



FIREFLY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

April 28, 2020

Skype

PRESENT VIA	Debbie Larson	Peter Harland	Julianne Jollymore
SKYPE:	Michelle Simone	Kim Vares	Caroline Collins
	Jennifer Esterreicher	Alisha Dasti-Hill	Tana Troniak
	Chris Bonner-Vickers		
REGRETS:	Carlyne Bell		
STAFF VIA SKYPE:	Karen Ingebrigtsen	Bruce Meisner	Tammy Hanstead
GUESTS:	Dani Vahovick	Andrew Koch, Gillons Insurance	

Ms. Larson called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

GILLONS INSURANCE PRESENTATION

Mr. Meisner introduced presenter Andrew Koch, Commercial Account Executive, Gillons Insurance Brokers to the Board. Mr. Koch thanked Mr. Meisner for the invitation to present “Directors and Officers Insurance” to the Board. Mr. Koch commenced the presentation by providing a brief history of Gillons Insurance Brokers, Frank Cowan Company. Mr. Koch reviewed FIREFLY’s Board of Directors insurance coverage by sharing his screen via Skype with the Board. A question and answer period followed.

Ms. Larson commenced the meeting by introducing guest Dani Vahovick, Chief Steward/Grievance Officer of OPSEU (Ontario Public Service Employees Union), Local 743. Ms. Larson noted that the Board of Directors may hear presentations from individuals or groups. Board policy requires those wishing to present to the Board are to advise the CEO in writing at least ten days prior to the Board meeting. Further details regarding delegations to the Board are available from the CEO.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest was declared.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1 Moved by Chris Bonner-Vickers
 Seconded by Peter Harland
 That the consent agenda of April 28, 2020 be approved.
 CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

Board Meeting Evaluations

Ms. Larson provided an update relating to Ms. Collins' inquiry regarding the meeting evaluation process at the Board meeting on March 24, 2020. Ms. Larson referred to the "Guide to Good Governance: Not-for-Profit and Charitable Organizations", Chapter 8; Sample Meeting Effectiveness Survey. Ms. Larson shared that previously evaluations were completed electronically following the meeting. The process was changed to a volunteer system due to low participation of the online survey.

Ms. Larson noted that Board meeting evaluations is an element that Accreditation Canada reviews, ensuring continuous quality improvement.

A discussion followed. The Board of Directors agreed that the process of verbal evaluation will continue, using the sample meeting effectiveness evaluation questions as a guide in proving the evaluation. The questions are on page 214 in the "Guide to Good Governance: Not-for-Profit and Charitable Organizations" that was shared with the Board of Directors via email on December 11, 2019 and included in the new Board orientation manual.

CEO and LEAD AGENCY REPORT

Ms. Ingebrigtsen provided the CEO and Lead Agency update to the Board, noting that COVID-19, has been a challenge for staff and clients as everyone learns and adjusts to new ways of delivering service. FIREFLY staff have certainly risen to the challenge, using innovation and finding new ways of working and focusing on client needs. FIREFLY is engaged in leadership and advocacy activities locally and provincially. ANHP (All Nations Health Partners) group meets weekly to plan and address priorities including testing, food security, services for vulnerable people and PPE (Personal Protection Equipment).

This writer also participates on the Ontario Health North Region Mental Health and Addictions COVID 19 Response group and the group's planning committee, providing a children's service lens. We also attend CMHO (Children's Mental Health Ontario) twice weekly to discuss the mental health and well-being of children during this pandemic. The Lead Agency Consortium and Empowered Kids Ontario also meet weekly to support the children's services system during this rapidly changing time. Lead Agency Consortium met with senior ministry staff relating to a pilot of psychotherapy services aligned with the education and adult mental health system. The pilot will commence in Southern Ontario, it is expected that northern areas will receive funding next year.

Ms. Ingebrigtsen highlighted that FIREFLY childcare staff volunteered to return to work to provide childcare for essential workers. There are 10 spaces available in Kenora; families apply to the KDSB (Kenora District Services Board) for this program. EarlyON staff have developed innovative and creative ways to reach families. Minto Family Resource Centre is an important service for food security for families, providing meals to families in a safe manner. Ms. Ingebrigtsen highlighted FIREFLY's IT (Information Technology) staff and virtual services, noting that staff were, almost immediately, provided with all equipment required to provide virtual services to clients. FIREFLY is following guidelines of public health authorities. Regular Joint Health and Safety Committee meetings continue, attending to the processes and practices related to working at home during COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Ingebrigtsen asked if the Board of Directors would consider the AGM (Annual General Meeting) scheduled for Tuesday, June 16th be postponed until early fall. The Ontario Emergency Order enables Boards to delay an AGM. A question and answer period followed. Ms. Ingebrigtsen shared that the 2020-2021 Board of Directors meeting schedule, usually presented at the AGM, will be prepared, including the AGM, by Ms. Hanstead and brought to the Board on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 for review.

MOTION #2 Moved by Michelle Simone
 Secoded by Alisha Dasti-Hill

That the April 2020 Lead Agency Report and April 2020 CEO Report be approved as presented.

CARRIED

FINANCE

Mr. Meisner shared that the 2020-2021 budget was reviewed with the Fiscal Advisory Committee on Wednesday, April 22, 2020. The review of financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2020 deferred to April 28, 2020.

SERVICE REPORT

Ms. Ingebrigtsen reviewed the April 2020 Service Report with the Board, sharing that Ms. Larsson sent her regrets for the meeting. Due to COVID-19, there were many activities, meetings, training and travel plans that were cancelled or postponed. CYDS team have lent their virtual expertise with far north clients and with other organizations across the province. FIREFLY's First Annual Virtual Conference will be held on May 7th and 8th. At this time, 230 individuals have registered for the conference. A question and answer period followed.

MOTION # 3 Moved by Caroline Collins
 Seconded by Peter Harland
 That the April 2020 Service Report be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED

STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Plan update deferred to the next Board meeting.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Fiscal Advisory Committee

Ms. Jollymore noted that the Fiscal Advisory minutes were included with the Board meeting material for review.

CORRESPONDENCE/READING

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

EVALUATION

Mr. Bonner-Vickers provided the evaluation, noting that there was great flow. Mr. Bonner-Vickers recognized that staff are doing an amazing job during this unprecedented time. Mr. Bonner-Vickers highlighted the amount of input shared by Board members, noting that is what makes a very successful Board.

NEXT MEETING

Due to COVID-19, the next meeting scheduled for Friday, May 29, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in Fort Frances, will be held virtually on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. The June AGM will be postponed but a regular Board meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, June 16th and will take place virtually.

ADJOURNMENT

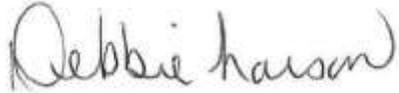
Having no further business, the Chairperson accepted a motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.



Tammy Hanstead
Recorder

May 19, 2020

Date



Debbie Larson
Chairperson

May 19, 2020

Date