

Family Connection-Communities In Schools of Athens
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Keri Massey at 8:32 a.m.

Draft minutes had been distributed before this meeting by Secretary Kurtz. The minutes for the April Board meeting were accepted on motion by Brooks, seconded by Bradley

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

Agenda item	Motion/action or report
Staff reports	<p>Executive Director Thompson Podvin introduced Crystal Millian, the new CIS Program Manager. Crystal shared about herself & her work with the team thus far. She also fielded questions from the Board, sharing her plans for the team as they move into the summer and the upcoming academic year, as well as plans for more intentional and consistent collaboration between Site Coordinators and Neighborhood Leaders.</p> <p>Executive Director Thompson Podvin reported that the Mount Olive food distribution is thankfully back on line. Mayor Girtz has offered up some discretionary dollars for FC-CIS to use for summer food needs. ED Thompson Podvin shared that she wanted to be careful that we did not become a distribution site as that is not our model, and that the best approach may be to become a Food Bank member. Once we do so, we can make sure team members are trained and we can then utilize the funds to shop on the Shopping Floor as needed.</p> <p>Executive Director Thompson Podvin shared that there is a great deal of end of year reporting taking place, particularly as it pertains to CIS EOY data entry.</p> <p>ED Thompson Podvin then turned the board's attention to the SWOT analysis that Cameron Jay did on the organization. Both she and Board members shared that there weren't really any big surprises there, but that it was "reaffirming" that there was alignment in what an external perspective was seeing. Cameron Jay and ED Thompson Podvin will be demoing 3 possible new CRM's next week that would serve us in both fundraising and communication capacities (donor database, mailings, newsletters, etc.).</p> <p>ED Thompson Podvin shared an update on the Hub moveout. A tenant has been identified starting 7/1 and has interest in purchasing several of our furnishings. Some items will go up for sale to staff members, other items will move to the new</p>

	<p>office, and other items will be donated or disposed of. The diapers will also be moved to the new office and there will be a shift in our distribution model re: diapers moving forward.</p>
President's Report	<p>President Massey reported that ED Thompson Podvin has just passed her one-year mark with the organization and that her annual review would be conducted prior to the June BOD meeting.</p> <p>The NL Committee will reconvene again the last week of May and will bring updates in June.</p> <p>The Erin Administration Committee continued their work on the mission and vision and met last week with Cameron Jay to formalize the language as well as a "tagline" of sorts. President Massey asked ED Thompson Podvin to share the new proposed statements with the board and then asked for feedback from the board. Past President Brooks and Vice President Kinman both shared that they thought the white boarding sessions were tremendously helpful and board member Bradley shared that this is the document that several of us have been "calling for" for several years and offered kudos. ED Thompson also shared that these statements had been workshopped with the staff leadership to poke holes in, and to ensure they could "see" their work of their respective programs represented. Several other board members spoke to their excitement about having this tool, the alignment they see in it, and the concision and clarity. The document will also help us in our strategic planning moving forward.</p> <p>Cameron Jay will visit the June BOD meeting to present on our work together so far and to preview the work to come. Future forward he will also lead the staff and BOD through an exercise in how to remember and share the new language.</p>
Board Development Committee	<p>Committee Chair Bradley reported that he has a lot of availability to make contact with people in the coming weeks. Several initial engagements have been made by various board members. ED Thompson Podvin shared that she owes Treasurer Blount info for Lily Brooks, a follow up is needed with Xernona Thomas, and ED Thompson Podvin will have a follow up call with Lillian Kincey after Paul's initial conversation. Secretary Kurtz was holding on reaching out to the Ken and Sherry Gibney-Sherman as of yet and decided not to ask Carlton Bain again yet since he was asked less than a year ago, but we will keep him in the hopper. We received a no from Lucy Atkinson as well as Katrina Bowers. Stephen Nobles is still working on Ben Smalley. ED Thompson Podvin expressed that we still have a gap/need for someone with fundraising experience.</p> <p>President Massey and Chair Bradley will meet in the coming week to develop a list of other possible names, and to discuss officers. ED Thompson Podvin also brought up again that we needed to revisit the role of staff on the BOD as currently only NL's are represented.</p>
Resource Development Committee	<p>In the absence of Chairman Hagan, Executive Director Thompson Podvin shared that the next segment of the work with Cameron Jay is primarily focused on Resource Development and starting to carve out the new job description for the next Development Director.</p>

Communications Committee	In the absence of Secretary Kurtz, Executive Director Thompson Podvin reported that ideally the work of this committee will largely be “absorbed by” the new Development Director
Finance Committee	<p>Chairman Blount referenced the budget and YTD numbers in the packet that was provided. Things are trending as they should be and moving in the right direction in preparation for next year.</p> <p>Treasurer Blount referenced the ongoing communication with M&C on our NL funding for FY26 and stated that we remain optimistic for flat funding but of course will not know until the vote.</p> <p>We have now officially ended our relationship with our previous accountant and we are fully engaged with the new accountant who is working on the FY24 audit. We are still in the honeymoon phase but at this point things are going very well.</p> <p>David Bradley asked about the status of the M&C funding and it was shared that we will know on June 10th, at which point we can finally set budget for FY26, once we know what quantity of money we are dealing with.</p>
Ad-Hoc Community Relations Committee	<p>Chairperson Kinman reported that she and Treasurer Blount have given public comment at Tuesday evening’s Commission Meeting. She noted that both she and Carl seemed to grab and retain the commission’s attention, which was hopefully a good sign. Alice shared the “heart part” and Carl hit on the “head part.” There was no discussion. Chair Kinman shared that, according to Mayor Girtz, as of now there don’t appear to be any rumblings re: NL funding, which she takes to be a good thing given her past experience on the commission, unless there is some sort of group that is hiding it well.</p> <p>Past President Brooks gave kudos having watched online. ED Thompson Podvin complimented Alice’s speaking to NL’s being the “unofficial mayor’s” in their communities and the strength of Carl’s arguments speaking in dollar terms.</p>
New Business & Adjournment	<p>President Massey called for any New Business. ED Thomspson Podvin drew people’s attention to the back of their agendas and highlighted the need for everyone to complete the Board Survey, important upcoming dates, the need for quorum next month and the need for all board member’s addresses. We will likely also be engaging board members for different elements of the Board Retreat on July 21 and 22. She also shared 2 kudos she had forgotten earlier for board member Chaplain Cole and NL Lizette Guevara being accepted to the next LEAD Athens class, and to Mimi, our THRIVE Person of Lived Experience on her 2-year recovery anniversary.</p> <p>On motion of Massey, seconded by Kinman, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.</p>