Advancement Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 10, 2026
9:30 – 11:00 AM
Via Teams

Present: Brian Mullen; Joel Rainvile; Gabrielle Rohde; Kristine Smyth

Staff: Andree Aronson; Lacy Sietsema

Excused Absence: Marjie Blevins; Mat Halley; Sandy Vargas

The Accola Advancement Committee meeting convened on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 9:31 a.m.

Meeting Intention: Led by Joel.

DEI Statement: Joel read the DEI Statement.

Minutes: The August minutes were presented for approval. Hearing no changes or corrections, Brian moved to approve and Gabi seconded. All present members voted to approve the minutes.

Advancement Updates
Financials: Andree reported that Advancement is in the early stages of FY27. Grants are at $6,000, unrestricted donations are at $11,000, and restricted donations are at $7,436. The year-end numbers for FY26 will be reviewed when the books are closed.

Partners: Andree provided an update on Accola's partnerships. Lindsey is drafting a list of these partnerships that can be used interactively with the programs. Andree reviewed emerging partnerships and how these will represent Accola's community. Andree explained how partnerships can increase grant opportunities.

Open House: Andree provided a review of the August Open House that took place at Sarah's… an Oasis for Women. The event was well attended and it was reported that two attendees are part of a foundation that gives grants on an invite-only basis. These events help increase awareness of and provide opportunities for Accola.

Andree provided a brief update on Wisdom Ways. It was reported that she, Matt, Anne, and Sandy have met and walked through four scenarios that will impact the future direction of Wisdom Ways. The Programs and Opportunities Committee will meet and further refine this discussion.

Other Business
Next Year's Goals: The committee reviewed its goals for FY27. These goals will be drafted into a committee workplan and be sent to the Board Chair and the Chair of the Nomination and Governance Committee.

Committee Goals

- Update the commitment form to be Advancement consistent (Board engagement, fundraising, and partnerships)
- Track BOD & BOD influenced connections: # of introductions, connections, impact from donors
- Committee expansion

• Events: all members attend Breakfast & fill table; attend at least 3 events throughout the year
• 100% participation in BOD giving and engagement. The committee discussed the importance of having a CSJ community member on the committee.

Andree reviewed the Board Member Personal Plan of Action document. Andree will email this document out to committee members for additional feedback.

Board Goals

- Events: all members attend Breakfast & fill table; attend 3 events throughout the year
- 100% participation in BOD giving and engagement

Next Committee meeting is October 8, 2026.

Adjourn: The committee adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lacy Sietsema, Accola