BOARD OF ADVISORS

Meeting Minutes – May 27, 2020

Advisory Board Members

Present: Patricia Marcin, Chairperson
Marc Wong, Vice Chair
Natalie Abatmarco
Robert Barnett
Nancy Engelhardt

Staff: David Okorn
Jeannie DeMaio
Sol Marie Jones
Marie Smith
Tonya Thomas

Absent: Janet Barone
John DeCelle
Sandra Krasnoff
Edward Palleschi
Jim Meyer
Phyllis Hill Slater

WELCOME
Patricia Marcin called the Zoom meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. with appreciation to those who joined in this morning.

APPROVAL OF MARCH MINUTES
The minutes of the March 25, 2020 meeting could not be approved because we did not have a quorum. An email will be sent to all board members asking for their votes by proxy.

COVID-19 GRANTMAKING UPDATE
LICF staff did a year’s worth of grantmaking in eight weeks. We raised $1,420,000 for the COVID-19 Long Island Philanthropic Response Fund and, to date, have granted $986,000 in Phase 1 for emergency needs. Such needs included computer equipment for virtual meetings and telehealth, personnel protective equipment, and food. We currently have $430,000 for Phase 2 and continue to fundraise. A review is in progress to determine funding and service gaps so that we can once again target our grants to achieve the greatest outcomes for our community. We are experiencing a significant slowdown of contributions. Efforts to increase donations include a social media campaign that has been donated by Scotts Miracle-Gro (Hagedorn’s) and a potential virtual concert in early July hosted by the Molloy College as they have strong relationships with many musicians, comedians and other entertainers through their campus theater where many have previously performed. A comprehensive list of COVID grants was distributed prior to this meeting. Board members are encouraged to share information about this fund and solicit contributions.
The AFTEE “Feed the Need” Fund has raised $729,000 and granted $462,000 for insecurity in the five east end towns. They will be holding a virtual concert on June 6 to raise money for this fund. Trish will reach out to Sandy Novak.

PROGRAM STAFF UPDATES
Forty-nine (49) grant proposals totaling $1,315,000 in requests were received for cycle two of our competitive grantmaking program. Of that total, the LICF received 38 proposals requesting $861,500 and the LIUU received 11 proposals requesting $270,000. We are currently paring down the requests as many projects will not be able to run during the pandemic, i.e. schools are shut down, people cannot convene in large groups, etc. Many of the proposals will either be declined or withdrawn and considered in the last cycle. Recommendations will be made at our July board meeting.

DEVELOPMENT, MARKETING & COMMUNICATION UPDATES
Wilmington Trust presented to our senior management team last week as a follow up to a presentation we made to their team a few months back. It is hopeful that they will become a Trustee Financial Institution and that they will use our Donor Advised Fund program for their clients through the LICF. If this program proves successful it could be a model to partner with other financial institutions.

New funds include:
- Veronica & Robert Edwards Giving Fund at $5,000.
- The Eric E. Thomas Fund, which will come in at $365,000 and be used for children with disabilities (Jed Albert at Farrell Fritz drafted gift instrument).
- The dissolution of a $750,000 private foundation (client of Pat Galteri) into a Donor Advised Fund.
- Salat donor-advised fund valued at $1.4 million finally seems to be moving forward with the Charities Bureau of the Attorney General’s office so hopefully will be received this year.
- North Fork Side-by-Side at $500,000, a field of interest fund for Southold & Riverhead towns using grants to inspire others to give on the North Fork (referral from John Halsey).
- Robin Hopkins Amper Memorial Scholarship will start at $100,000; fundraising is underway. We will help them process the scholarship applications.

Northwell Health Employees Dependent’s scholarship applications (700) are being processed. At the end of the review process, ten children of Northwell Health employees will receive $10,000 renewable annual scholarships. Guidelines will be revisited for this annual program to manage the number of applicants. The fund will increase from $100,000 up to $500,000 over the next few years.

Trish acknowledged the efforts of LICF staff during this extraordinary time.

A brief discussion was held regarding future community needs that will continue far
beyond “NY PAUSE” ending on Long Island. Some concerns include restrictions on government funding as public dollars cannot be used on undocumented immigrants, who make up a very large part of our region; we are anticipating a huge wave of financial hardships that will come into focus after unemployment and eviction moratoriums expire; affordable housing is already an issue, and the future is expected to be much worse. Overall, the economic forecast is very grim, and the recovery period will be long and difficult. We will continue to be smart about where we make our grants.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.