

NOVAworks Foundation

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

September 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Meeting was held remotely via videoconference.

Present: Dennis Cima, Frank Benest, Steve Levy

Secretary/Treasurer: Marléna Sessions

NOVA Staff: Giang Pham, Luther Jackson, Eileen Stanly

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m. by Vice President Mr. Cima.
2. Approval of Roadtrip Nation Project for Youth Services:
 - a. Background/Context: Roadtrip Nation project offers the opportunity to dispel the fear and uncertainty about the future of work among young adults and replace it with greater awareness, empowerment, innovation, and hope. It also provides the vehicle for expanding NOVA's current footprint in the community in serving young adults.
 - b. Discussion: The project proposes to develop a digital community hub that will engage participants in an interactive career development exploration, utilizing mentors that have faced challenges in their own career search. Roadtrip Nation will also launch a road trip for participants to interview inspiring leaders and professionals in the community. This will be videotaped for a potential feature on public television. NOVAworks and Foundation and Board members will have the opportunity to identify leaders for this project. This model has been launched in other communities, including Wichita, Kansas, Chicago, Illinois, and Tampa, Florida. The total project will entail a small amount of funding from the Foundation (\$150,000 — \$100,000 from Google, \$25,000 from the Irvine Foundation and \$25,000 from LinkedIn) and will be leveraged with approximately \$600,000 in WIOA funding (pending NOVAworks Board approval) and \$75,000 from Roadtrip Nation's parent company, Strada Collaborative. Strada Collaborative is also interested in implementing an evaluation component to measure success and impact in areas of school completion, matriculation to post-secondary and job placement, wages, and retention. A recommendation was made to identify metrics for the project and report out to the Board the indicators selected, with periodic updates on the progress of the project. It was also recommended that career pathways include opportunities for young adults who are not pursuing the college degree track. The project should build on NOVAworks' current work that will benefit services long after it is concluded.
 - c. Action: It was moved by Mr. Benest, seconded by Mr. Levy, and carried by voice vote to approve the Roadtrip Nation project and the expenditure of \$150,000 in Foundation funding.
3. The meeting was adjourned at 12:51 p.m.