Trust Advisory Committee

Draft Minutes

1/23/2019

Attending: Cade Douglas, Carolyn White, Tyler Slack, Jay Blain, Nancy Kennedy, Jennifer Mayer-Glenn, Shawn McLeod, Steve Davis, Sarah Thomas (by phone), Paula Plant, Natalie Gordon, Karen Rupp.

Excused: Dawn Davies, Susan Edwards.

Karen Rupp welcomed TAC members.

Carolyn White made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Cade Douglas provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION UPDATES:

Paula Plant reminded TAC that the SITLA Board of Trustees meeting summary had been emailed, and asked if there were any questions. Paula then updated TAC on the previous day’s SITFO Board of Trustees meeting. There had been a lengthy discussion on expenses and fees. The office expenses and fees are within an acceptable range for an endowment of this size. SITFO will be asking for budget increases in the 2019 General Session for one FTE and private real estate analysis software. Paula will send the fund investment update with the summary after each meeting.

Paula also updated TAC on the Land Trusts Protection and Advocacy committee. They are in the process of setting up a meeting to discuss interviews. Paula is advocating for a larger search pool, but does not think the committee will agree to the expense.

Natalie Gordon reported that the State Board of Education had approved the carryover procedure and letter. Natalie and Karen hope to have the letters and lists completely distributed in the next 3 weeks.

Paula has been attending a Plan Alignment group at USBE that Jennifer Throndsen has put together. Jennifer will be attending the March TAC meeting to ask for input regarding aligning plans at schools, including the School Improvement Plan and the School LAND Trust plan. Many Title One schools also use their SCCs to approve their Title One plans. Jennifer Mayer-Glenn mentioned that SCCs may be a good group to discuss Title One Family Engagement Plans. Cade stated that this is valuable, and may already be happening in schools and districts.

Karen discussed the Notice of Vacancy for TAC positions that would be expiring this year. There will be a form that she will distribute. The open positions this year include two at-large members, superintendent, charter school representative and urban parent. The committee discussed if there were a better day than the 4th Monday for TAC meetings. Natalie will send a poll to all committee members to investigate.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS:

Natalie asked all TAC members to return redlined job descriptions to her by February 6th. Committee members will review the descriptions for updates, best practices and to simplify. Jennifer suggested that the descriptions either be made more accessible for English-language learners, or that a secondary set that is less complex be prepared. The committee also suggested that there be an additional focus on SCC responsibility to review prior year plans for effectiveness and compliance. All descriptions should be updated to include the data review, which should specify that SCCs should not discuss personally identifiable student information.

Paula presented the proposed update to the USBE resolution authorizing the Trust Advisory Committee. The updates would allow TAC to recommend procedural changes to the School Children’s Trust section regarding School Community Councils and training. All procedural changes would be required to comply with current law, rule and policy. The update would also require TAC to elect a chair and vice-chair that would conduct TAC meetings, report to USBE leadership and committee chairs as requested, invite other stakeholders as needed. SCT staff would continue to coordinate meeting logistics and complete committee assignments as reasonably requested. Nancy Kennedy moved to recommend the drafted update to the State Board of Education. Cade seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

After a discussion to determine if the current USBE resolution would prohibit the election of officers, Carolyn White nominated Nancy Kennedy to serve as chair. Tyler Slack seconded the nomination. There were no additional nominations, and Nancy Kennedy was elected to serve unanimously. Nancy nominated Cade Douglas to serve as vice-chair, and Carolyn seconded the nomination. There were no additional nominations, and Cade was elected to serve unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Natalie Gordon updated TAC on SB55 – Charter Trust Land Council Amendments (Escamilla). Jennifer mentioned that ACEESS had asked her to share that different cultures define family differently. A further discussion of SCC membership including this perspective will be added to a future agenda.

Natalie updated TAC on HB48 – School Trust Fund Modifications (J Moss). This is a similar bill to one that has been run the prior two sessions. Carolyn and Nancy mentioned that the USBA/USSA had discussed this bill in their previous meeting.

Paula informed the committee that Representative Stratton may still be planning to run a school safety bill that involves SCCs. Jennifer mentioned HB 120 (Ward) included the recommendations of the School Safety committee.

Paula introduced SB 78 – Intestate Succession Amendments (Hinkins) that would allocate mineral and mineral proceeds from intestate estates to SITLA for the benefit of the permanent State School Fund. Paula also updated TAC on the proposed sale of Tabby Mountain.

ASSIGNMENTS AND FOLLOW-UP:

After Carolyn raised concerns in a prior meeting, Paula discussed the relationship between SITLA and Utah counties with SITLA Director Dave Ure. Paula learned that some water issues were being resolved, and believes Director Ure was grateful for the information on how SITLA could improve communication.

OTHER ISSUES:

Carolyn mentioned that the Utah Rural School Association was soliciting applications to present in the summer conference. Natalie has received an invitation to apply, and the committee discussed that the training should be directed toward principals and teachers.

The committee decided to hold a meeting by conference call in February. The date will be determined after reviewing information from the poll regarding future meeting days.

Jay Blain made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 2:10.