

Fox Valley United Way
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 12, 2025

1. Meeting called to order by CEO Deborah Rudel at 8:35 am
2. Roll Call of those present:
Board – Mark, Kelly, Karen, Michele, Laura, Mansa, Maria, Diana, Melissa
Staff – Deborah, J.D.
Absent – Tamika
3. **Minutes:** Minutes approved by Mark and second by Karen.
4. **Chairman of the Board's Report:**
 - Mark thanked Deborah for her many years of service and dedication to the organization.
5. **Chief Executive Officer Report:** Deborah reported:

The meeting focused on organizational changes and transitions. Deborah reported that JD has been granted administrative access to all financial and operational systems, including payroll, bank accounts, and QuickBooks, and is performing well in his new role.

The bookkeeper position was eliminated, with Nancy departing immediately, and Deborah and JD are working with the accountant to streamline accounting procedures.

Henry, the new Director of Development, was introduced, and the team discussed the hiring process for a new Community Impact and Administration Manager, with four qualified candidates identified.

Deborah discussed the organization's financial situation, noting a significant decrease in cash reserves of \$356,000, driven by reduced campaign and grant funding. They emphasized the need to improve both campaign income and grant funding to increase cash reserves, which are dangerously low. Deborah also mentioned an accounting error regarding a \$38,000 allocation to agencies, which was incorrectly posted to 2024, and they are awaiting guidance from the auditor on how to address this.

JD presented a detailed budget overview for the fiscal year 2024-2025, highlighting projected revenues of approximately \$802,000 and expenses of around \$800,000. Key revenue sources include grants, sponsorships, and donations, while expenses cover salaries, marketing, events, and operational costs. JD expressed confidence in turning around financial performance for the next fiscal year by increasing event activities and leveraging partnerships. The organization plans to host more events, including a potential annual meeting with funders, and aims to boost donations through strategic initiatives like tying events to specific causes.

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The board approved a budget with reduced program supplies due to moving Dolly Parton's expenses to a separate line item and discussed office space lease terms with the city of Aurora offering a one-year instead of five-year lease.

The United Way of the Midlands took over the 211 call center operations from Path, serving Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska. Deborah explained that while the transition was initially rocky in March through May, the new system will be fully operational by July 1st, with guaranteed correct call routing and complete nonprofit listings. The United Way of the Midlands offers professional crisis management services at a significantly lower cost than Path, and while some cell tower routing issues remain, test calls showed improved service quality with more comprehensive service offerings.

The board reviewed board terms and officer positions, with Mark agreeing to stay on as board chair for one more year, while Karen needs to relinquish her board secretary position.

Rosa reported that Spark finalized its logo design and received funding updates including \$32,000 from Mental Health Inc. for fiscal year 2026.

6. Committee Reports

Finance: No report

Impact / Investment: No report

HR: No report

CRC: No report

Nominating: No Report

7. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, July 10th, 2025

8. Meeting was adjourned