



CAN Board of Directors Meeting

10/09/20 Minutes

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Present: **Emily Barron**, (for Council Member Rudy Metayer, City of Pflugerville); **Marina Bhargava**, Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce; **Eric Bustos**, Capital Metro; **Megan Cermak**, Central Health; **Chris Cervini**, Austin Community College; **Nora Comstock**, CAN Community Council; **David Evans**, Austin Travis County Integral Care; **Jimmy Flannigan**, Council Member, City of Austin; **Simone Talma-Flowers**, Interfaith Action of Central Texas; **Juan Garza**, (for Mike Geeslin, Central Health); **Nancy Gilliam**, CAN Community Council; **Suchitra Gururaj**, UT Austin; **Dr. Stephanie Hawley**, Austin ISD; **Kenny Hill**, Goodwill Central Texas; **Elizabeth Johnson**, St. Edward's University; **Dan Leal**, One Voice Central Texas; **Jeremy Martin**, Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce; **Leah Meunier**, Workforce Solutions Capital Area; **Katrina Montgomery**, (for Colette Pearce Burnette, Huston-Tillotson University); **Rich Segal**, Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce; **David Smith**, United Way for Greater Austin; **Ingrid Taylor**, Ascension Seton; **Ann Teich**, Austin ISD; **Jeffrey Travillion**, Precinct 1 Commissioner, Travis County.

CAN staff in attendance: Raul Alvarez, Carlos A Soto, Jelina Tunstill

Other guests: Blanca Alvarado, CAN Community Council; Mary Ann Cicala, Austin Community College; Fang Fang, Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce; Rachel Hampton, CAN Community Council; Lawrence Lyman, Travis County; Ara Merjanian; Walter Muse, Precinct One Commissioner's Office.

Call to order and Introduction: Board Chair Jimmy Flannigan called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm and introduced the meeting.

Minutes: The 9/11/20 meeting minutes were approved, after a motion submitted by Rich Segal, which was seconded by Nora Comstock. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Community Council Update: Dr. Nora Comstock announced that the Community Council is seeking nominations for 3-year terms starting in 2021. There are 17 positions open. Please consider nominating someone who might be interested. Part of the goal includes increasing diversity on the Council. The Community Council plans to host a Deliberative Dialogue on Monday Oct 19 from 6 to 8 pm, on the topic of "back to work", using materials developed by the National Issues Forum. There will be a training for facilitators on Tuesday Oct 13 at 12 pm and 6 pm.

Executive director report: Raul Alvarez mentioned that the newsletter will come out mid-month in October. Due to the challenges of holding a 4-hour retreat, which is what CAN usually does in November, the Executive Committee made the decision to hold part of the retreat conversation this month, and a follow-up conversation at the November meeting to identify priorities for the coming year. Community Council members were invited to the meeting today to join the conversation this month. Next, Alvarez shared an overview of the 2020 CAN Dashboard Report which was released on September 23. Alvarez also provided a brief overview of the CAN Dashboard website. CAN also released the We CAN! ATX website, which is designed to go beyond simply sharing the data. Instead, it is designed to help users actively engage around the data. Alvarez then demonstrated the website highlighting the most recent updates and new features.

Discussion and Possible Action on the Establishment of Central Texas Language Access Fund: The Language Access Work Group published its report at the end of 2017, and the Language Access Action Team formed to implement recommendations from that report. One of the recommendations in that report was to create this vehicle for securing financial resources aimed at better serving and engaging different language communities. Projects such as the We CAN ATX website, which will be available in a variety of languages, may have costs associated

with maintenance in those languages. The proposal we have brought forward takes the work to the next level. With Language Access, the direction we are trying to take is to create a community fund at the Austin Community Foundation to identify resources specifically to improve language services or expand language access in our community, in a way that many organizations can benefit, creating opportunities to leverage resources and support the Language Access work. That would help to fund the staff support that is needed for that work, which will in turn free up our staff to work on projects on which the Board wants staff to focus. Alvarez continued with a brief discussion of the policy proposal to the Board. Rich Segal moved to approve, and David Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved without objection.

CAN Board Retreat Discussion (Part 1) - Recap of Issues & Challenges Discussed in 2020: Raul Alvarez called attention to the CAN Strategic Plan 2020-2024 document and instructed Board Members to examine the goals and keep goals 1 and 2 in mind as discussions take place. Next, Alvarez called attention to the document Summary of COVID-Related Challenges & Responses. Issues that emerged related to COVID include mitigating health impacts, mitigating economic impact/rebooting the economy, education, safety, basic needs, public & philanthropic relief efforts, addressing health & economic disparities by race/ethnicity, coordination and/or communication around the 2021 legislative session, and coordinating efforts to serve families/address needs. The Community Council will host a deliberative dialogue on “getting back to work/rebuilding our economy” which we expect to develop feedback for the November discussion.

Breakout Groups met for 25 minutes. See attached summary of breakout group discussions.

Adjournment: Jimmy Flannigan adjourned the meeting at 2:58 pm.