



330 Pacific Place
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

April 24, 2025, 5pm

In attendance:

Members of the Board:

Public Sector:

Melissa Beaton – present

Ron Wesen – not present

Danny Hagen – present

vacant

Private Sector:

Kate Bennett – present

Silvia Reed – present

Gregg Davidson - present

Tina Tate – present

Client Sector:

Jamie Thornberry – not present

Kati Ortiz – present

Heather Wallace – present

Christina Soltero – not present

Staff: Bill Henkel, Sandi Phinney, Ayumi Ortmeyer

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Gregg Davidson called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

QUORUM PRESENT

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from the March 27, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting

Correspondence: Skagit Valley Herald: Skagit County Board of Commissioners considers removing Housing Authority Board Chair; Letter to Ron Wesen re Robert M Gates Skagit Vets Connect; Letter to Bill re CASC Vets Response Letter; Email to Gregg re Carolyn Moulton Board Resignation; WSCAP LIHEAP Proviso organizational sign on letter

Division Reports: Melissa Self, Jazmin Flores and Sandi Phinney, Elizabeth Jennings, Taylor Babcock, and Michele Metcalf

Motion to approve the Consent agenda made by Tate, seconded by Bennett. Motion passed unanimously.

III. DISCUSSION AGENDA

6. Finance; Haggen

Danny and Ayumi reviewed the April Finance report (through February 2025). Overall good news. Net positive for February \$14,000. Ayumi reminded the Board that the Kulshan View capital project is not included in this operational budget. Currently it is -\$14,000, primarily due to the timing of revenue and expenses on the project. Sandi reviewed the newly included profit and loss statements by program, which help us and program managers pay closer attention each month to program budget performance. Danny highlighted that there is so much more awareness of where things are and what is going out and in, a huge improvement from the many unknowns last year. He thanked staff for their hard work; it has paid off. Gregg echoed Danny's praise – our financial standing, work plan, business thinking, how we account for things, etc, have all paid off and are putting us into a much stronger position, especially in the face of the many political unknowns at present.

**Motion to approve the April finance report through February 2025 made by Beaton, seconded by Wesen.
Motion passed unanimously.**

7. State of the Agency; Henkel

Bill reminded the Board that we'll be moving from Zoom to Teams soon, so stay tuned for new meeting invites. He also thanked the Board members for your support and patience and guidance during these challenging times. In addition, individual Board members continue to go above and beyond in their service. For example, Silvia, Ron, Gregg, and Danny participated in the recent Lead and Serve Expo (a partnership with Leadership Skagit, Skagit Valley College, and Skagit Community Foundation), while Danny, Silvia, Kati and Gregg were highlighted in the Community Engagement board report as some of our superstars at re-posting social media posts. Bill also thanked Carolyn for her extraordinary Board service and her leadership of our CREAT Committee. We will miss her on the board and on CREAT. Big shoes to fill. Bill also celebrated again both Spirit of Hope, which was a success by any metric, and the positive turnaround on our Finance Reports. Still on our "to do" list is greater clarity for Cascade Landing's finances.. Our transition away from Coast for Cascade Landing management should help provide that clarity, as we will have direct and accurate access to all expenses and revenue. The final step for that transition is having a new rental management position hired and in place.

Bill noted that we will be participating this year in "Give Big" in May, and will be focusing our fundraising on all of our services that support new parents and their young children. Within Community conversations, Bill noted our conversations at our last CREAT meeting with a number of our state representatives, including Deb Lekanof (40th), Clyde Shavers (10th) and Sam Low (39th), through his Legislative Assistant Mary. These conversations focused on advocating for State CSBG, Kulshan View capital funding, and continued Recovery Navigator Program funding.

Bill also reminded the Board about tomorrow morning's in person and informal Work Session to discuss Skagit Vets Connect. We'll present and discuss the history, the timeline, and some of the operational questions and governance issues. We want to make sure the board and community know that we remain committed to serving veterans to the best of our ability.

8. Board Exec & Development Committees; Davidson, Henkel; Bennett


Staff have been busy doing scenario planning. Gregg said the Executive committee appreciates the staff's preparation for a variety of "what if" scenarios, based on all of the unknowns at the federal and state level. Sandi provided an overview of scenario planning and an overview of the Work Plan update, including an update on the Whole Family Approach work and what our vision is.

Kati then provided an update on our Latinx Advisory Committee, and the pervasive fear and concern in the Latinx community, as immigrants are targeted, including ICE sweeps of work places and organizations. The LAC's Mission is information sharing, networking, and resource growth, and is recently focused on addressing fears and anxiety

within our community. In January, when we began seeing new federal executive orders, including attacks on DEI language. That conversation was around how our LAC could continue to be a safe space, including ensuring that data and personal information is protected. As community members have been psychologically affected by the raids, people are using the LAC as a trusted source for accurate information. Kati then shared a touching story about the way LAC members were able to help a man needing help. This and many other stories illustrate how our LAC is a great way to get the information out, and create partnerships that make a true difference in lives. Board members thanked Kati and her family for what they do for our community.

Kate provided a Donor Development update: the Board did a great time showing up at Spirit of Hope, getting the word out, and helping make the event one of our best ever. What a success! The event took in 48% more money when you calculate in the expenses. If you have a chance, thank the people that were there. Ask them to put March 19, 2026, on their calendars for next year's Spirit of Hope.

IV. ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 6:15m.

BOARD REVIEW & APPROVAL:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved as submitted	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved with changes noted below
x 		06/05/25
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Acting Board Secretary	Date Signed