



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, July 24, 2024

Meeting Room 3 / Virtual via Zoom

New Haven Democracy Fund Board, Sergio Rodriguez, Chair; William Wynn, Vice Chair

Members: Aaron Goode, James O'Connell, Lesley Heffel-McGuirk, Sarah Ficca, one vacant seat.

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

AGENDA:

I. Call to Order & Attendance

A. Present: Sergio Rodriguez, Jim O'Connell, Leslie Heffel-McGuirk, Sarah Ficca, Aaron Goode

II. Review of the Minutes

A. Motion to approve June Minutes by Heffel-McGuirk. 4-0-0

III. Public Comment.

IV. Chair's Report

A. RFQ Draft Scope of Services

1. A draft of the scope of services was sent to the Board for review for a new RFQ.

Heffel McGuirk asked if, with the proposed expansion of the program, should the description or compensation change?

Chair Rodriguez requested volunteers to discuss the RFQ as a subcommittee: Heffel McGuirk, Rodriguez, O'Connell will sit on the subcommittee.

V. Administrator's Report

A. Ordinance revisions

Chair Rodriguez summarized that the ordinance revisions got a unanimous approval on the ordinance from the legislative committee.



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- B. National League of Cities Conference - November in Tampa. The Board has approved costs for travel, hotels, and a per diem to come from their Conferences line item.
- C. COGEL - December in LA. There will be a campaign finance roundtable on December 8th before the conference that would be the most valuable.

Swag for conference: Goode proposed: "Democracy is not a spectator sport." And business cards are a must for attendees. Administrator will order.

- D. Parking passes for Board Members were issued by the City. Parking Passes were given out:
 - NH-DF-07 Heffel-McGuirk
 - NH-DF-06 Ficca
 - NH-DF-05 O'Connell
 - NH-DF-04 Goode
 - NH-DF-03 Rodriguez
 - NH-DF-02 RESERVED
 - NH-DF-01 Administrator

VI. Old Business:

- A. Pilot program

O'Connell: General questions: why is the amount \$7,500 for board of ed and not half of the Mayor's grant amount?

Administrator Heimer: this amount is half of the original grant amount set in 2007. If you want to change that, this is the time.

O'Connell: I want to see that residents of the ward only required to donate. For the upcoming Republican primary we are spending about \$100,000.00 as a city to help 200 Republicans come out and vote. This is a vast expansion and a significant expense.

Ficca motioned to change the amount for the Board of education grant to half of the mayor's grant for the given year. 3-2-0.

Option for Alders to use 3 ways to fundraise. Grant will be \$1500 for the pilot program.

VII. Subcommittee Reports

- A. Regulations Subcommittee - Heffel-McGuirk, Goode, O'Connell

VIII. New Business

Money that the Fund has received as interest is \$8,082.86.

- IX. Heffel-McGuirk made a motion to adjourn at 7:51pm, 5-0-0.