



New Haven Democracy Fund

"To ensure that all the citizens of New Haven have a fair and meaningful opportunity to participate in the election of mayor."
New Haven Code of General Ordinances, Chapter 2, Article XI, §2-821 • Established in 2007 • democracyfund@newhavenct.net



DEMOCRACY FUND BOARD MEETING

6:00 pm Wednesday April 20, 2022

(Virtual Meeting via Zoom)

New Haven Democracy Fund Board, Sergio Rodriguez, Chair

Members: Aaron Goode, James O'Connell, William Wynn, James Bhandary-Alexander

Democracy Fund Administrator: Alyson Heimer

To join the meeting please use one of the options below:

Web Browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82382679039> ; Meeting ID: 823 8267 9039

Phone: Please dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (New Haven, CT) Meeting ID: 823 8267 9039

+1 312 626 6799 US (Outside New Haven) Meeting ID: 823 8267 9039

In person: Not available at this time. Please stay tuned for updates.

AGENDA:

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:05pm. Bhandary-Alexander absent.
- II. Wynn motioned to approve prior meeting minutes. 4-0-0.
- III. No members of the public present.
- IV. Report from the Chair
 - A. The Chair summarized the meeting with Legislative Committee Chair Charles Decker and Administrator Heimer. The Legislative committee will be the first stop for any ordinance revision. After discussing the major points of the ordinance that need to be changed, (including opening up language for possible program expansion, and adjusting language to improve clarity of operations and programmatic intent). The Alder was generally supportive of the concepts, and the Fund in general. He echoed what other Alders have said in the past, that expansion to Alder races in New Haven is unnecessary at this time. However, he would like to know more about a possible pledge option. All parties agreed that the best way forward was to do a workshop for the Alders, to be scheduled after the Budget has been passed.
- V. Administrator's Report
 - A. 2022 CPI increases - a presentation of rates was given to Board Members in March. O'Connell wanted to include two related items discussed to the Ordinance

Review discussions - a decrease to the program spending cap, and a decrease to the maximum contribution limit.

- B. Motion to change the minimum allowable contribution to \$5 with the minimum match of \$10 for a \$5 contribution. 4-0-0.
 - C. Motion to approve the proposed CPI changes for 2022, as prepared by the Administrator. 3-0-1
 - D. CD rates/ Fund investment options for 2022-2023
Motion to approve either the purchase of a CD at a rate between 1.06 and 1.25% APY for 15-16 months or else use the financial vehicle for earning interest available through the GNHCF, pending full information. This decision would be made via an email digital vote. Members of the board would be given a full 48 hours to cast their vote. This would table the item until that time. 4-0-0.
- VI. Ordinance Review Sub-Committee (Bhandary-Alexander, chair)
- A. Ordinance draft vote was tabled to May's monthly meeting.
- VII. New Business
- a. Goode proposed that the NHDF officially support the bill at the state legislature to expand municipal campaign finance filings via the eCris system statewide.
 - b. NPR requested an interview - Sergio Rodriguez, Aaron Goode would like to attend.

Meeting adjourned 7:03pm