# **MINUTES**



# **Barth Syndrome Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting** January 29th 2020

#### **Members in Attendance:**

Susan A. McCormack Chair, Board Member David Axelrod, MD **Board Member** Megan Branagh **Board Member** Matthew Blumenthal **Board Member Board Member** Brandi Dague Nicole Derusha-Mackey **Board Member** B.J. Develle **Board Member** Michelle Florez **Board Member** Florence Mannes **Board Member** Katherine McCurdy **Board Member** Stephen B. McCurdy Chairman Emeritus Board Member, ex-officio **Emily Milligan** 

**Board Member** Peter van Loo

John Wilkins Secretary, Board Member **Kevin Woodward** Treasurer, Board Member

#### Staff in Attendance

Shelley Bowen, Director, Family Services & Advocacy Natalie Cohn, Controller

Our Mission – Saving lives through education, advances in treatment, and finding a cure for Barth syndrome.

#### **Executive Session**

## Follow-up items from prior board meetings:

- 1. Bank of America Investment Strategy
- 2. Policy Updates / NHC

## **Agenda Items:**

- 1. 2019 Mission Impact & Organizational Goals
- 2. 2019 Financial Results (Unaudited)
- 3. Governance Issues
- 4. 2020 Organizational Goals
- 5. 2020 Budget, including Conference

The meeting, held via GoToMeeting, was called to order by Ms. McCormack, on Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at Noon ET.

The Board entered an executive session.

#### Follow-up Items from prior board meetings

#### 1. Bank of America Investment Strategy

Ms. McCormack and Mr. Woodward updated the Board regarding various proposals for BSF's equity investment strategy. The Finance Committee will meet to determine which proposal is most prudent. \*

#### 2. Policy Updates / NHC

Mr. Wilkins, filling in for Ms. Florez, presented that the policy changes which the Board approved at its December meeting have been submitted to the NHC and approved by them and posted to BSF's website. BSF remains a member in good standing of the NHC. The Board thanked the Governance Committee for its efforts.

#### Agenda Items:

#### 1. 2019 Mission Impact & Organizational Goals – review

Ms. Milligan presented a review of the Foundation's impact and reviewed goals from 2019. Drawing from the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan, the team targeted specific deliverables mapped to BSF's overarching organizational goals in 2019:

Research and Therapeutic Strategy: Develop and promote BSF's therapeutic strategy and research priorities Communication and Engagement: Successfully implement adopted communication tools to broaden and deepen engagement in BSF's mission

Advocacy: Establish BSF as the premier organization advocating for therapies and policies that positively impact individuals affected by Barth syndrome

Noteworthy deliverables included BSF hosting a listening session with FDA in Spring 2019, executing BSF's first-ever portfolio review in June 2019, adopting new communication strategies to meet the diverse preferences of BSF's constituency, netting the highest performing Giving Tuesday fundraiser in BSF's history, and opening the 2020 conference registration months ahead of schedule.

The Board expressed its thanks to both staff, volunteers and donors who have contributed to a great 2019.

### 2. 2019 Financial Results (Unaudited)

Mr. Woodward presented a review of the pre audit 2019 financials

- Total Revenues of \$843,973
- Total Expenses of \$1,209,058;
- Thus, a deficiency of Revenue vs. Expenditures of \$365,085
- As of 12/31/19, our US Trust investment account had a balance of \$4,474,091

### 3. Governance Issues

Mr. Wilkins, filling in for Ms. Florez, presented the recommendation of the Governance Committee for the role of Board Chair for BSF, beginning April 2020.

**<u>VOTED:</u>** Katherine McCurdy was elected to fill the position of Board Chair, starting on April 1, 2020.

## 4. 2020 Organizational Goals

Ms. Milligan led a discussion of staff's proposed 2020 organizational goals for BSF. Specific objectives were grouped into three distinct categories:

- Research and Development of Therapies
- Community Engagement

Leadership and Advocacy

## 5. 2020 Budget, including Conference

Ms. Milligan presented the proposed 2020 Conference budget. After much discussion, the Board recommended various revisions to the budget and remitted it back to the Conference Committee for reconsideration.

# **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm ET. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 29th, 2020 @ 11:00 am ET. The next Executive Committee meeting is pending.

Respectfully submitted,

John Wilkins Secretary