

**Prosperity Denver Fund
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**March 13, 2024
7:30-9:30 AM MT
On Zoom**

Attendees:

Board members: Theresa Peña, Polica Houston, Steve Kurtz, and Diana Romero Campbell; Jason Wardrip and Millie Barsallo attended as non-voting members

Staff: Lauren Sisneros - Interim CEO, Korrine Salas Young - Community Engagement Director, Amy Franklin - Data & Evaluation Director, Rebecca Andruszka - Project Manager

Advisors: TeRay Esquibel - Ednum, Trey Rogers - Recht Kornfeld

Guests: Nate Cadeña - DSF, Natasha Garfield - DSF, Rhett Gutierrez- OCA, Lorii Rabinowitz - DSF

Call to order: Theresa Peña, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:32 AM. A quorum was present.

Data & Finance

Lauren Sisneros presented proposals for the following projects:

- Metrix IQ Database Maintenance
- CU Leeds Economic Impact Report - establishes a baseline for our collegiate program work
- CEEMI EGTC Data Partnership - need to establish this to move forward with Emily Griffith partnership
- Prosono Evaluation Support

The Board asked clarifying questions. Regarding the CU Leeds project, Steve Kurtz referenced a conversation had at the committee level about having our Supported Organizations help support the project. Polica Houston requested a clear timeline for the researchers to present to the Board, which Lauren will incorporate into their kick-off call deliverables.

Jason Wardrip referenced the difficulty of tracking students in credentials programs, which Polica Houston echoed regarding high school alumni. Polica suggested the possibility of creating our own database of students to track alumni, but Lorii Rabinowitz highlighted the

difficult of such data-sharing. Millie Barsallo shared the perspective of the 1215 Task Force/Colorado state government.

Motion to approve all four proposals: *Steve Kurtz moved, Theresa Peña seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Motion to approve January 2024 board meeting minutes: *Steve Kurtz moved, Polica Houston seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Theresa Peña referenced the financial statements that were shared in the Board meeting packet. Official approval for these statements is not needed.

Governance

Review and approve Board resolutions

Trey Rogers reviewed the draft resolution regarding high school support services' reimbursement to charter schools. He explained that the ordinance expressly forbade colleges and universities from seeking reimbursement for their internal scholarship and support services programs. The draft resolution would align our policy for high school services in a similar way so that high schools cannot seek reimbursement for any support services they provide to their current students. (It does not affect the decision to reimburse schools who offer collegiate scholarships to their alumni.) Staff explained that a decision on this resolution is helpful to the pilot process.

Motion to approve the Board resolution about high school support services: *Diana Romero Campbell moved, Steve Kurtz seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Theresa Peña presented a Board resolution to change the Board term limits from two (2) to three (3). The mayor will still need to approve all appointment and renewals.

Motion to approve the Board resolution to increase term limits: *Diana Romero Campbell moved, Polica Houston seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Motion to approve Theresa Peña for a third Board term: *Steve Kurtz moved, Diana Romero Campbell seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Theresa shared that Mark Goodman's term expires in May 2024, but has agreed to stay on until a new voting member has been approved to replace him. Diana Romero Campbell

offered to follow-up on the City Council's approval process of Board nominees (Jason Wardrip and Millie Barsallo).

Officer nominations

Motion to approve Theresa Peña as Board Chair and Steve Kurtz as Vice Chair: *POlica Houston moved, Diana Romero Campbell seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Steve Kurtz will also continue to act as Treasurer. Officer roles will be reviewed after the official appointment of our Board nominees and the hire of a new CEO (expected June/July).

Program Updates

Spring 2024 Distribution Schedule (Collegiate)

Korrine Salas Young reported that we are expecting seven Supported Organizations to participate in the collegiate Spring Distribution cycle. The application for scholarship participation is currently open and the support services application will launch on March 14.

High School Support Services Pilot Program

Korrine Salas Young described changes to the High School Support Services pilot, including the decision to reimburse organizations for the 2022-23 academic year only. There is also a sharper focus on new, improvised, and expanded services that were implemented in the reimbursement period. Reimbursements will be capped so that organizations do not receive more than 75% of their services provided to Denver high school students. No more than 20% of PDF's annual tax revenue will be dedicated to high school support services. All Supported Organizations are invited to participate.

We expect to present a policy to the Board in May to distribute funding in the summer. Lorii Rabinowitz suggested that June 30 or earlier would be a preferred pay date for organizations whose fiscal year is July-June.

Credentials Pilot Program

Amy Franklin presented progress on the Credentials pilot. Currently, we are working with three organizations on this project. Five additional organizations have been providing insight and may join the pilot, and we have been in discussion with Emily Griffith Technical College and Denver Health.

The timeline for both of the pilot programs has been aligned, so policies regarding this program will also be presented in May.

Evaluation

TeRay Esquibel from Ednium presented their Qualitative Research Report, which was intended to provide insights into primary factors that influence students' persistence in higher education. As part of this project, Ednium provided individual reports to the Supported Organizations who participated as well as an overall report to PDF. The report emphasized the importance of close, ongoing relationships with students and alumni, which needs to be balanced against most organizations' limited capacity and resources.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 AM.