

Family Connection-Communities In Schools of Athens
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Keri Massey at 8:35 a.m.

Draft minutes had been distributed before this meeting by Secretary Kurtz. The minutes for the February Board meeting were accepted after corrections by Kurtz on motion by Kurtz, seconded by Luciani

Present: President Massey, Treasurer Blount, Secretary Kurtz, Past President Brooks, Executive Director Podvin. Board Members: Spangler, Luciani, Stevens, Hagan, Diaz, Nobles, McCullick, Sanders, Knapper
Absent: Vice President Kinman, Bradley, Girtz, Meadows, Zwirn

Agenda item	Motion/action or report
Staff reports	<p>Executive Director Thompson Podvin reported that Aline Loza has returned as a Neighborhood Leader, thus making our search for a bilingual person to replace her moot. She also reported that the Program Manager position has been filled by Crystal Milian. Dana Scheffen, a Site Coordinator at Clarke Central has resigned.</p> <p>Executive Director Thompson Podvin reported that the Mount Olive food distribution closed abruptly on April 17th. NL's have collaborated heavily with this distribution for several years as food packers and sorters and a lot of the "muscle" of the distribution. Further, this distribution has been a source for many of our resident's weekly food boxes. NL's have pivoted to some short-term help from City of Refuge, but currently there are no plans for Mount Olive to reopen, unless they can pay the \$750 cost of a mobile food truck, which they cannot. ED Thompson Podvin also reported that she and Terris met with Erin Barger and some of her team members at the FBNEGA to discuss some possible options for meeting food needs. The Food Bank would like FC-CIS to join as members, but we reminded them that we do not currently, nor have we ever had a sustained budget for food purchases, nor does direct service match our model. Discussions will continue, but right now there is no resolution, and many NL's and residents are anxious.</p> <p>Executive Director Thompson Podvin reported we now have our second THRIVE client, have had our first Family Team meeting and a court hearing for our first client. We have lengthened the window of time during which we will accept new clients after a pending case has been filed to be consistent with what is done in other THRIVE programs.</p> <p>The Family Connection yearly plan continues to be streamlined and polished for the coming fiscal year. It will be focused on having our efforts linked to our mission.</p> <p>Executive Director Thompson Podvin's reported on her first meeting with</p>

	<p>Cameron Jay of Defined Campaigns as he begins his contract work with us in creating a fundraising plan and eventually searching for and hiring a Resource Development staff member. She found him responsive and well prepared.</p> <p>Executive Director Thompson Podvin reported that our negotiations with our Hub landlord have been concluded amicably and we will move all operations into the space given us by CCSD by June 30th.</p>
President's Report	<p>President Massey reported that the ad hoc Committee on Internal Structure and Administration and the ad hoc Committee on the Future of the NL program each had met since our March meeting and were making good progress with good discussions of what should be done going forward. Both President Massey and Executive Director Podvin continue to be sitting in with both committees. The Committee on Internal Structure and Administration is beginning work on structuring a concise description of our work to use in resource development.</p> <p>The NL Committee had a meeting with Terris and is planning for a Plan B if there is a cut in our Commission funding instead of the static funding proposed in Mayor Girtz's and the Commission staff's proposed budget. A short discussion focused on discussions with individual commissioners about the issue.</p>
Resource Development Committee	Kevin Hagan deferred to the report given by Executive Director Thompson Podvin about her meeting with Cameron Jay.
Communications Committee	Chairman Kurtz reported that the production of our next newsletter has been delayed.
Finance Committee	<p>Chairman Blount reported that work on the Fiscal Year 2023 has been completed and submitted to the appropriate agencies. He also reported on discussions with Fricke and Associates to have them do our next audit. They are highly recommended and are located in the Atlanta area. The work will be done by John Holmes with whom Blount has had detailed conversations. The firm's work is approximately 90% with non-profits. A final cost for this has not yet been agreed upon.</p> <p>Our current finances were outlined in materials distributed to the Board before the meeting and we are in good shape, according to Chairman Blount.</p> <p>Executive Director Thompson Podvin reported that our loan from the SBA has been fully paid.</p>
Board Development & Adjournment.	<p>In the absence of Chairman Bradley, an extended and fruitful discussion of possible new Board members was conducted and Board members volunteered to reach out to the candidates.</p> <p>On motion of Kurtz, seconded by Spangler, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32.</p>