



Attendance: Cynthia McGuinness, Pat Duboise, Joann Lawrence, Nydia Akins, Lauren McCarthy, Melissa Kemp, Annette VanDevere, Nathifa Cunningham, Debra Bowling, Jane Arney, Brittany Stewart; **via WebEx:** Shelley Wales, Tracy Knutsen, Samantha Bishop, Kathy Brunot, Simone Escho, Maggie Fuller

Welcome and Introductions:

Cynthia McGuinness welcomed everyone and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

Guest Speaker:

Joann Lawrence, Director of Grants, Ascension Nonprofit Development.

Topic: Let's Talk – Issues that concern you

Budget: What is your process for developing a budget? Who is involved?

Ms. Lawrence stated that budgets can be difficult to navigate without an accounting background. Generally, smaller budgets are easier to put together. Ms. Duboise stated that within her organization they deal with a lot of Federal grants and it can be challenging to pull information together in time for a quick turnaround and they heavily rely on their finance people to make sure that they are in compliance with Federal guidelines.

Needs Assessments: Problem Cause and Effect

Approach – Start with a broader perspective, followed by State-wide issue and then narrow to local need if data is available.

Issue - Explain in detail why your stated issue is indeed a problem.

Research: Statistics help support your needs assessment but need to be explained in further detail. Don't expect funders to understand the statistics. It is best to provide a narrative explaining statistics.

Where are the facts? Ms. Lawrence mentioned she generally likes to gather data from Harvard and Governmental Agencies such as the CDC. It's important to pay special attention to the source of which information is obtained.

Sustainability: Provide insight on your organization and its longevity to build the funders confidence. Another key point to discuss is the sustainability of outcomes from receiving funding and not solely focusing on the money aspect.

Free Resources:

- Grants.gov
- Grants Gopher
- Grant Space

Chapter Business:

President's Report:

- Job Announcement - St. Vincent de Paul George is looking for a Grants Manager.
- Candid is looking for workshop leaders and speakers for a day-long capacity building training

event. The deadline to submit a proposal is Friday, July 26th.

- GPA will be conducting a webinar on GPC Virtual Study Groups, August 21st.
- A representative from the Foundation Center will speak at the August meeting to discuss recent changes and available resources.
- Shavonn Richardson will speak on the Topic: "Writing a Contract", at the September meeting.
- Amanda Day is tentatively on the schedule to speak in October.
- November Meeting-Discuss National Conference
- December Meeting- Holiday Luncheon
- GPA National Conference will be held November 6-9, 2019 in Washington, DC.
 - Early registration for the National Conference ends on July 31st.
- Southern Regional Grants Conference will be held April 23-24, 2020 in Greenville, SC

Other Business:

Meeting adjourned and the next meeting will be held on August 27, 2019 at the Atlanta Community Food Bank.