

CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Minutes of the 101st Annual Meeting
September 10, 2024
Heritage Hotel, 522 Heritage Rd, Southbury, CT

I. Welcome and Highlights

Michael Giardina, chair of the Board of Trustees, welcomed attendees to the Foundation's 101st Annual Meeting. Mr. Giardina recognized donors, volunteers, staff and nonprofit leaders in attendance and shared highlights from the year noting:

- Welcoming Kathy K. Taylor, the Foundation's 4th President and CEO
- More than 450 local students received scholarships totaling over \$1.1M
- Over \$5.5M distributed in grants to nonprofit organizations
- Give Local raised more than \$2.17M for 311 local organizations
- Nearly \$400,000 awarded through the Grassroots Grants program since its launch in 2016
- More than \$50,000 grants and awards through collective giving circles
- Assets reached over \$174M

Mr. Giardina offered gratitude and celebration for all of the support attendees played to help meet those milestones and accomplishments.

II. Business Meeting

- a. **Call to order** – Michael Giardina called the meeting to order and reviewed membership criteria.
- b. **Approval of minutes** – Mr. Giardina referred members to the posted minutes from the 100th Annual Meeting of the Foundation, which was held in person at the Lake House on September 7, 2023, and called for a motion to approve the minutes.

MOTION to approve the minutes from the 2023 Annual Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

c. Election of Trustees

Kathy Bower, vice chair of the Foundation's board and chair of the Governance Committee, conducted the election of trustees.

Ms. Bower introduced first-term and second-term nominees. Ms. Bower placed into nomination Dr. Angela Chapman, Elizabeth (Baba) Frew, JoAnn Reynolds-Balanda for an initial three-year term ending in 2027. Ms. Bower placed Avery Gaddis, Tomas Olivo, Jean Solomon, and Saran White into nomination for a second three-year term ending in 2027.

Ms. Bower 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.

d. Departing Trustee Recognition

Michael Giardina acknowledged departing trustee Brian Jones for his work with the Foundation.

e. Honoring Steve Seward

Michael Giardina reflected in honor and memory of Steve Seward recognizing their contributions and impact. Steve was involved in numerous activities and committees through his six years on the board and passed away just prior to his term's end.

f. Gratitude

Mr. Giardina offered gratitude for all of the trustees, committee members and other volunteers who support the Foundation's evolving work.

III. Adjournment - Mr. Giardina adjourned the business meeting.

IV. Trustee Fund Award Presentations

Tina Reardon, chair of the Trustee Fund, introduced the Trustee Fund and the annual Trustee Fund Awards.

Tina presented a 2024 Trustee Fund award for collaboration to The Campaign School of Waterbury and shared brief details about the collaborators and the school's work. Collaborators included Its Time Waterbury, Waterbury Empowers the People to Act (WEPA), Building Legacy and Community (BLAC), and Brass City Gamers Tournament. Bilal Tajildeen and Rafael Rosario accepted the award.

Tina presented a 2024 Trustee Fund award for collaboration to Radical Advocates for Cross-Cultural Education and shared brief details about its grassroots, localized air quality monitoring program in collaboration with Just Air. Robert Goodrich, Alicia Lind-Windham, and Paola Vargas accepted the award.

V. President's Remarks

Kathy Taylor, president and CEO, shared remarks on *The Power of AND*. Messages noted the expansiveness and possibilities of "and" thinking. Ms. Taylor highlighted the Foundation's past and current work, providing *access* to students, focusing on *alignment* with and *analysis* of our strategies, as an *activator* connecting nonprofits to networks, tools and resources, *advancing* community leaders, offering *assistance*, as well as *anticipating*, *adapting* to, and *advocating* for community needs.

Ms. Taylor offered gratitude to the Foundation staff team, and to Julie Loughran, former president and CEO, for passing the baton. Ms. Taylor referred to the Foundation's seven founders and the Foundation's beginnings and invited everyone to celebrate the good work of the Foundation and the continued efforts to contribute to a more prosperous and vibrant Greater Waterbury and Litchfield Hills.

The program ended with a video highlighting the Foundation's community impact.

Connecticut Community Foundation

Attendees of the 2024 Annual Meeting and Summer Social

Foundation Members

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Martha Bernstein | Michael Giardina | Cynthia Merrick |
| Miles Borzilleri | Carol Haskins | Peter North |
| Kathy Bower | Charlie Henry | TomasOlivo |
| Barbara Bradbury-Pape | Lynn M. Franklin-Henry | James O'Rourke |
| Tony Ciocca | Forest Herron | Adrienne Parkmond |
| William Cohen | James Higgins | Eric Polokoff |
| Douglas Donato | Brian Jones | Tina Reardon |
| Emily Littman Eisen | Richard Lau | Christopher Rempfer |
| Judith Eslami | Elaine Lau | Edwin Rodriguez |
| Jacqueline Farrell | Trish Lindenman | Marjorie Ross |
| Baba Frew | Julie Loughran | Jean Solomon |
| Peter Frew | Rosanne Martino | Kathy Taylor |
| Deborah Fuller | Kelonda Maull | Don Thompson |
| Avery Gaddis | Janie McDermott | Kippy West |
| Ron Garfunkel | Sue Mellitt | Saran White |

Other Attendees

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Margarita Alegre | Angela Chapman | Sarah Edelson |
| Sarah Alexander | Maureen Conard | Josh Feliciano |
| Kelly Anelli | Wanda Correa | Marc Gold |
| Hedy Ayers | Olivia DiPalermo | Robert Goodrich |
| Mark Berardi | Judy Doyle | Audrey Harrell |
| Douglas Bibbey | Meg DuBois | Brie Hill |
| Grace Bower Richardson | Christine Edelson | Yoellie Iglesias |
| Josh Carey | Ed Edelson | Ana Iturbides |

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|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Shane James | Ramona Ramsarran | Gabriela Sousa |
| Alicia Lind-Windham | Jeanine Reinier | Bilal Tajildeen |
| Eleanor Martin | JoAnn Reynolds-Balanda | Kevin Taylor |
| Otis Maynard | Tallitha Richardson | Giovanna Trocchi |
| Colin McDermott | Randolph Richardson | Giardina |
| Bob McDonald | Xiomara Rodriguez | Lisa Turoczi |
| Chemay Morales-James | Natalie Rosado | Paola Vargas |
| Mirilyn Oliveras | Rafael Rosario | Allan Vega |
| Angelica Pelaez | Barbara Ryer | Monroe Webster |
| Tricia Poirier | Marie Sharretto | |
| David Poirier | Cathy Somers | |