

Halifax Community Investment Fund Society

4 April 2016

Monthly Meeting Minutes

George Dixon Centre

Present: Bryan Darrell (Treasurer), Melinda Daye, Carl Gannon (Vice-Chair), Amy Hunt (Secretary), Linda Mantley, Lindell Smith, Michelle Strum, and Craig Walkington (Chair).

Guests: Marion Brown (Chair) and Randy Tully (Board Member) from the North End Opportunities Fund (NEOF).

1. **Call to Order:** 5:36pm.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved / Seconded by Linda / Lindell to accept the agenda as tabled. CARRIED.
3. **Approval of Meeting Notes from 1 February 2016:** Moved / Seconded by Amy / Linda to approve the minutes of the 1 February 2016 meeting as tabled. CARRIED.
4. **Presentation from the North End Opportunities Fund (NEOF):** Marion Brown, Dalhousie School of Social Work and Chair of NEOF; and Randy Tully, Retired Principal from North End Schools and Board Member of NEOF, discussed their past and present efforts to ensure North End youth up to age 18 spend portions of the summer at various camps throughout the province. Funding for these opportunities used to come from Rainbow Haven, but with end of Rainbow Haven there is a gap for administrators/educators and social workers to send youth to camp, and to access equitable opportunities based on the objectives of caretakers for their children. The NEOF wants to connect youth in the North End with opportunities they might not otherwise have – such as camps focusing on leadership, athletics, art, music, outdoor experiential education, etc. with an average cost of \$500 per child. The NEOF is still in the process of applying for charitable status and is close to its first anniversary in operation. They are hopeful that with more donations they will obtain charitable status. They have tried a variety of strategies to access funding to send youth to summer camp (Veith House, Children's Aid, and the Halifax Assistance Fund). Marion and Randy asked for \$10,000.00 to support children from the geographic area of the North End that the HCIF supports. After some discussion of our budget, the need to provide equitable opportunities for kids in our community, safeguarding the privacy of applicants, the process of how the youth would be identified and referred to the NEOF for summer camp opportunities, and ensuring that recipients of any funds from the HCIF Society will go towards supporting youth that live within the geographic boundaries served by the HCIF, the initial ask was amended by board members to \$4,000.00.

Motion: Moved / Seconded by Melinda / Carl that the HCIF approve spending up to \$4,000.00 with a provision that, as a partner of the NEOF, the HCIF provides funding directly to the organizations providing the services to the youth, subject to the condition that the young people live in the catchment area that HCIF serves and that the \$4,000.00 is drawn from the undistributed income from previous years. CARRIED.
(Note: Lindell Smith recused himself from this agenda item as he is a Board Member of NEOF).

5. Financial Update: Bryan provided financial updates for end-February and end-March, noting there had been few changes from the last update and that annual income is still approximately \$42,000.

The HCIF financial status at the end of **February 2016** was as follows:

Investment Portfolio at ScotiaMcLeod:	\$1,148,981
Bank Account at Scotiabank:	\$ 10,228

The estimated annual income from the investment portfolio is \$42,090.

The HCIF financial status at the end of **March 2016** was as follows:

Investment Portfolio at ScotiaMcLeod:	\$1,187,983
Bank Account at Scotiabank:	\$ 10,226

The estimated annual income from the investment portfolio is \$41,980.

6. Request for Funding Support from Babatunde Balogun: Craig noted that he had received a request for funding in the amount of \$1,500.00 from Babatunde Balogun, a 2015-2016 bursary recipient, for support to spend a six-week educational program in China. Craig said that he had circulated the information on this request to the HCIF Board Members.

Motion: Moved / Seconded by Bryan / Lindell that the HCIF award Mr. Balogun \$1,500.00 to extend his education abroad in China in the Spring of 2016 and that the funds be drawn from the undistributed income from previous years. CARRIED.

7. HCIF Board Skills Matrix Initiative: Bryan provided an update on the HCIF Board Skills Matrix initiative. McInnesCooper is willing to come to a meeting with members for an hour and a half to identify the skills of members, and then highlight strengths and gaps of skills on our board to support future recruitment efforts. Members discussed when this could take place. It was decided to use part of our June meeting to complete this process. The date set is June 6th, 2016, to take place at the McInnesCooper offices at Purdy's Wharf Tower II.

8. Community Carrot Update: It was noted that there was no news yet on the potential sale of the building.

9. **Planning for HCIF Community Meeting:** Due to the very large agenda for the meeting, it was decided that an in-depth discussion will take place at the next meeting with the potential of hosting the community meeting in May at the North Branch Memorial Library. There was some discussion on producing simple video testimonials for the meeting from bursary and grant recipients, such as Hope Blooms, the Creighton Street Painting Project, bursary recipients, and the Community Wills program.
10. **HCIF Bursary Program – 2016 - 2017:** Carl noted there were no bursary applications received to-date.
11. **Upcoming Social Media Activity:** Deferred.
12. **Next Meeting:** The next HCIF Board meeting will take place at 5:30pm on Monday, 2 May 2016 at the George Dixon Centre.
13. **Meeting Adjournment:** 7:07pm Moved by: Bryan.