

Government & Community Relations Working Group

(formerly: COVID-19 Response & Recovery Working Group)

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

1. Roll Call

- ✓ Richard Swierat, Chair (D)
- ✓ Mark Wilson (C)
- ✓ Barry Ramage (D)
- ✓ Priscilla Goldfarb (P)
- ✓ Rebekkah Smith Aldrich (Staff Liaison)
- ✓ Saran Camara (Staff Liaison)

2. Discussion with Bob Dandrew: The Committee met with and learned from Bob Dandrew a local resident who has a background in philanthropy and grantmaking, as well as fundraising. Mr. Dandrew shared advice on preparing our organization for fundraising; common strategies; as well as providing names of potential connections to charitable foundations in the region.

3. RFP for PR Services: The Committee finalized the request for proposals (RFP) for public relations services and directed Executive Director Aldrich to issue the RFP with a deadline of August 31st.

4. Dissolution of the Foundation for Hudson Valley Libraries: The Committee received an update on the guidance from the New York State Charities Bureau on the steps to dissolution.

5. Research with the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley: The Committee reviewed the documentation provided by the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley and directed Aldrich to seek clarification on several topics including the possibility of using CDs, service fees, and donor advised fund policies.

Monday, September 19, 2022

1. Roll Call

- ✓ Richard Swierat, Chair (D)
- ✓ Mark Wilson (C)
- ✓ Barry Ramage (D)
- ✓ Priscilla Goldfarb (P)
- ✓ Rebekkah Smith Aldrich (Staff Liaison)
- ✓ Saran Camara (Staff Liaison)

2. RFP of PR Service Responses: The Committee reviewed the results of the request for proposals (RFP) for PR Services and directed Aldrich to seek an interview with the top firm and to discuss our progress on this topic with the members of the System Services Advisory Committee for their feedback.

3. Dissolution of the Foundation for Hudson Valley Libraries: Saran Camara, MHLS Financial Manager & Personnel Officer provided an update on the process to dissolve the Foundation at the state level.

4. FAQs about the Community Foundation: The committee will work on an informational piece for the December board meeting to answer anticipated questions about creating a donor advised fund with the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.