

## Illinois Attorney General's Charitable Advisory Council

### Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2013

The 2013 Annual Meeting for the Charitable Advisory Council was held on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 9-031 of the James R. Thompson Center, Chicago, Illinois. In total, 39 individuals attended the meeting.

#### **PRESENT:**

Attorney General Lisa Madigan  
Jodi Adler, The Law Project  
John Blazek, National MS Society  
Brandon Bodor, Serve Illinois Commission  
Nina Castle, Better Business Bureau  
David Chernoff  
Delia Coleman, Donors Forum  
Gillian Darlow, Polk Bros. Foundation  
Greg DiDomenico, Community Memorial Foundation  
Joan Dixon, Community Foundation of East Central Illinois  
Rose Doherty, Legacy Professionals, LLP  
Emily Dreke, Chicago Foundation for Women  
Edith Falk, Campbell & Company  
Sunny Fischer, Richard H. Driehaus Foundation  
Emily Friedman, John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation  
Graham Grady, Lloyd A. Fry Foundation  
Sandra Guthman, Polk Bros. Foundation  
Laura Jane Hyde, Gilda's Club Chicago  
Jack Kaplan, United Way of Illinois  
Valerie Lies, Donors Forum  
Marcia Lipetz, Millenia Consulting, LLC  
Zena Naiditch, Equip for Equality  
James Parsons, The Brinson Foundation  
Jamie Phillippe, The Chicago Community Trust  
James Quaid, Ostrow Reisin Berk & Abrams, Ltd.  
Janice Rodgers, Quarles & Brady, LLP  
David Rosen, Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago  
Doug Schenkelberg, Donors Forum  
Richard Sevcik, K&L Gates LLP  
Susan Snyder, Northern Trust Company  
Pamela Wilcox, Executive Services Corps  
Caren Yanis, Crown Family Philanthropies

In addition, the following staff members from the Illinois Attorney General's Office were present:

Mary Morrissey, Therese Harris, Theresa Geary, Eric Salcedo, Matthew Shapiro, Jennifer Opatik and Kristin Louis

**I. Welcoming Remarks—Attorney General Madigan**

The Attorney General opened the meeting at 2:34 p.m. and welcomed CAC members. The Attorney General provided an update on efforts of her Charitable Trust Bureau and the CAC accomplishments over the past year.

The Attorney General shared that Valerie Lies, co-chair, will be retiring in June 2014 and thanked her for her contributions. Valerie introduced Doug Schenkelberg, Donors Forum's new Vice President of Public Policy.

**II. Review and Approve 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes**

Therese Harris thanked members for completing the Open Meetings Act and asked members to review the 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes. David Rosen motioned to approve the minutes and Sunny Fisher seconded. A voice vote occurred with all members voting in favor of approving the minutes. There were no objections.

**III. Old Business**

**a. CAC Charter**

Therese Harris shared the updated copy of the CAC Charter reflecting the changes from the last annual meeting.

**IV. New Business**

**a. Communications and Outreach Committee Report — Therese Harris/Valerie Lies**

Valerie and Therese provided an update on Communications and Outreach efforts.

**i. Charitable Information Session**

A charitable information session was held this fall on the north side of Chicago. 65 individuals attended and the session included information on charitable regulations and best practices.

**ii. Public Education Materials – Charitable Organization Checklists**

A checklist for new and existing charitable organizations was created and distributed at the information session.

**b. Committee Discussion— Therese Harris/Valerie Lies**

**i. Next Steps for Charitable Information Sessions**

Valerie led a discussion on hosting additional charitable information sessions. Members discussed the possibility of putting information online and adding information on merging or closing charitable organizations to the workshops or checklists.

**ii. OAG Website**

Therese Harris asked for assistance in updating the CAC portion of the OAG website to include recommended resources from CAC members. Valerie suggested that the Committee split up the work for the information sessions and the website. In response to questions on if Illinois would add electronic filing to OAG website, Therese shared that Illinois is part of a multi-state NASCO workgroup reviewing electronic filing.

**V. Public Comment**

Zena Naiditch reiterated the need for checklists or additional information for organizations that are closing that was mentioned during the discussion. Pam Wilcox mentioned including information in a checklist or document for mid-cycle organizations that are not new and not closing. Valerie shared that existing resources exist on that might help and could be included on the CAC portion of the website. David suggested expanding checklists for closing organizations to include when organizations merge.

Jim Quaid asked if raising the audit threshold was under consideration. Therese was unaware of any efforts to raise the threshold.

Brandon Bodor discussed the importance of setting next steps and goals for organizations such as the CAC.

Graham mentioned the digital divide and looking at capacity building and costs for Illinois organizations to get online. A discussion on reaching individuals via email or snail mail followed and collecting email addresses from registered organizations. Additional ideas included materials in multiple language and less dense materials or newsletters.

**VI. Closing—David Rosen**

David thanked individuals for attending and reminded attendees of the resources in their folders.