



**Accola Executive Committee
Wednesday, May 28, 2025; 8:00 – 9:30 am
Zoom Virtual Meeting**

In Attendance: Kevin Berg; Anita S. Duckor, CSJ-C; Steve Kenney; Mary Lydon; Brian Mallaro; Susan Oeffling, CSJ; Jill Underdahl, CSJ; Anne Weyandt; Jean Wincek, CSJ

Staff: Matt Halley; Lacy Sietsema

Excused Absence: Joel Rainville

The Accola Executive Committee convened on Wednesday, May 28, 2025 via Zoom. Chair Kevin Berg called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

DEI: Read by Kevin.

Spiritual Centering: Mary led the committee in spiritual centering.

Agenda: Items six and seven will be switched around – Sustainability work will be discussed before the proposed budget conversation.

Minutes: The March minutes were presented for approval. Hearing no changes or corrections, all present members voted to approve the March minutes.

President's report

Matt reported that Accola is moving forward with the hiring of an Advancement Director and Wisdom Ways Director. Andrée Aronson will be the new Advancement Director. Haven Green will be the new Wisdom Ways Director. Both will begin their work with Accola in June.

Matt reviewed a unique grant opportunity through the MN Department of Human Services.

Committee Updates

Investment: Mary reported that the Investment Committee met in April and the next meeting will take place in July. She has met with Tiffany and committee member Jack Hanson to discuss the possibility of engaging an outside professional investment manager. The committee is reviewing investment filters. She reported that the market continues to move up and down, but that the general asset allocation has served Accola well.

Mission Education: Kevin expressed appreciation for the CSJ Bus Tour. Susan reported that the committee is taking July off.

Programs & Opportunities: Anne reported that several committee members were part of the hiring process of the new directors. There was a discussion about Haven's vision for Wisdom Ways and how this

will be articulated and monetized.

The Accola Senior Leadership Team interviewed Advancement Director candidates. Wisdom Ways Director candidates were interviewed by Anne Weyandt, Susan Oeffling, Colleen O'Malley, Karen Gervais, and Andrea Pearson Tande.

Advancement: Kevin reported that Board members can invite people to the Sarah's Fundraiser in June. The end-of-year appeal is being developed and will come out in June.

Discussion/Action – Sustainability Work

Matt reviewed a draft of the sustainability work. This project has two main components: initiatives that can replace the Province gift and will help Accola grow with additional services and reach, and theory of change. The sustainability project looks at what is needed, what can be done, what will change, and how this will increase impact. Matt explained the strategies used to determine key outcomes. There are three goal areas: spirituality, community, and social justice. Each program will measure its impact in the goal areas.

Matt explained that the sustainability work groups have identified three main areas to focus on: increasing community engagement, developing earned income streams, and facilities planning. Costs in these areas have been embedded into the FY26 budget. Partnerships and a robust volunteer program will be important for sustainability. A community engagement plan and a strong communications plan will be developed.

The committee discussed an Accola elevator pitch and how Accola will ensure outcomes.

Matt reviewed earned income, which consists of existing revenue streams and new opportunities. Matt explained that there will be different services that need to be evaluated.

The committee discussed facilities planning. Matt explained the status of the facilities at Sarah's and the need to develop a long-term plan.

Matt reported that a final draft of this sustainability plan will be ready for the June Board meeting.

Discussion – Proposed FY26 Budget

Matt presented the FY26 Budget. The budget is balanced and has the sustainability initiatives embedded throughout. Matt reviewed the FY26 contribution goal. He explained that earned revenue was determined by looking at the 5-year financial projections. Matt reviewed contracted services and building expenses. There will be a projected surplus from FY25 that will be rolled over to FY26.

Brian stated that this budget has been moved forward from the Finance Committee. He added that Matt has articulated the challenges in the upcoming fiscal year and that the Finance Committee is comfortable with this budget. There was a discussion about a cash surplus policy.

Hearing no further discussion, Brian moved to recommend the FY26 Budget to the Board and Steve seconded. All present members voted in favor.

Discussion – Election of Board Officers for 2025/26

With approval of the Nomination and Governance Committee, Kevin nominated Steve Kenney to serve as next Board Chair, with Jean serving as Board Secretary. Kevin will serve as Vice Chair to ease the transition.

Anita reviewed the selection process and welcomed any feedback committee members may have.

Discussion – Process for Appointing MF Board & Officers

Accola is responsible for appointing Board members of the Ministries Foundation. Kevin suggested that this Board be made up of three members: the Accola Board Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. This will be on the June Board meeting agenda.

Executive Session: The Executive Committee went into Executive Session at 9:55 a.m.

Adjournment: the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. `

Respectfully Submitted,
Lacy Sietsema, Accola