryce Hundley
Anthony Ansonge (E)
Brandy Keeney (E)
Kat Byers
Jeff Miller
Chuck Corwin (E)
Bethany Parent

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 P.M. by Vice Chairperson Rev. Gerald Cook. Roll call was taken, and quorum not established. Approval of agenda items occurred after quorum was established with the arrival of Board Chair, Peachy Rentenbach, at 12:58 p.m.

AGENDA

Request for approval of the meeting Agenda with changes as presented.

Motion by Karen Bargy, supported by Gwenne Allgaier, that the meeting agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the May 19, 2022, meeting of the NMCAA Board of Directors was presented for Board action.

Motion by Phil Haner, supported by Sam Getsinger, that the minutes of the May 19, 2022, meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ralph Stephan, Missaukee County, has resigned due to health issues. He would like to return to the Board, if possible, in the future. We thank Ralph for his service to this organization.

Jerry Cook welcomed Brian Alexander, Vice President, Business Banking at Huntington Bank, and announced that he will be joining the Board as a southern representative for the Private Sector.

Motion by Grace Ronkaitis, supported by Peachy Rentenbach, to approve Brian Alexander as the new Southern Private Sector Representative.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

NMCAA Board of Directors Meeting
June 16, 2022
Page 2

POLICY COUNCIL REPORT

Kerry Baughman, Executive Director, presented the Policy Council minutes from the meeting held on June 9, 2022.

Motion by Peachy Rentenbach supported by Debbie Bishop, that the minutes of the June 9, 2022, Policy Council meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will conduct a monitoring review of the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) on 6/21/2022

Thank you to Board members who participated in the NeighborWorks Board Governance monitoring interview. The complete monitoring report will be sent to NMCAA in approximately 6-8 weeks.

Upcoming Homeless Prevention Grant Submissions for August BOD meeting:
Letters of intent to apply for the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Youth Homeless Demonstration Project have been approved by our Continuum of Care Director and submitted to HUD.

The Emergency Solutions Grant award amounts have not yet been released so we do not have the specifics on allocation for NMCAA.

Just Announced - Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) Housing Opportunities Promoting Energy-Efficiency (HOPE) Program. \$28,500,000 available statewide. Submission due August 1, 2022.

NMCAA Head Start is getting ready to begin their annual Head Start Self-Assessment. Please contact Shannon Phelps if interested in participating, sphelps@nmaa.net.

Serra Subaru has selected NMCAA as its "Hometown Charity" for 2023. In addition, NMCAA has been selected as the charity partner to receive 100% of revenue for the Great Lakes Equestrian Show Grand Prix event on Sunday, June 26th. A check award ceremony for NMCAA will take place immediately after the event. 4 Seats at the VIP Table available for Board members.

Motion by Gwenne Allgaier supported by Marc Milburn, to accept the Executive Director's report as presented. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Phil Haner reported that the Governance Committee met earlier today with attorney, Rebecca Millican and reviewed NMCAA's Policy on Remote on Virtual Participation in Meetings. Ms. Millican was present to answer questions. The Committee recommends approval of the policy.

Motion by Karen Bargo, supported by Marc Milburn, to approve the NMCAA Policy on Remote and Virtual Participation in Meetings as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

2022 UPDATES TO NMCAA FINANCIAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Meredith Gafill, Controller, presented the changes to the Financial Policies and Procedures for 2022. The updated policies will be made available on the Board of Directors page on the website.

Motion by Peachy Rentenbach, supported by Phil Haner, to accept the 2022 updates to the NMCAA Financial Policies and Procedures as presented.
Motion carried.

NEIGHBORWORKS

Karen Emerson, Financial Management Services Manager, presented the Sustainable Business Initiative (SBI) Leveraging Technology Grant. This grant is for a total of \$15,000 and will be used to increase traffic and attendance to the Homebuyer Education and Money Management Workshops, Salesforce licensing, and the purchase of computers and tablets.

Motion by Karen Bargy, supported by Jerry Cook, to accept the NeighborWorks grant application for the Sustainable Business Initiative Leveraging Technology Grant for \$15,000 as presented. Motion carried.

The 2022 Community Building and Engagement Supplemental Competitive Grant was presented for \$20,000. This will be used to support Neighborhood meetings, Super Saturday, and the Laundry Project.

Motion by Karen Bargy, supported by Gwenne Allgaier, to accept the NeighborWorks grant application for the 2022 Community Building and Engagement Supplemental Competitive Grant \$20,000 as presented.
Motion carried.

HOME ENERGY & EFFICIENCY SERVICES (HEES)

Tish Stave, HEES Manager, explained the Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) PY22 grant application. The anticipated amount is for \$669,379 and will be used to complete 57 total units. The average cost per unit has been increased to \$8,009 which is slightly higher than previous years.

Motion by Gwenne Allgaier, supported by Phil Haner, to accept the Weatherization Assistance Program PY 22 grant application as presented.
Motion carried.

NMCAA has received a funding memo from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity (BCAEO) announcing an increase in funds over the next 5 years which will encourage expanding programs to meet capacity. To meet the demands of this expansion, two new energy auditors have been identified and will complete their certification this month. Additional Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding will allow the continuation of work eliminating any down time between grants. Deferral Reduction/Weatherization Readiness funds allow for serving more clients. There will be department restructuring and additional hiring of staff. Exciting things are happening in Home Energy and Efficiency Services!

OTHER BUSINESS
MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- The Community Action Network is urging the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee to act on the Community Services Block Grant Modernization Act, H.R. 5129, which passed out of the House on 5/13/22.
- There is still time to register for the Michigan Community Action Summer Conference in Boyne City on July 26th – 28th. Both in-person and virtual options are available.
- Cadillac Office Open House will be on Friday, June 24 from 10:30 – 12:30. Please join us for lunch with staff and community partners.

Optional July Meeting:

A motion by Grace Ronkaitis, supported by Sam Getsinger, to forgo the optional NMCAA Board of Directors July meeting. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:52 PM.

Next meeting will be: August 18, 2022, 12:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Grace Ronkaitis, Secretary

Betsy Rees, Recording Secretary