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*** MEETING MINUTES ***

Minutes of the December 8, 2005, Board Meeting

Attendance:

Leon E. Ashford, Ph.D.
Mary Calzaretta
Chrissie A. Barfield Campbell
Clement Cann
Stephen Doss
Marguerite E. Grandelious
Ruby Jones
Caroline Korybut
Brooke Sehy
Alva L. Smith

The meeting was chaired by President Mary Calzaretta.

Community Comments - John Murphy, Employment Connection, told trustees about issues related to children of incarcerated parents.

Announcements - Mary Calzaretta reported that she attended an event by Vision for Children at Risk (VCR) to mark the issuance of the latest *Children of Metropolitan St. Louis Report*. MHB was recognized for the passage of the Community Children's Services Fund. On behalf of MHB, she accepted the Children's Champions Outstanding Leaders Award for Governmental Leadership. Don Cuvo said that trustees should recall that MHB provided support for the production of the *Children of Metropolitan St. Louis Report*, as it had twice before. Copies of the report were distributed to trustees. Mary noted that it was announced, at the event, that the yield from the Children's Fund would be \$7 million, this is incorrect. It is anticipated that the real estate and personal property taxes are expected to produce about \$5.5 million. Don said that he has heard \$7 to \$8 million mentioned at community meetings. Community stakeholders may be disappointed or unbelieving of the correct amount.

Don was asked about the Mayor's Commission on Children, Youth and Families. He said that since Dr. Kincaid has resigned from MHB, to become the City's Director of Health, he asked that Mary Calzaretta be appointed as MHB's representative. Don said that MHB is providing administrative and clerical support to the Commission.

Communications consultant, Debra Shurn, Marketing Works, reviewed some of the highlights of this year's communication plan. She distributed to trustees a DVD of the latest How's Your Mental Health cable TV show (Channel 10). This show was on Depression and Natural Disasters. The next show will be on the topic of Schizophrenia. She was asked whether a similar show was planned for Children's Services. She said yes. She showed story boards of a new concept of a show called, "What's Up!", which would be for youth. She said that there were plans for a local youthful radio DJ to be the show's host.

Minutes - The Minutes of the November 17, 2005 meeting were approved as mailed.

Monthly Grants Report - Don asked if trustees still found the Monthly Grants Report informative and useful and if they would prefer a quarterly report. They responded that they would like the monthly report to continue. Randy Breese presented trustees with the monthly grants report. Randy reminded Trustees that there would be a special update on the MFH CANA report in February by Allyce Bullock, Project Director. Randy reported that other items were usual and customary.

Resolution to Revise Table of Organization - Don said that it was expected, at the beginning of the planning process, that MHB, as an organization, would need to change. He reviewed a resolution revising the Table of Organization to add a Deputy Director position. Trustees approved the revision to the Table, approved the Deputy Director job description and a change in the title of Grants Manager to Project Director.

Resolution to Approve Investment Priorities for Community Children's Services Fund - Don said that there were several fundamental differences between outcome-based funding and funding to meet unmet needs. The outcome approach prioritizes return on investment, i.e., working toward systemic change, over needs-based approaches, which seeks to add services to an already inadequate service system (as is the case in St. Louis). The outcome approach starts with the funder deciding what it wants to accomplish by investing funds in community organizations. Funded organizations participate by offering their expertise and special skills through funded programs.

Don reviewed the process of getting to that night's vote on Investment Priorities. It started with the state statute which defines which services may be funded. Then community stakeholders developed a children's services plan, which prioritized four areas of need to focus the funding. The Board conducted a year-long strategic planning process to make the organization (MHB) ready to distribute the new funding. A Vision, five goals and fourteen objectives were agreed to. Trustees went through an exercise to determine how funds would be distributed among the fourteen objectives.

While all fourteen objectives will be worked on, trustees selected five to prioritize. Lastly, MHB as an organization was examined and changes were made to the Table of Organization. Recognizing that there would not be enough funds to fully, or even adequately fund all fourteen objectives. Trustees considered three options. Option 1 contained five objectives which trustees prioritized in the Board Exercise (\$100.). Option 2 contained eight objectives and Option 3, ten objectives. The choices were to fund fewer objectives more fully or spreading available funds over more objectives. Trustees chose Option 1, but agreed that they wanted language added which would allow the funding of after school programs.