

IOLA Fund of the State of New York
Meeting of the Grants Committee of the Board of Trustees
December 10, 2024
FINAL

Present: Chair Davis and Trustee Galowitz
Video-Conference: Trustees Lopez-Soto, Madigan and Ross
Staff: Fecko, Nyiendo and Fehringer

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Davis at approximately 1:03 p.m.

2. Grant Process Overview

Ms. Fecko provided an overview of the grant process, noting that due to historic revenues, for the first time in its history, the IOLA Fund will award five-year grants. The RFP, which was released on September 28, 2024, will be providing funding up to \$562,500,000 for FY 2026 – 2030. Applications were due on October 28, 2024. Applications were reviewed for completeness by staff and whether they satisfied the requirements of the Bureau of Contracts' Grants Team Unit and the Office of State Comptroller.

These grants will provide significant additional funding as well as stability for civil legal services across New York. Ms. Fecko noted that this also provides an opportunity for the Board of Trustees to support increased immigration legal services, which the Board has recognized as an area of high need. Ms. Fecko generally described the CLS and AOJ categories, including the requirement within CLS of geographic units and the allocation of funds based on the per capita poverty population, as well as the need for breadth of programming. Ms. Fecko advised that grant award recommendations were limited by the amount requested.

Ms. Fecko stated that a summary of the Trustees' conflicts of interest had been previously circulated to the Board by Ms. Nyiendo. Ms. Fecko reminded the Board to abstain from participating in discussion or a vote regarding an applicant to whom they have a conflict.

Trustee Dunham entered the meeting in person at 1:15 p.m. Trustee Villaverde entered the meeting via video conference at 1:20 p.m.

3. Executive Session

Trustee Galowitz made a motion to enter into Executive Session to consider matters relating to the financial history and appointment of particular corporations (i.e., IOLA grantees), which was seconded by Chair Davis and approved without objection. While in Executive Session, Ms. Fecko and Ms. Nyiendo provided the Committee with additional details and answered questions regarding the recommendations as to grant awards for the FY2026 - FY2030 grant cycle.

Trustee Galowitz made a motion for the Committee to advance the staff recommendations on grant awards to the Board of Trustees at its meeting on

Tuesday, December 17, 2024. The motion was seconded by Trustee Lopez-Soto and unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Licha M. Nyiendo
General Counsel