

**York Road Partnership
Leadership Board Meeting
March 14, 2022
Via Zoom**

Minutes

Present: Chris Forrest, Phyllis Gilmore, Karen DeCamp, Lisa O'Reilly, Stephanie Geller, Sandi McFadden, Donna Blackwell, Marie McSweeney, Carol Rice

1. **Retreat follow up:** Chris reported out that we agreed that it is important for YRP to renew its focus on making sure the community's voice is represented throughout YRP; that YRP ensure it hears from organizational members and community members on issues before it leads with its position on particular issues. We also agreed that we need, post-COVID, to do another retreat with facilitation focused on connecting as individuals. At the retreat, we also agreed that we need to put some efforts toward marketing YRP, such as a video and updated materials to help contextualize what we do and how to get involved.
2. **Nominating Committee:** Karen DeCamp reported on the nominating committee: members include Lisa O'Reilly, Malik Jordan, Cindy Camp and Bonita Cody. Current board members should let Karen know of their willingness to serve another term or wish to step away and in addition, suggestions for new nominees.
3. **Organizational Planning:** Chris shared a draft organizational planning doc that tracks issues the committees are working on with the thought that generally, issues come to committees (including the board/leadership committee) for consideration first. The committees can refer issues to the board. Dan suggested that we need to make sure that we put together a priority list for possible state funding that is informed by the grassroots of our communities. Stephanie suggested that we create a framework for transition to in-person or hybrid YRP meetings.
4. **Handling Requests from Elected Officials to Speak:** YRP is unable to endorse candidates. Sandi advised that we need a strategy for when candidates reach out and ask to speak at our meetings. Stephanie suggested that we refer them to a list of questions about things we care about, with each committee suggesting one or two questions and the board drafting a couple of strategic questions. Stephanie will take the lead on collecting questions. Karen suggested that if we do a candidate forum, that we limit to delegate and senate candidates. Chris stated that may need to pull in other orgs and people to make that happen.
5. **Report Back from BUILD Training:** Chris, Sandi, Donna, Dan and Karen attended a BUILD training on Moving People to Action. Key learnings were shared, including how to

understand who your base is and how to understand the problems and issues that would motivate people to action. Dan suggested that the question is whether or not a relationship with BUILD would be beneficial to YRP. Karen shared that the discipline of community organizing that BUILD teaches (the Industrial Areas Foundation) would be highly beneficial for YRP.