



North River Collaborative Board of Directors  
Friday, March 8, 2024-9:00 AM  
Minutes

Present: Paul Tzovolos, Marie Grable, Ellen George, Kelli O'Brien-McKinnon, Alan Cron, Peter Schafer (virtual), Joe Baeta (virtual), Christine Godino, Julie Hamilton, Matt Ferron, and Jeff Szymaniak,  
Absent: Mark Bodwell, Liz Legault, and Ryan Powers

**I. Call to Order-** Chairman Alan Cron called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

**II. Approval of Minutes-February 2, 2024**

**Motion:** Jeff Szymaniak made a motion to accept the minutes of February 2, 2024. Julie Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**III. Approval of Warrants:**

\* All presented warrants were signed by a majority of the Board for approval, no vote was needed.

**IV. Discussion/Action Items**

**A. FY25 Budget Presentation Second Reading-**Mr. Tzovolos presented the following adjustments of the FY25 Budget, which was certified by Treasurer Arthur Sullivan, to the Board:

- Under the Administration Tab, Treasurer salary increased to \$26,000 (increased expense by \$1,352) due to communication and negotiation following the first reading.
- Under the P&L Tab, SAILS Summer/ESY Tuition increased to \$5,347 member districts (an increase of \$763) and \$5,427 non-member districts (an increase of \$774) due to an identified miscalculation and subsequent correction. Increased revenue by \$9,156.
- Under the SAILS Program Tab, SAILS Summer Program/ESY, additional lead teacher position added for summer 2024. Increased expenses by \$5,666.
- Under SAILS Program Tab, SAILS Summer Program/ESY, additional instructional supplies funds added for summer 2024. Increased expenses by \$1,931.
- Indirect cost distributions across all spreadsheets were impacted given the alteration of the Administration Tab/Treasurer salary increased expenses across tabs by \$207. Minor impact across all spreadsheets.
- Under P&L tab, duplicate entry of FC0274 grant allocation of \$8,157 removed, adjusting the final total FY25 (all funds) budget amount and net changes against FY24.

**Motion:** Julie Hamilton made a motion to approve the FY25 Budget as presented with adjustments. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**B. Approval of Program Calendars for 2024-2025-**Mr. Tzovolos presented the 2024-2025 program calendars to the Board for approval and noted that the calendars are all consistent in format with summer programs and school hours included.

**Motion:** Julie Hamilton made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 program calendars. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

- H. DEI Coordinator Survey Discussion-Mr. Tzovolos started the discussion with regards to the DEI Coordinator to get a sense of the true needs of the member districts. Board members are concerned about the cost and want the Collaborative to coordinate the position to be a consultant for the member districts. Board members also voiced a need for DEI audits which are required by DESE. After much discussion, Mr. Tzovolos stated that he would rework the posting to reflect a consultation based position rather than a formal FTE.
- I. Executive Director Evaluation Process- Mr. Tzovolos asked the Board for their preference in evaluating his first year here at the Collaborative so that he could prepare appropriately. In the past the Board evaluated executive directors through the Board of Directors Personnel and Evaluation Sub-committee. After discussion with the Board, it was decided and agreed that an open discussion with the whole Board as part of the evaluation process at the June Board Meeting was the most preferred and transparent option.
- J. Other Matters of Interest to Board Members

**Motion:** Jeff Szymaniak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM**

Respectfully submitted by:  
Julie Hamilton, Board Secretary  
NRC Board of Directors