

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS LIFE SCIENCES CENTER

DATE: October 13, 2021
TIME: 1:00 p.m. EST
PLACE: Via Zoom: Meeting number: : 848 7979 4437

Members Connected: Stuart Abelson
Julie Chen, Ph.D.
Gary Kearney, M.D.

Also Present: Mark Fuller, Co-Chair, MLSC Board
Catharine Hornby, Co-Chair, MLSC Board
Kenneth Turner, President and CEO

1. Call to Order

Mr. Stuart Abelson, acting chairperson of the Investment Committee, a sub-committee (the “Committee”) of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (the “MLSC” or “Center”) called the meeting to order. The meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with its business. Mr. Abelson conducted a roll call, with all members (Mr. Abelson, Dr. Chen and Dr. Kearney) present.

2. Welcome Message – Kenneth Turner, President and CEO, MLSC

Mr. Turner gave a brief welcome message to the Committee, including a summary of site visits, Project Vaccine exhibit at Museum of Science and FY21 Highlights meeting with Secretary Kennealy.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the September 13, 2021 Committee meeting. Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Committee approved the minutes.

4. MassNextGen Sponsorship Funding, Anne Walsh, Senior Program Associate

Ms. Walsh presented on the status of remaining Sponsorship Funds for the MassNextGen program. Ms. Walsh reported that Mintz is a sponsor of the program, both with in-kind sponsorship through legal-focused coaching sessions and cash contribution to support in-person events during the MassNextGen program. Due to Covid, there are remaining sponsorship funds in the amount of \$5,000, and Ms. Walsh reported that MLSC and Mintz discussed options and agreed to allocate the funds across Round 4 awardees as an additional stipend.

Investment Committee Member, Dr. Kearney, inquired about other sponsorships for the program and how we engage those sponsors, and Ms. Walsh gave an overview of the full menu of events and opportunities to engage the program sponsors. General Counsel, Allyson Huntington, added that the five-year Mintz Sponsorship Agreement expires at the end of 2021, and we will look to enter into a new agreement. Ms. Walsh also explained that there would be no further public relations announcements surrounding this remaining sponsorship funding. Vice President of Marketing, Communications and Community Relations, Joseph Sullivan, provided additional information on how MLSC will engage and promote our large industry sponsors. The allocation would result in an additional \$1,000 per Round 4 Awardee.

Ms. Walsh will present to the Board of Directors at the October 2021 meeting, and request approval to allocate remaining sponsorship funding to Round 4 MassNextGen awardees.

5. FY23 STEM Equipment and Professional Development Grant Program, Ryan Mudawar, Vice President, Education & Workforce Programs

Ryan Mudawar, Vice President of Education and Workforce Programs presented on the Fiscal Year 2023 STEM Equipment and Professional Development Grant Program, beginning with an overview of the program, historical data, and a review of the timeline for the program from solicitation to review and award. Mr. Mudawar reported that up to \$500,000 from the Investment Fund will be requested for the professional development component of this program, along with Capital Funds for STEM equipment.

Dr. Kearney asked if there were any changes to the program, and Mr. Mudawar reported that the program will be run with the same protocols as past years. Dr. Kearney commended the reach of the program. Mr. Abelson asked about technical aspects of the grant program and the support provided. Mr. Mudawar stated that MLSC gives continuous support to make sure the awardees are making the best use of the funding, and Dr. Kearney acknowledged the shift to school districts rather than individual schools in past iterations of the program. Dr. Chen asked about the curriculum provider aspect of the program, and Mr. Mudawar stated that MLSC returned to an open call but now require the school district to be the applicant. Dr. Chen asked whether the curriculum providers were better when the districts, and Mr. Mudawar confirmed that it is optimized when districts apply vs. individual schools.

Mr. Mudawar will present to the Board of Directors at the September 2021 meeting, and request approval of \$500,000.00 from the Investment Fund for the FY23 STEM Equipment and Professional Development Grant Program.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.

List of Materials and Exhibits Used During Meeting:

- September 2021 Meeting Minutes
- MassNextGen Sponsorship Funding Presentation
- FY23 Stem Equipment and Professional Development Grant Program