

SONOMA VALLEY FUND

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 14th, 2015

**Location: School District Offices
17850 Railroad Avenue**

The Meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm by President Rymer

A quorum was present: Blattner, Collins, Dale, Eliot, Fulton, Grandy, Hughes, Magrane, Rymer, Scott (by phone), Van Camp, Weltman, Young; Ex officio: Mullineaux, Ruelas; Guest: Caitlin Cornwall – Sonoma Valley Ecology Center

Excused Absences: Brangham, Iturri, Pistole

The Minutes of the March 12, 2015 were approved as circulated.

FINANCIAL REVIEW: President Rymer reviewed fund balances as of March 31, 2015 for all SVF accounts at CFSC, and noted a healthy fund balance of \$46,000 as of April 30, 2015 in the Operations Budget.

GOVERNANCE: Committee Co-Chair Van Camp reviewed the criteria for the selection of new Board members, including a needs assessment of the current Board, and presented a preliminary list of individuals of interest derived from Board member suggestions and nominations. The Committee will continue to review candidates and present a preliminary slate at the July Board meeting.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT: President Rymer reported on a proposal from CFSC seeking financial support for their Early Childhood Initiative in Sonoma Valley. It was agreed to not

consider the request in light of the SVF's pending launch of its grant making program in the fall.

Board member Dale and guest Caitlin Cornwall of the Sonoma Valley Ecology Center reported on the Sustainable Sonoma initiative, with leadership by the Center and the participation of various stakeholders in the Valley. It was agreed that SVF should stay informed of their activities going forward, as there will likely be opportunities for collaboration and potential impact.

Fulton presented an overview of the recently sponsored Community Conversation at the Community Center, as well as follow-up efforts by way of a survey, press coverage, and an upcoming email blast to all attendees and survey participants. These first steps were productive and successful and will now require careful assessment and planning for a subsequent follow-up event later in the fall.

Young reported on the work of the Grant making Committee, including its decision to focus its first round of grants on capacity building strategies for organizations dealing with health and the elderly in the Springs. An RFP will be issued toward the end of the summer.

DEVELOPMENT; Development Chair Grandy explained the plan for engaging in intentional outreach to Valley residents who should be informed about and then interested in and supportive of the work of SVF. Current Board members have been divided into four teams, which will reach out in the fall to the individuals who have been identified by the Board for this purpose. Informational and friend raising initially, to be followed by fundraising appeals when appropriate is the strategy.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Collins
Secretary**