

APPROVED MINUTES
Virginia Board for the Blind and Vision Impaired
Special Board Meeting
June 14, 2024
11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Location: ALL VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

Board Members in Attendance

Joseph Ashley, Bonnie Atwood, Robert Bartolotta, Mazen Basrawi, Paul D’Addario-Chair, Ken Jessup-Vice Chair, Michael Kasey

DBVI Staff to the Board

Wallica Gaines, Deputy Commissioner for Administration; Matt Koch, Deputy Commissioner of Enterprises; Maggie Mills, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner; Rick Mitchell, Commissioner, David Rhodenhiser, VTC Support

Public

Steve Becker
Anjali Jarral
Aaron Joiner
Yvonne Mastromano
Michael Rothwell

Call to Order & Welcome

Chair D’Addario called the meeting to order and welcomed the members in attendance. A quorum was met.

Business Items

Introductions

A roundtable of introductions was conducted.

Consent of Agenda

The Chair motioned to approve the agenda as presented, and the motion passed unanimously.

Consent of March 26, 2024, Minutes

The Chair motioned to approve the Minutes from the March 26, 2024, Board Meeting. The Minutes were approved without objection and accepted for filing.

Public Comment

None

New Business

Review of 2024 Endowment Grant Request Applications

The Chair reviewed the Board’s Spending Plan:

Annually, the Board will make grant awards using the following spending rules:

- The grantmaking period is from July 1st to June 30th.

- The Board will determine the maximum funds available for the grant making period at its March meeting.
- Up to 4% of the trailing three-year average market value of the Fund as of February 28th/29th will be used to determine the maximum total award for the grant making period.
- For 2024, the maximum amount of total grants, in compliance with DBVI Board Spending-policy is \$235,011.80.
- The Board will make grant award decisions at its regular June meeting.

The Chair reminded members to abstain from voting if there is a conflict of interest.

The applications discussed were:

Joan Noble

This application is for a total of \$5,000.

Durwood Bradshaw

This application is for a total of \$1,000.

Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC)

This application is for a total of \$5,000.

Virginia Association of the DeafBlind

This application is for a total of \$5,000.

Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired – Super Summer Camp

This application is for a total of \$53,312.

Virginia Voice, Inc.

This application is for a total of \$60,000.

National Federation of the Blind of Virginia (NFB)

This application is for a total of \$125,000.

Goodwill Industries of the Valley

This application is for a total of \$13,000.

E. Lamont Crawley

This application is for a total of \$24,700.

Total amount of grants requested: \$292,012.00

The Board requested to hear presentations from seven of the nine applicants at the June 25 Board Meeting.

The Board is not requesting presentations from Joan Nobel and Durwood Bradshaw.

Adjournment

The Chair motioned to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Next Meeting

June 25, 2024, Boardroom – DBVI HQ