**PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT (PSG) COUNCIL**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Ed Ball Building, 8th Floor Board Room 851**

**March 13, 2023 – 2:00 PM**

**Chair: Beth Mixson**

**Vice-Chair: Courtney Weatherby-Hunter**

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| **Committee Meeting Attendance** | | | |
| **X** | **Bob Baldwin** | **E** | **Courtney Weatherby-Hunter-Vice Chair** |
| **X** | **Beth Mixson- Chair** | **X** | **Dr. Dawn Emerick** |
| **X** | **Jaclyn Blair** | **-** | **VACANT** |
| **X** | **Jackie Perry - Zoom** | **-** | **VACANT** |
| **X** | **Brad Goodwin** | **-** | **VACANT** |
| **E** | **Dogan Tozoglu** | **-** | **VACANT** |
| **X** | **Marcie Turner** | **-** | **VACANT** |
| **X** | **Mary Pat Wallmeyer** |  |  |

**Quorum Present:*****Yes***

**Staff**: Saralyn Grass, John Snyder, Ashleigh Brew, Najera Stevenson, Pat Hughes, & Kristen Hodges- Division of Grants & Contract Compliance

Jeremy Brown, Lawsikia Hodges (Zoom)- Office of General Counsel

1. **Call To Order & Roll Call – Ms. Mixson**

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. after which each Council member, both in person and virtually, and staff members introduced themselves and gave a brief description of their respective roles.

1. **Approval of Agenda – Ms. Mixson**

Approval of the agenda was motioned by Mr. Baldwin, seconded by Dr. Turner, motion carried.

1. **Approval of Minutes – Ms. Mixson**

The minutes for prior meetings held on 02/01/23, 02/13/23 and 02/24/23 were motioned for approval by Ms. Blair, seconded by Mr. Baldwin, motion carried.

1. **Committee Reports – Ms. Mixson**
   * **Budget Sub-Committee – Ms. Wallmeyer**

Ms. Wallmeyer reiterated the recommendations from the sub-committee meeting, which is to request $10,000,000 in funding because the number of grant requests received totaled $9.6 million. Ms. Mixson stated that she met with Councilmen Gaffney, Jr. and Carlucci and they both indicated that they would be supportive of the $10,000,000.

Dr. Grass stated she met with the Mayor’s Office to ask them about the potential support. This budget year will be different because the Mayor’s Office will prepare the budget, but a new mayor will come in in July and may make some changes to the budget and submit it to the City Council. While the budget is still being developed, the Mayor’s Office did not have an issue with a $10,000,000 request.

* + **Rules Sub-Committee – Mr. Baldwin**

No Meeting

* + **Most Vulnerable Persons Sub-Committee – Dr. Emerick**

No Meeting

1. **Unfinished Business- Ms. Mixson**

**Update on the MVP Legislation-Mr. Brown**

* + **Status of Legislation changing 118.806 & 807 or other sections-Mr. Brown (OGCC) - Draft Legislation Discussion**

Mr. Brown stated that the legislation regarding changes to 118.806 and 807 was drafted and there were two other items that were discussed at the meeting when the 806 & 807 amendments were voted on. Those items are the removal of the $7,000,000 aspiration amount that was in 802 and the five-person going down to 3 people reviewing each application. Mr. Brown added those items to the ordinance, but they have not been approved by the PSG Council.

* + **Public Comment on proposed changes to Chapter 118 Part 8-Ms. Mixson**

No comments

* + **Vote on changes to Chapter 118- Ms. Mixson**

It was moved by Mr. Baldwin to discuss the proposed legislative changes, seconded by Ms. Blair, motion carried.

After discussions, the recommended changes are as follows:

\*It was moved by Dr. Emerick to keep Page 2, Line 10-11 (The aspirational annual funding amount for Public Service Grants shall be $7,000,000), seconded by Mr. Baldwin, motion carried.

\*It was moved by Mr. Baldwin that the scoring be changed from five people to three PSG Council members, seconded by Ms. Blair, motion carried.

\*It was motioned by Mr. Baldwin to strike out Page 7, Lines 12-15 (In the event that the PSG Council membership is less than eight members, all members of the PSG Council shall be required to score each grant application), seconded by Dr. Emerick, motion carried.

1. **New Business-Ms. Mixson**
   * **PSG Council Discussion regarding Budget Sub-Committee Recommendations-Ms. Mixson**

Ms. Mixson stated that when we go to the City Council and to the Mayor’s Office to make our request, we may invite the agency partners to join us.

* + **Public Comment Budget Sub-Committee Recommendations (10 Min)-Ms. Mixson**

No comments

* + **Vote on Budget Recommendation (5 Min)-Ms. Mixson**

It was moved by Dr. Turner to accept the Budget recommendation of $10,000,000, seconded by Mr. Baldwin, motion carried.

1. **Announcements- Ms. Mixson/Dr. Saralyn Grass**

There are five spaces available on the PSG Council Committee. Mr. Snyder stated that people who have expressed an interest in being on the committee should apply before April 1st, this will enable them to move forward with the approval process and be able to score.

Dr. Turner stated that she was supposed to rotate out at the end of the year 2022, but she is still here because a replacement has not been appointed for her.

Dr. Emerick stated that she is filling in for someone’s vacancy, her tenure ends at the end of 2023 unless she gets reassigned.

Dr. Grass stated that she talked with the Mayor’s Office as well and they are willing to potentially make a few appointments, if not all of them.

Ms. Mixson and Dr. Grass met and discussed that the PSG Council members do a Retreat in phases.

Focus Group-meet with those that are currently funded through PSG to find out what’s working, what they would like to see and change those kinds of things.

Smaller groups-The way they were funded in three different categories. Ms. Mixson had an idea to potentially do another focus group with those that might have come to the initial meeting but didn’t apply to find out what they know once they heard about it and, why did they decide not to apply. Once those are done, we get some kind of information from those people who are actually working with us. We could bring those results back to the Council and do a little Retreat about what we want to do going forward.

Finally, the suggestion is to create an RFP (Request for Proposal) so that we’re not tied down every time every time we want to make a change to the scoring process, and that you have to file legislation to do so. We could consider doing multi-year funding and things like that, or at least allowing yourselves the ability to consider it. We will most likely get a consultant to help us do these things and help us through the process. If you all are interested, that is something that we would like to introduce to you. That would make some really good changes for us going forward. To reimagine what PSG Council could do, and hopefully get more money and grow even further.

1. **Public Comments**

Teresa Miles, Women’s Center of Jacksonville stated that smaller organizations may be hesitant to apply because one of the challenges is to carry the payroll for so long before the agency receives their first check. The agency doesn’t know whether or not it received the grant until a month and half into the funding cycle and the agency is faced with laying people off or having not hired people originally to meet the objectives of the grant.

1. **Talking Point Handout – Ms. Mixson**

Ms. Mixson stated that the Talking Points are for when PSG Council members and the nonprofit partners are having discussions with the City Council or the Mayor’s Office and asking for their support. Suggested changes are as follows:

\*At the advice of Dr. Grass, we are deleting the second bullet under History and Funding Equivalency.

\*Instead of naming the agencies not funded, the statement was changed to “Agencies not funded address critical community issues such as homelessness, housing, mental health, safety as well as addiction, hunger, and workforce development.

\*Add the programs not funded in FY2022/23 with scores.

**Comments**

Mia Jones, Agape, stated that the Federal Government is requiring that all Medicaid Recipients be reevaluated for their eligibility since the pandemic is over. This will increase the number of patients that are uninsured, which is something that the community has to prepare for going forward.

Bill Haley, Family Foundations, stated that instead of naming organizations that didn’t get funded, name the service that didn’t get funded to City council to make the case.

Ms. Mixson stated that the next step will be for a letter to be sent to the Mayor’s Office and a copy to The City Council President. The letter will be sent out by March 30th. Then we will wait for the Mayor’s Budget Review Committee before we move forward.

1. **Adjournment-Ms. Mixson**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

**Next Meeting Date – Monday, April 10, 2023 @ 2:00 PM**