

**CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
**Minutes of the 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**August 12, 2021**  
**Mattatuck Museum and virtually via Zoom**

**I. Welcome, Call to Order and Chair's Remarks**

Kathy Taylor, chair of the Board of Trustees, welcomed attendees to the Foundation's 98th Annual Meeting and called the meeting to order.

Ms. Taylor shared highlights, continued efforts and outcomes of the following activities and programs:

- \$975,000 were awarded in college scholarships for the 2021-2022 school year.
- \$4.8 million in grants were distributed to nonprofits in the community.
- Partnering with the United Way of Greater Waterbury, the COVID-19 Response Fund was built with contributions from hundreds of donors and allowed resources to be swiftly distributed to nonprofits and community organizations on the front lines of meeting pandemic-induced or related needs. Over \$750,000 in grants were distributed between March 2020 and July 2021.
- The COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience Fund, built with donor dollars and a one-time increase in the Foundation's spending rate, awarded over \$250,000 to date focused on nonprofit capacity building, ensuring more equitable access to services and systems, and systemic change that will have lasting positive.
- Give Local Greater Waterbury and the Litchfield Hills raised more than \$2 million for over 282 local organizations in 2021.
- Grassroots Leadership Grants program continues to support Waterbury residents working to bring positive change to local neighborhoods.
- Women's Giving Circle completed another annual cycle with 59 participants who pooled more than \$25,000 that they granted to support programs that enhance the lives of local women and girls.

Ms. Taylor thanked donors, legacy society members and volunteers for all of their contributions to and partnership with the Foundation's work. Ms. Taylor celebrated leaders, staff and volunteers of nonprofits across Greater Waterbury and the Litchfield Hills.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Taylor referred members to the posted minutes from the 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Foundation, which was held virtually on August 13, 2020, and called for a motion to approve the minutes.

**MOTION to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2020 meeting as presented.**  
**Motion carried.**

**III. President's Remarks**

Julie Loughran, president and CEO, addressed attendees and highlighted the following:

- The Foundation's new strategic direction, which was adopted in late 2019, was founded on a recognition of clear disparities in outcomes and opportunities among residents of our region, and focused on building equitable opportunity,

strengthening our nonprofit sector and seeking long-term systems change. The plan centered values of equity, diversity, and inclusion, as well as values of transparency, courage and purpose. The plan became the Foundation's North Star when the pandemic hit.

- COVID-19 Response Fund established by the Foundation and United Way of Greater Waterbury allowed us to move resources to nonprofits in our region that were addressing needs for food, childcare, housing, technology, and personal protective equipment.
- The COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience Fund received generous donations from donors who saw the importance of supporting long-term resilience of nonprofits.
- Redefined grantmaking priorities prioritize education and economic opportunity, health equity, community engagement, and a continued focus on strengthening the nonprofit sector.
- There has been energy around cooperative giving through the Women's Giving Circle, the Pride in the Hills Fund and the Waterbury Black Giving Circle.

Ms. Loughran closed her remarks with gratitude for the Foundation board and staff, and for all of the donors, volunteers and leaders for addressing the challenges and embracing the opportunities that have faced the community in the past year.

#### **IV. Election of Trustees**

Michael Giardina, chair of the Governance Committee, conducted the election of trustees.

Mr. Giardina introduced second- and first-term nominees. Mr. Giardina placed two current trustees into nomination for a second three-year term ending in 2024: Brian Jones and Stephen Seward. Mr. Giardina placed into nomination Avery Gaddis, Tomas Olivo, Jean Solomon, and Saran White for an initial three-year term ending in 2024.

Mr. Giardina formally offered all of the nominees for a vote by members and called for a motion.

**MOTION to elect the nominees as trustees to the Connecticut Community Foundation for a three-year term. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.**

This concluded the business portion of the annual meeting.

#### **V. Departing Trustees**

Kathy Taylor acknowledged departing trustees Dave Pelletier and Doug Johnson for their dedication to and work with the Foundation.

#### **VI. Trustee Fund Award Presentations**

Doug Johnson introduced the Trustee Fund and the annual Trustee Fund Awards.

Margaret Field presented a 2021 Trustee Fund award to the Maternal and Infant Health Workgroup. Angie Matthis, Althea Marshall Brooks, Caitlin Collins and Donald Thompson accepted the award on behalf of the workgroup.

Rabbi Eric Polokoff presented a 2021 Trustee Fund award to the Naugatuck Valley Project for their environmental justice work. Kim McLaughlin, Angela Aybar, Brenda Moreisette, Richard Natale and Karime Pimentel accepted the award.

**VII. Adjournment and Closing Remarks**

Ms. Taylor offered thanks and congratulations to the Trustee Fund award recipients. She thanked the Trustee Fund members for shining a light on great work in the community and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The annual meeting was adjourned.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Bower, Secretary

**Connecticut Community Foundation  
Attendees of the 2021 Annual Meeting and Summer Social**

**Foundation Members**

Reggie Beamon  
Susan Beatty  
Martha Bernstein  
Kathy Bower  
Barbara Bradbury-Pape  
Isabelle V. Curtiss  
Emily Eisen  
Becky Eleck Bruce  
Judith Eslami  
Jacqueline Farrell  
Ann Merriam Feinberg  
Michael Feinberg  
Margaret Field  
Deborah Foord  
Valerie Friedman  
Deborah Fuller  
Ron Garfunkel

Michael Giardina  
Subira Gordon  
Carol Haskins  
Brian Henebry  
Forest Herron  
Bruce Humiston  
Nancy Humiston  
Kristen Jacoby  
Douglas Johnson  
Megan Johnson  
Brian Jones  
Kathryn Kehoe  
Jane Mahler  
Keith Mahler  
Jeffrey Martin  
Patricia McKinley  
Cynthia Merrick

Virginia Middleton  
Peter North  
Linda Noujaim  
Selim Noujaim  
David Pelletier  
Rabbi Eric Polokoff  
Tina Reardon  
David Robinson  
Edwin Rodriguez  
Marjorie Ross  
Carolyn Setlow  
Stephen Seward  
Kathy Taylor  
Donald Thompson  
Frederick Townsend  
Dorothy West

**Other Attendees**

LaTeena Bartee  
Mark Berardi  
Robert Burns  
Josh Carey  
Caitlin Collins  
Kim Croom  
Hugette Cruz  
Allyn DeMaida  
Bill DeMaida  
Christine Edelson  
Ed Edelson  
Sarah Edelson Baskin  
Francesca Evangelista  
Jorge Evangelista  
Brendan Foulois  
Avery Gaddis  
Audrey Harrell

Angela Holmes  
Mickal Holmes  
Sam Jones  
Melissa Lopata  
Julie Loughran  
Kate MacKinney  
Althea Marshall Brooks  
Angie Matthis  
Chris McGuire  
Patrick McKenna  
Kim McLaughlin  
Jackie Miller  
David Morgan  
Richard Natale  
Nancy Pelaez  
Karime Pimentel  
Kathy Pitner

Tricia Poirier  
Larry Rifkin  
Mary Risner  
Derek Santiago  
Sherry Seward  
Loraine Shea  
Dawn Skipworth  
Jean Solomon  
Elizabeth Szymanoski  
Kevin Taylor  
Jessica Their  
Anne Urkawich  
Allan Vega  
Saran White  
Tania Wieck