



Sara Ward

To: Angie Nachazel <anachazel@ejps.org>; Bill Lorne (bill.j.lorne@gmail.com); Carol Timmer <tcmtsquared@gmail.com>; Cindy Grice <gricecm@gmail.com>; **+11 others**



Thu 1/11/2024 5:03 PM



2024 Committees.pdf

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Hello Trustees! Here is your every-other-week update on what's happening at the Community Foundation:

#### Community Impact:

- Ashley is preparing for upcoming grant cycles with a focus on Arts & Culture and (separately) Environment. Megan continues to promote scholarship availability in area schools. Pam helps the messages get out through social media and e-newsletters. Sharing the opportunities has been a big focus in recent years and it takes a team.
- Megan recently navigated a promising path forward for C3F to use charitable scholarship dollars to support students pursuing post-secondary career training in partnership with Networks Northwest. This is a struggle we identified YEARS ago and this is finally meaningful progress thanks to her imagination and effort. Stay tuned!

#### Connection:

- Gift letters galore! We have probably received the last of the 2023 gifts, so Matt is systematically working through many, many steps to close the year. He's so organized!
- A 'communications audit' and corresponding plan were included in our strategic plan. Pam's completed that work and is launching the activities designed in the plan. She's really growing in the communications and development space, balancing tried and true activities that still make sense with new ideas and approaches.
- C3F staff are out and about: Matt attended a Greenleaf Trust seminar in Petoskey, Pam participated in the Leadership Charlevoix County day, and Ashley continues to connect with partners who are both sharing about past grants and proposing new applications.

Strong Organization:

- Please keep an eye out for confidentiality and conflict of interest forms that must be completed annually by trustees- they'll come via Sam Matz through DocuSign. Prefer to complete the forms in paper? Reach out to Sam and she'll make a plan with you. (smatz@c3f.org)
- I'm working to complete staff evaluations- it's a new form and a new process that incorporates two-way evaluation. So far so good-it's a really worthwhile effort and the feedback has been positive so far. I feel oh-so-fortunate to work with this team. The time we've spent over the past months articulating culture and practice have really been worth it, too!
- Your representatives on the Executive Committee are working with me on goals for 2024, which will also have a new form and process. Each of these adjustments takes time, but I appreciate the fresh look.
- Similar to the survey you took in May, I asked staff to complete an anonymous survey to help me focus my effort in that space. I repeated the survey in December (with our full staff on board for it) to help guide my efforts for the coming months.
- Last but not least, our newest staff (Megan, Pam, and Sam) helped me prepare for the orientation that will take place Monday for new trustees (and any experienced trustees who wish to join!).

Dates to Remember (always available on the calendar on the [board portal](#)):

- Trustee Orientation: Monday, January 15 from 1:30- 3 pm at the C3F office
- Investment Committee meeting: Thursday, January 25 from 9 - 10:30 am at the C3F office
- Finance Committee meeting: Thursday, January 25 from 11 am - 12:30 pm at the C3F office
- Board meeting: Thursday, February 1 from 10 am - 12 pm, refreshments and conversation at 9:30 am at the C3F office
- I attached the list of committee members for your reference 😊

Thank you!

Sara  
CHATEAUX COUNTY COMMUNITY

📧 You forwarded this message on Mon 1/29/2024 10:44 AM



Sara Ward

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Bcc: Sara Ward

Fri 1/26/2024 8:00 AM



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Hello Trustees! Here is your Community Foundation update!

Big Picture:

- The board agenda packet is ready and available on the [board portal](#) - please check it out before our meeting next Thursday, February 1 at 10 am in East Jordan (join us at 9:30 for refreshments!) There are some prompts included that you may want to let marinate if you're like me and think best when you have time.
- I'm excited to share our brand messaging-*attached here*-which is the result of staff and board input and our work with Brand Tonic. The visual elements of the branding are coming soon, with a lead into a logo refresh, updated approach to the annual report, and work to create a more effective website later this year.

Community Impact:

- Our friends at the Boyne District Library hosted several community input sessions on a housing development that is moving forward with Michigan Community Capital. I attended one of those sessions to learn more and was impressed with MCC as a partner. You can get up-to-date on the projects in Boyne City here: <https://michigancommunitycapital.org/housing-for-boyne/>
- Fog foiled Megan's plans to visit Beaver Island this week to meet with school staff and Student Success donors, but she's resourceful and still connected with those folks from the mainland.
- Ashley and I attended a regional funders meeting about a comprehensive housing partner called IFF. It's out of our range at this point, but it's good to be at the table and to continue learning about avenues that are available to the C3F.

Connection:

- Pam won't be at the board meeting because she is participating in Leadership Charlevoix County, which is meeting the same day. Instead of providing a report on the Communications and Development Plan in person, she recorded a high-level look at the results of the audit she conducted late last year. This work was included in the Strategic Plan and sharing with you about asset development is also recommended by National Standards. She's done a terrific job preserving activities that are working and meeting a need while adding innovations in other areas that needed more attention. Enjoy! <https://youtu.be/R67tiINl2iM>

Strong Organization:

- Bill Lorne and Matt led productive Investment Committee and Finance Committee meetings today. We started strong with Jeff Crouse joining Investment and Jim Lentz and Carol Timmer joining Finance. IC members talked through asset allocation and spending rate. FC members kicked off discussion on administrative fees, a strategic plan goal that will take most of the year. Note that meeting minutes will be sent along to you next week in advance of the board meeting and approval will be included on the consent agenda. Thanks to Keith for coming to the Finance meeting, too!
- Orientation for our new trustees was a cozy affair on a snowy day last week. We'll welcome Anna, Jim, and Tom at our board meeting on the 1st. Thanks for John McLeod for joining to offer his experienced voice as well!
- I joined the Council of Michigan Foundations New Leaders cohort meeting last week and also had my third session with an executive coach this week. Matt attended a technology roundtable. Pam and I are attending a one-a-week for 4 weeks planned giving seminar to grow our knowledge and activities in this important strategic area. There is so much to learn and we're dedicated to making space for it.

Thank you for your interest and support! I look forward to seeing you next Thursday for our first quarterly board meeting.

Sara