

**Board of Trustees**  
**February 26, 2025, 1:30 pm**

**Community Health Endowment**  
**250 N. 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE 68503**  
**Minutes**

**Trustees Present:** (13) Yinka Akinyemi, Blake Anderson, Quentin Brown, Tyler DeJong, Michael Ferris M.D., John Goldrich, Russ Gronewold, Kerry Kernen, Dan Marvin, Michelle Petersen M.D., Michelle Suarez, John Thompson, Scott Young

**Trustees Absent:** (2) Greer McCurley, John Reinhardt D.D.S.

**Staff Present:** (3) Kate Bolz, Emily Kluver, Morgan Hermanek

**Welcome:** M. Petersen called the meeting to order at 1:34pm

**Approval of the Agenda**

Motion: **M. Petersen called for a motion** to approve the agenda. **M. Suarez moved and J. Goldrich seconded.** No further discussion. **All voting members (12) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Kernen, Marvin, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson, Young). **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

**Approval of the Minutes for January 22, 2025.**

Motion: **M. Petersen called for a motion** to approve the minutes with corrections to the meeting attendees. **M. Suarez moved, and S. Young seconded.** No further discussion. **All voting members (12) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Kernen, Marvin, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson, Young). **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

**Public Comment**

The Community Health Endowment is subject to and abides by the Open Meetings Act. Members of the public have a right to attend and the right to speak at meetings. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall of the Lori Vrtiska Seibel Community Meeting Room.

**1. Chair's Report.**

**R. Gronewold joined the meeting at 1:40**

- a. Special Presentation: Youth Fitness, Sports, and Opportunity Report. Representatives from the Youth Fitness, Sports, and Opportunity Task Force provided a presentation regarding recommendations for the community. The five recommendations are:
  - 1) Focused Community Leadership: Establish a "backbone" organization with a focus on breaking generational cycles of inactivity and creating a community culture that values aerobic fitness at all ages.

- 2) Early Childhood and K-12 Schools: Increase the emphasis on physical movement in early childhood settings (0-5 years) and K-12 schools
- 3) Community Opportunities: Increase community-based opportunities for expanding aerobic fitness among Lincoln's children and youth.
- 4) Health Care: Encourage local health care providers to "prescribe" physical/aerobic fitness to parents/ caregivers, and youth as preventive measures for childhood obesity, early onset diabetes, anxiety/depression, trauma, electronic device addiction, and other public health concerns.
- 5) Policy, Investment, and Strategy: Listed below are two specific recommendations for how tax-supported entities/facilities can be strategically utilized to increase youth aerobic fitness in Lincoln.

Trustees had discussion about the goals and potential partnership opportunities in Lincoln.

- b. Other. No other items at this time.

## 2. **President's Report.**

- a. Summary of Activities. K. Bolz provided an overview of the Summary of Activities (page 6 of the board packet). She noted one correction: the Chamber of Commerce did not meet in February.
- b. 2025 Goals. Page 8 of the board packet includes proposed CHE goals for 2025. These goals have traditionally been proposed to the board and used as a framework for the State of the Endowment to the City Council, and as a baseline for the President/CEO evaluation. The timeline of these goals will be adjusted to land on a fiscal year cycle.
- c. Notes on Federal Context. K. Bolz provided an overview of the current federal changes that are impacting the nonprofits in our community. Recent federal changes have included a temporary pause on agency grants, loans, and other financial assistance programs; presidential executive orders that address DEI; and the establishment of a Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). Some ideas that the Trustees discussed included more flexibility for current grantee spending, and/or reaching out to our grantees to get a temperature on how they are doing and the amount of dependency on federal dollars among these organizations. There was general concern for the wellbeing of nonprofits and their staff, and consensus that CHE should continue to both monitor the situation and support our grantees during this time. More to come.
- d. Upcoming Meetings and Events. Upcoming meetings and events are on page 9 of the board packet.
- e. Other.

## 3. **Investment & Finance Committee.**

- a. Treasurer's Report for January 2025. B. Anderson noted that the budget statement represents January 2024, or 42% of the budget year. Personnel and some operating expenses were slightly over budget due to payment timing of anticipated expenses or related to L. Seibel's retirement and the new hire.

## R. Gronewold acknowledged the Treasurer's Report.

- b. Fiducient Monthly Performance Report for January 2024. B. Anderson discussed Fiducient's performance report. CHE's portfolio experienced 2.3% return in January. CHE's total ending market value on January 31, 2025, was approximately \$73.87 million. B. Anderson also provided a brief overview of individual manager performance.
- c. Other. No other business.

## 4. Funding Committee.

- a. Spring 2025 Idea Meeting Summary. Trustees reviewed page 19 of the board packet which includes a list of nonprofits that CHE staff have met with who are interested in CHE funding from the upcoming grant cycle. E. Kluver noted that staff are expecting there to be a large number of applicants this cycle.
- b. Site Visit Reports. M. Petersen encouraged Trustees to review the site visit surveys in the board packet.
- c. Other. No further discussion.

## 5. Administration Committee

- a. Annual meeting. M. Suarez provided an overview of CHE's annual meeting. She discussed the history of the annual meeting and the different forms it has taken over the years. The Administration Committee is currently weighing three options, which are 1) sponsoring a Hub and Soul event this summer, 2) sponsoring a youth sports tournament, or 3) hosting an event to celebrate CHE Legacy Projects. M. Suarez encouraged Trustees to provide suggestions or thoughts if they have any feedback.
- b. Human Resources Management/to Updates\*. M. Suarez asked K. Bolz to discuss an update regarding the Administration Committee's recommendation to add a Dependent Care Flexible Savings Account as a staff benefit. K. Bolz explained that Dependent Care Flexible Savings Accounts are accounts that allow employees to set aside pre-tax dollars for dependent care expenses. The estimated cost includes a \$250 one-time policy set up fee and a \$75 per month administrative fee. The proposed action for the full Board of Trustees is to recommend adding the Dependent Care Flexible Savings Account as a benefit for CHE employees. D. Marvin stated that the agenda/minutes should be corrected to note board action.

**Motion:** **The motion comes from the Administration Committee** to approve the DCFSAs as a staff benefit. **T. DeJong seconded**. No further discussion. **All voting members (13) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernan, Marvin, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson, Young). **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

- c. Other. No business.

## 6. Correspondence, Announcements and Other.

- a. Other. K. Bolz noted the note from the Echo Collective on page 31 that outlines the positive impact of CHE's award to the nonprofit.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28.

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