

Land of Sky Regional Council
February 26, 2020
Regular Meeting



Please mute all electronic devices, including cell phones, laptops, tablets, and recorders. Delegates are requested to state their names when moving on orders of business. Thank you!

AGENDA

**Special Presentations (12:45pm): 1) HCA Healthcare – Tracy Buchanan, President and CEO
CarePartners with HCA Healthcare
2) Golden LEAF Foundation – Scott Hamilton, President and CEO**

- I. **Call to Order (1:30pm)**
- II. **Invocation**
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. **Roll Call**
- V. **Modification and Approval of Agenda**
- VI. **Public Comment**
- VII. **Recognition of Special Guests**
- VIII. **Chairman’s Comments and Roundtable**
- IX. **Approval of Minutes from the January Regular Meeting**
- X. **Consideration and Approval of Consent Agenda Items**
- XI. **Presentations/Recognition**
- XII. **Old Business**
- XIII. **New Business**
- XIV. **Executive Director’s Report**
- XIV. **Important Dates**
 - A. Next Regional Board Meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2020
- XV. **Adjournment**



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** January 2020 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes
- Item Number:** X. Approval of Minutes from the January 2020 Regular Meeting
- Responsible Party:** Zia Rifkin, Administrative Services
- Attachment(s):** Minutes from the January 2020 Meeting
- Background:** A quorum was present to conduct business at the January 2020 meeting and the minutes provide a recap of the special presentation by Janice Brumit, Dr. Antony Chiang and Brian Myers from the Dogwood Health Trust, who provided an overview of the non-profit. Additionally, Interim Executive Director, Nathan Ramsey, presented years-of-service awards to Dee Hanak and Vicki Jennings for 10 years each of outstanding service to LOSRC and to Stephanie Stewart and Tristan Winkler for five years each of outstanding service to LOSRC. The Executive Director's Report was presented to Delegates, highlighting initiatives that LOSRC is currently involved.
- Staff Recommendation:** Recommend acceptance of the January 2020 meeting minutes
- Suggested Motion(s):** Move to approve the January 2020 minutes as submitted

**Meeting of
Land of Sky Regional Council Board of Delegates
January 22, 2020**

Minutes

Special Presentation – Dogwood Health Trust: Overview – Dr. Antony Chiang and Janice Brumit – Dr. Antony Chiang and Janice Brumit provided Council with an overview of the Dogwood Health Trust (DHT) including its version of Philanthropy 3.0. Ms. Brumit shared that the goal today is transparency and to inform everyone where DHT aligns with the region. She shared that as part of the Mission sale, DHT received approximately \$1.5 Billion to be utilized to improve the lives of people in the western region of the state. She communicated that many of the DHT board members are natives of WNC and understand the problems and tribulations of some of the communities in the region. DHT sought out a leader who had vision and thought like service-minded people in the region and the end result was the onboarding of Dr. Chiang, Chief Executive Officer of DHT. Antony and his family moved across the country to become part of the DHT family. Ms. Brumit shared that the work Antony has done to date has been nothing short of remarkable.

Dr. Chiang shared that it is an honor to be a founding CEO of DHT and he provided an overview of Philanthropy 3.0. Part of the Philanthropy 3.0 overview included a “game show” with gift cards as prizes- however, gift cards were not to be kept but to be paid forward to someone who was having a tough day. Dr. Chiang asked folks to team up with the person next to them to consider a sector or industry that has change enormously over the last 50-100 years. Lacey Cross shared that the communication sector has changed enormously over the past 50-100 years. Maureen Copelof shared that her partner thought transportation had changed enormously. Telle King shared that her partner thought enormous change has happened in healthcare.

What was the life expectancy of all American in 1900? George Goosmann shared that 45 was about the average (47.3 was the true average). Top three causes of death in 1900? Leca Chapman shared that bacterial infections, specifically related to childbirth was a top cause of death 100 years ago. Stephanie Stewart said diarrheal (GI) infections. Dr. Chiang shared that public health services did not exist in 1900. Lyndsey Simpson guessed Tuberculosis. The correct answer is influenza. Dr. Chiang noted that the average life expectancy today is 78.8 years. Top three causes of death today- Cancer, Heart Disease, COPD/Lung Disease. Historically, the toughest issues had linear single factors/solutions. Underlying causes of the top three killers today are lifestyle choices. Over the past 100 years, changes to food systems and less physical activity have led to disease from lifestyle choices. Today, it is multi-prong dynamic systems that attack lifestyles issues. The goal of DHT is to use this approach and to be a collaborative partner to address regional issues/challenges. DHT approaches the health and wellbeing of the region through radical approaches including strategic investments in communities to move the dial on their challenges. DHT is also building relationships with government partners, other foundations, grassroots organizations and non-profits. The initial, important work of the board was prioritization of critical issues facing communities and to make those difficult decisions about where funding should be applied

Brian Myers, Chief Strategy Officer, shared about DHT’s Accelerator Track, which includes important components to leverage funding in the region. First, in this track, due to the board’s desire to be a leader in the community, there is the Immediate Opportunities Grant, designed as a responsive grant with awards of \$500 up to \$25k, for which 492 applications have been received. The goal of the Immediate Opportunities Grant is to make the application process simple and straightforward. These grants could provide for a multitude of needs. The first grant announcements for the Immediate Opportunities Grant would be coming up close to March. Another grant program is the Leverage Fund, which is intended to use DHT dollars to attract new money to the region. The goal is to help organizations and agencies go after larger grants that don’t originate in the region and that are over \$100k. DHT’s role is to support a grant writing team to develop strong proposals. Early successes have been realized from this component of DHT. Dr. Chiang noted that locally, over one million dollars has been awarded and over \$30 million in grant funding is being pursued with the assistance of the Leverage Fund. Active email/active outreach is the approach DHT uses to connect with community members. Grants could be connected to Broadband, Workforce, etc.; activities normally beyond the reach of healthcare. The Healthy Opportunities Pilot is the Medicaid Waiver for the state of North Carolina. It’s taking Medicaid dollars to support determinants of health including transportation, food insecurity, domestic violence support, etc. The theory

behind the Healthy Opportunities Initiative is to use Medicaid dollars to increase indicators of health. While this is anticipated to be a highly competitive grant, the region (18 counties and the Tribe) is well-positioned.

Brian Myers shared that these initiatives are just a tiny sliver of what DHT is working to become. Most important to know about DHT: it's about results and making a difference. DHT plans to hone in on reducing the number of people who are dying today and prevent people from even starting lifestyle choices that could lead to disease and death. DHT's future is yet to come.

Chair Harris shared that LOSRC represents four counties in the DHT region, representing a footprint, and a very flexible one, at that. He expressed the hope that LOSRC could be a tool in the DHT toolbox to carry out some of the objectives of DHT.

Discussion occurred about the team of grant writers and how those could be accessed by local organizations. DHT plans to distribute a newsletter to share information on issue areas. It was shared that the typical hit rate is 1 in 5 grant applications get funded- some may be as high as 60-70 hit rates. To date, DHT has realized early wins with local governmental units. Ms. Brumit shared that these kinds of resources have been scarce in the WNC in the past. The ability to leverage \$50-75 million dollars yearly has never been seen in WNC before. The potential impact could be felt for many generations. She noted that there are many good ideas in local communities that could be deployed with adequate funding. This is a great asset for WNC.

Discussion also occurred about the holding pattern for Medicaid Transformation in the state and Dr. Chiang noted that community partners must come together regardless of differences and focus on mutual priorities. Some of this policy work on the Medicaid side may become the purview of DHT to engage in the opportunity for radical change. The goal is to provide economic impact with the guiding principle to build trust with the communities. Navigating often opposing opinions is a challenge that DHT is willing to undertake. Building private/public partnerships is the initial goal. It was mentioned that the LOSRC Board might consider having DHT become an affiliate member if the foundation was amenable to that idea.

Chair Harris requested Delegates, LOSRC staff and guests introduce themselves to DHT staff so they could gain perspective on whom is at LOSRC's table.

- I. Call to Order –Chair Harris called the meeting to order at approximately 1:45pm.
- II. Invocation – Chair Harris gave the invocation.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance – All stood as Chair Harris led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Roll Call – Nathan Ramsey called the roll. The following members were present: Forrest Gilliam, George Goosmann, Jonathan Kanipe, Larry Harris, Maggie Tuttle, Maureen Copelof, Albert Gooch, Preston Blakely, Bob, Davy, Barbara Volk, Lyndsey Simpson, John Connet, Nancy Allen, George Morosani, Brittany Brady, Bob Tomasulo, and Gaylyn Justice. The following guests were present: Leca Chapman, Janice Brumit, Robin Ramsey, Rebecca Loli, April Riddle, Suzanne Molloy, Keven Frazer, Steve Newman, Annie Carpenter, Daniel Cobb, and Eric Tobleman. Nathan Ramsey announced a quorum was present to conduct business.
- V. Modification and Approval of Agenda – The agenda was presented with no modification requested.
George Goosmann moved to approve the agenda as presented. Albert Gooch seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.
- VI. Public Comment – No public comments were made.
- VII. Recognition of Special Guests – Chair Harris recognized new Delegates to the Regional Board including Lyndsey Simpson (City of Hendersonville), Maureen Copelof (City of Brevard), Brittany Brady (Henderson

County Partnership for Economic Development), and Preston Blakely (Town of Fletcher). Nathan Ramsey recognized Daniel Cobb, Manager with the Town of Mills River.

- VIII. Chairman's Comments and Round Table – Maggie Tuttle – Shared that the Town of Black Mountain is trying its first one-way street. Lots of discussion on whether it's being turned the right way and the Town is literally talking trash through its renegotiation of trash collection in the jurisdiction. Albert Gooch – Shared that the Village of Flat Rock is nice and quiet and peaceful. Jonathan Kanipe – Shared that the Town of Biltmore Forest is working on its design project for their Town Hall. Maureen Copelof – Shared that the City of Brevard has been selected as the 50th Blue Zone Site, which fits right in with the social determinants of health. The City is the first site selected in the southeastern US. Barbara Volk – Shared that the City of Hendersonville has a lot of construction going on for the Police and Fire Stations, and a new hotel (developers), and Council has reviewed an infrastructure presentation regarding storm water. Bob Davy – Shared that the clock in the Town of Fletcher's Town Hall is correct now all of the time (it chimes, too). Preston Blakely – Shared that the Town of Fletcher has selected Bob Davy as their new Mayor Pro Tem. Forrest Gilliam – Shared that Madison County voted to allocate additional funds for Pre-K. John Mitchell – Shared that it is budget season in the County; additionally, the brand new Edneyville Elementary School opened and the new Hendersonville High School is under construction.
- IX. Approval of Minutes from the September Regular Meeting –
John Mitchell moved to approve the minutes of the October 2019 regular meeting and the December 2019 awards presentation meeting as submitted. Maureen Copelof seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.
- X. Consideration and Approval of Consent Agenda Items –
- XI. Presentations/Recognition –
A. LOSRC Years-of-Service Awards – Nathan Ramsey recognized the following LOSRC staff for their years-of-service to Land of Sky Regional Council: Tristan Winkler- five years of service, Stephanie Stewart- five years of service, Dee Hanak- 10 years, and Vicki Jennings- 10 years.
- XII. Old Business – Chair Harris commented that the Executive Director search has received great help from Susan Russo-Klein at Roberts & Stevens, the organization's legal counsel. About 75 applications have been received and those have been narrowed down to four applicants for interviews. It may be possible to have an announcement by the February Board meeting.
- XIII. New Business –
- XIV. Executive Director's Report –
Nathan Ramsey provided an opportunity for Delegates to discuss LOSRC initiatives, which staff are currently pursuing.
- XV. Important Dates – Wednesday, February 26, 2020 is the next scheduled regular Board of Delegates meeting.
- XVI. Adjournment – Bob Tomasulo moved to adjourn the meeting as there was no further business, which received a second and the meeting adjourned.



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** Executive Director's Report
- Item Number:** XIV. Executive Director's Report
- Responsible Party:** Nathan Ramsey, Interim Executive Director
- Attachment(s):** Executive Director's Report for February 26, 2020
- Background:** The Executive Director's Report provides highlights and accomplishments from LOSRC Departments/Agencies.
- Staff Recommendation:** N/A.
- Suggested Motion(s):** N/A

Land of Sky Regional Council
Interim Executive Director Report
Respectfully submitted by Nathan Ramsey
February 26, 2020

1. Economic Community Development
 - John Ridout has been hired as the TDM Coordinator.
 - Great turnout at the WestNGN Broadband Summit on January 27 at UNC Asheville.
 - ECD staff, City of Hendersonville manager John Connet, and Hunter Goosmann with ERC Broadband were featured at the Emerging Issues ReConnect forum “Reconnect to Technological Opportunity” in Raleigh on February 10.
 - WestNGN broadband county profiles and implementation plans for the region are now available at <http://www.landofsky.org/westngnbroadband.html>.
 - ARC funding for WestNGN in the amount of \$100,000.
 - Working with various economic development projects in the region.
 - Received Dogwood Health Trust Immediate Opportunities and Needs (ION) grant of \$18,000 to install WiFi to count all citizens in the 2020 US Census.

2. Workforce Development
 - Requested \$100,000 from the NC Department of Commerce to support dislocated workers at Earth Fare.
 - Ongoing outreach to dislocated workers at Continental Automotive Systems and Earth Fare with targeted events to support these workers.
 - Participated in the myFutureNC conference in Greensboro. Several representatives from our region attended including myself, Danna, Christy Cheek, Dr. Gene Loflin with AB Tech, Dr. Laura Leatherwood with Blue Ridge Community College, Dr. Michael Dempsey with Lenoir Rhyne University, Beth McCann with Wilsonart, Dr. Joseph Fox, Dr. Tony Baldwin with Buncombe County Schools, Dr. Arthur Salido with WCU, Dr. Kevan Frazier with WCU, Tony Floyd with Mars Hill University, and David Joyce with Brevard College.

3. Administration
 - Town of Mills River Council has voted to join as a member of Land of Sky Regional Council.
 - Hosted a quarterly city/county managers meeting with representatives from the Town of Laurel Park, Town of Mars Hill, Town of Black Mountain, Village of Flat Rock, City of Hendersonville, Buncombe County, and Town of Biltmore Forest.
 - Regional Leadership Summit – five county Chambers of Commerce, Danna working with Samantha Cole at the Asheville Chamber on this effort. This effort would be a business led regional conversation on the major challenges and opportunities for the region.
 - Healthy Opportunities – proposal submitted by DHT by February 14, Danna is leading this effort on behalf of LOSRC. LOSRC submitted a NEMT proposal covering 18 counties.

- LOSRC indirect cost rate will decline for the fiscal year to 42.43%, down from 44.43%. We have not received a final determination of this rate.
- LOSRC unrestricted fund balance update – Staff will adopt a policy to limit the number of contracts that cover two consecutive program years, which will reduce our year-end encumbrances and increase unrestricted fund balance available for appropriation. Corrective action report to be approved by the executive committee.
- Large Conference Room AV system – contract finalized with TSA Choice.
- Applied for a grant to outfit the room with an audio loop which will provide better amplification for those with hearing impairments.
- Rural SUD workshop hosted by federal agencies, Danna is leading this project and working with The White House Office of Drug Control Policy and Appalachian Regional Commission.
- Working with the Town of Montreat on providing payroll services.
- Audit RFP released - Cannon & Company, the LOSRC outside auditors, have informed us that they will no longer be providing governmental audit services.
- Several departments applied for the Dogwood Health Trust ION grant, only the ECD grant application for free WiFi for the 2020 Census was successful.

4. Aging

- Each AAA in the state is working on their regional Area Plan due in May. It will cover 2020-2024 and patterned after the State Aging Plan which was rolled out last year.
- NCCARE360, a referral platform for the medical community as well as non-profits, for-profits, and government entities, is active in WNC. Some municipalities are signing up as well so they can refer residents to needed services.

5. Mountain Mobility

- Gerri Ballew has retired after decades of service to Mountain Mobility.
- Our Trailblazer routes (Black Mountain, Enka-Candler and North Buncombe) have been modified to provide better linkages to the City of Asheville ART System as a result of ART's updated routes and scheduling.
- Working on numerous events to celebrate our 30th anniversary of service to Buncombe County. Events will be held primarily late April – early June.