

ELP BOARD MEETING NOTES

March 20, 2024
Call to Order: 8:35 am
Adjourned: 9:26 am

Attendance

Ackerman, Adam	Elliott, Jessica	Kelly Brittany	Schmolze, Tommy
x Barber, Katie	x Faulkenberry, Tom	x Lisk, David	Surratt, Kristen
x Bentley, Daniel	x Frothingham, Judy	McCallum, Sedrick	Taubenkimel, Cindy
x Brown, Lisa	x Green, Carolyn	x Mendoza, Dawn	x Thompson, Crystal
x Bush, Niki	Green, Courtney	x Moore, Laura	x Thompson, James
Close, Will	x Guenther, Courtney	Neelands, Angel	x Williams, Lisa-Anne
x Culp, Jane	x Harris, Hilary	x Owens, Robin	
x Echols, Sylvia	Hefney, Janet	Powell, Erin	
Edwards, Martha	x Hubbard, Rachel	Reno, Jim	

Minutes

Welcome

Presenter: Lisa-Anne Williams

- Welcome
- Percentage of board members who've contributed some or all of their pledge: 90%
- Approval of February 2024 meeting minutes
 - Motion to approve – Laura Moore
 - Second – Daniel Bentley
 - February 2024 minutes unanimously approved

Financial Report

Presenter: Laura Moore

- Bank Balance as of 02/29/2024: \$104,961.90
- Schwab Balance as of 02/29/2024: \$112,427 (5.03%)
- Total Cash: \$217,389.45
- Total Donations in February: \$38,199.51
 - Anonymous stock donation: \$7,069.14
 - EW Process: \$1,000
 - SCIMHA / Help Me Grow: \$2,000
 - Lake Wylie/Clover Mayday: \$6,170
 - Gala Sponsorships: \$21,000
- Endowment Balance 01/31/2024: \$60,435
- ROR
 - Credits Spent: \$0
 - ROR Credits Earned as Income: \$6,797.45
 - ROR Credits Remaining: \$18,271.60
- Net Income as 02/29/2024: \$56,563.31

Programs Report

Presenter: Nicolette Bush

- All sites pediatric sites submitted ROR progress reports
- Annual site visits with ROR coordinator this week

- Delivered Safe Sleep books to all ROR sites
- Completed 2nd NICU orientation
- Community Book Giveaway:
 - * Black History books for St. John's Methodist preschool
 - * Down's Syndrome book for Mt. Gallant World Down's Syndrome Day

NB: Site visits are going well and we're getting great feedback! Dr. Tafari at North Central said that we are the best part about pediatric visits - It's all coughing and spitting and crying but the book is the best part.

Lisa-Anne Williams: Can we use that quote on social media?

NB: I should have asked him! I don't think he'd mind.

Judy Frothingham: And let's get him to do a testimonial for the gala!

NB: Another great idea!

LAW: We're keeping you busy on social media.

NB: I welcome any ideas you have!

LAW: When do you get to do your first solo visit in the NICU?

NB: Next Wednesday.

Executive Director Report

Presenter: Rachel Hui-Hubbard

- Lots of work on the Literacy Ball. Response from board members and sponsors has been very enthusiastic. Surprise side effect: grant opportunities (ex. Big Lots)
- Palmetto Mornings show in early April
- We're the charity of the month at two of our retail partners!
 - The Market, 412 Tom Hall St. in Fort Mill
 - Kounter, 135 E. Main St. Suite 101 in Rock Hill. Order the Rain Water cocktail OR the Dancing In The Rain mocktail
- Partnership with Open Arms at Pilgrim's Inn to stock their classroom libraries and main library shelves on a quarterly basis. A great partnership. Thanks to David Lisk for connecting us
- Perihelion book club donation: requested that some funds be directed towards Open Arms.
- Next meeting we'll be presenting the 2024-25 budget for vote at May meeting
- May meeting doodle poll – please vote!

Laura Moore: I went to the Market this weekend and our information (sign, bookmarks) are right there just inside the door! They were pretty busy. As soon as you walk in, you see ELP!

Rachel: David Lisk connected me to Open Arms at Pilgrim's Inn. David, would you like to say anything?

David Lisk: Sure, their director is Christina Dixon and I imagine it's been difficult to get in touch with her due to some health issues. When we look at the children and families there, there aren't a lot of books. Some of the books are really dated. We've been giving them books but more books are needed, not only for teachers to use but for kids to take home. The kids move from place to place so they need books they can take with them. Replenishing Little Free Libraries also helps with this. We're glad to have ELP help Open Arms.

JF: This would be a great thing for the gala as well – that the gala is supporting this project. We could say "We love your sponsorships, this is how it's allowing us to grow."

RHH: I've already applied for a grant to support them. Pilgrim's Inn does such good work and being able to participate in this means so much to me personally.

DL: We recently made a video of programs around the state. And one that the home office chose was the 4k program at Open Arms. They were chosen strictly on the quality of day care, without the home office even realizing that the focus was on homeless children.

RHH: They are looking to open an infant room, so we'll be able to provide books to support their classrooms. Thank you again, David!

Dawn Mendoza: Can I ask a question regarding that? Part of my job is preschool evaluation services. We could maybe get someone to donate some small bags with a logo for the kids to carry their books in, something we could write a child's name on.

DL: We put together little art boxes to carry with them (items for creativity like crayons, etc.). Part of making brain connections is that creativity.

DM: I could put a basket out to collect supplies. I don't want to take up too much time in the meeting but we can discuss more offline.

Workgroup Reports

- **Events: Judy Frothingham**

JF: To give everyone an update – we have 62 reserved tickets right now (63 remaining). We have 125 tickets total, Rachel and I are seeing if we can increase that number. To get a ticket, let Niki know or go online and make a donation and add a note that it's for tickets. We'll have a list at the door so that paper tickets aren't needed. For in-kind donations, right now we have 37 items, like Orange Theory sessions, restaurant gift cards, a photo session, a signed Hornets basketball, Kendra Scott. We do have requests in for some more live auction items. You can create baskets or items of value. I'm trying to collect all by mid-April to repackage them into baskets.

Katie Barber: So there's no formality in terms of "Katie sold her 8 tickets."

JF No, we're just encouraging everyone to help.

Courtney Guenther: I purchased tickets and was impressed by our system! How will we know when we're sold out?

NB: I'll send an email to the board. I will warn you all when we get close to the end, like 5 or 10 tickets left. Then I'll let you all know when we're sold out completely.

JF: If anyone wants to help decorate the day of or anything like that, please reach out to me! We're going with a vintage map theme, if you have any vintage suitcases let us know. Thanks for all you're doing!

- **Board Connections:** (Daniel Bentley, Sylvia Echols, Kristen Surratt)
 - **March Birthdays:** Daniel Bentley (3/5), Carolyn Green (3/20)
- **In The Know:** (Hilary Harris, Janet Hefney, James Thompson, Courtney Green)
ED, HHS Issue Recommendations to Improve Young Children's Social-Emotional Development, Mental Health.
[Early Learning Home Page \(ed.gov\)](#)
<https://www.iecmhc.org/>

Hilary Harris: IECMHC is not about "fixing" kids but giving adults tools and info to work with kids, providing education and support to caregivers.

Sylvia Echols: What ELP does is a big part of mental health because if we can get people to understand the importance of bonding, that's a big part of preventing mental health issues.

Other information

For Your Calendars:

* Next ELP board meeting via zoom Wednesday, April 17, 2024

* Literacy Ball – May 4, 2024