

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
DRAFT**

March 6, 2024 at 6PM
Logan Square Campus
3255 W. Altgeld Street, Chicago IL 60647

Board Members Attending In-Person: Adnan Assad, Jessica Cardoni, Roberto Interiano, Meghan Kiesel, Lauren Long, Candace Williams

Board Members Attending via Microsoft Teams: Rolando Acosta, Dee Dee Chesley, Jeff Kemerley, Kenny Langston, Liam O’Kane, Angela Igbineweka-Obaseki, Kim White

Board Members Absent: Carlos Pineiro, Steve Raquet, Homero Tristian, Lizzy Whitehorn

Christopher House Staff Attending: Auturo Abrego, Julie Dakers, Tihela Feit, Becky Seibel, Libby Shortenhaus, Ricardo Villalobos, Karen Ross-Williams, Chanel Wiley

Quorum Met.

Minutes Recorder: Chanel Wiley

Proceedings: Meeting called to order at 6:06PM

Welcome, Presented by Adnan Assad

Adnan Assad called the meeting to order and welcomed Board members.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no one present to make public comment.

Minutes and Consent Agenda, Presented by Adnan Assad

Motion was made by Roberto Interiano seconded by Meghan Kiesel, and carried unanimously to approve the January 10, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes.

Community Vignettes Numbers & Narrative Presented by Ricardo Villalobos, Director of Family and Community Engagement, Ricardo discussed a brief history of Logan Square housing developments, population trends, and efforts to maintain affordable housing in the community. Ricardo briefly discussed the impact of the 606 development, home prices are increasing tremendously since the 606 developments.

President’s Report, Presented by Julie Dakers

Julie Dakers, President, briefly discussed her priorities for the first 90 days of her new role which include strong leadership, culture, and school quality. Julie overviews a plan for reallocating HR responsibilities to ensure culture and employee support.

DBEIJ Task Force, Presented by Julie Dakers

The DBEIJ has been meeting frequently to finalize a statement focusing on the mission and impact of the committee. The task force is focusing on collecting existing data, identifying trends, and needs, and responding. Members of the committee were recently able to join an agency for all staff in-service and the committee will be hosting an upcoming social to build community among board members and Leadership Team.

External Affairs, Presented by Jeff Kemerley

Jeff Kemerley spoke briefly about the Private Revenue Dashboard as of 02.29.24, and our upcoming Annual Benefit. The team met with the auctioneer, he has great ideas for engaging the audience and to drive the silent/live auction. Jeff points out that we have less sponsorship than we did last year, we need about \$40,000 more in sponsorships. Jeff spoke briefly about the wine shop for silent auction, we need more wine bottles for donations. We want to bring in more revenue in live auction items, asking the team for their connection in my silent and live auction items, we would like 100% board participation in the Annual Benefit.

Finance Committee, Presented by Adnan Assad

Adnan addressed that Christopher House has been placed on CPS Financial Remediation because we are not in compliance with 2 of 4 key financial indicators – current ratio and cash on hand ratio. Christopher House will remain on financial remediation until we meet three of four key indicators; the Finance Committee has met to discuss root cause and financial corrective action plan. It was discussed during the last board meeting in January, where we continue to be unfavorable to budget year to date, this includes government revenue being down \$450K, largely due to reduced enrollment in early childhood CCAP (Childcare Assistance Program) throughout the course of the program year. On the expense side, salaries are \$137K unfavorable, largely attributed to our elementary school collective bargaining agreement. Retro payments and salary adjustments were made in January 2024.

Outside services – which include contractual services – are also unfavorable to budget. Due to staffing shortages, we have had to contract with substitute services, not included in the approved FY24 budget.

Lastly, the Finance and Executive Committees have reviewed and approved that a maximum of \$500K be moved in the case that critical expenses exceed cash available in our operating account.

Motion was made by Lauren Long, seconded by Roberto Interiano and carried unanimously to give Executive Committee the authority to make changes to our investment policy if needed as we renegotiate loan terms with the bank.

Motion made by Adnan Assad, seconded by Roberto Interiano and carried unanimously to close the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm