

MAYOR'S FUND  
TO ADVANCE  
NEW YORK CITY

**Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
March 25, 2026**

**Attendance**

**Directors:**

Elle Bisgaard-Church, Chair

Julie Chen

Christina Cover

Shawn Morehead

Rikke Mananzala

Javier H. Valdés

Tony Perlstein

**Officers:**

Kate R. Smith, President

Claudia Cereceda, Vice President

**Other participants:**

Emmy Liss, Executive Director, Mayor's Office of Child Care and Early Childhood Education

Maya Handa, World Cup Czar

**Not in attendance:**

Wendy Li, Treasurer

---

President Kate R. Smith ("K. Smith") called the meeting to order.

Chair of the Board of Directors, Elle Bisgaard-Church ("E. Bisgaard-Church") led short introductions for the Directors, discussed the vision of the Mayor's Fund and its alignment with the Mayor's priorities.

E. Bisgaard-Church thanked each Director for their willingness to serve.

MAYOR'S FUND  
TO ADVANCE  
NEW YORK CITY

K. Smith requested a motion to approve E. Bisgaard-Church as Chair of the Board of Directors.

Shawn Morehead (“S. Morehead”) made the motion.

Javier Valdés (“J. Valdés”) seconded the motion.

E. Bisgaard-Church was approved as Chair of the Board of Directors.

K. Smith led a brief overview of the Mayor’s Fund and its functions.

E. Bisgaard-Church introduced Emmy Liss (“E. Liss”).

E. Liss led a presentation on the new Child Care Action Fund, its five pillars, and its \$20,000,000 fundraising goal.

S. Morehead asked if the \$20 million goal was specific to in-fund dollars or aligned dollars. She recommended that the goal should be increased if it is to include aligned funds.

Ricke Mananzala (“R. Mananzala”) agreed with S. Morehead on increasing the goal, and mentioned that \$20 million will be for the first year.

J. Valdés asked if the Child Care Action Fund partners will be announced at the larger Child Care Action Fund announcement in April.

E. Liss explained that with the date of the announcement set, her office was checking in with partners to see if they would like to be included.

The Board discussed the partners for the Child Care Action Fund, differentiating between institutional and individual funders.

E. Bisgaard-Church introduced Maya Handa (“M. Handa”)

MAYOR'S FUND  
TO ADVANCE  
NEW YORK CITY

M. Handa led a presentation on the soccer initiatives being planned ahead of the World Cup this summer. M. Handa shared details on Soccer Streets, upcoming mural projects, and the Global Food Expo.

J. Valdés and S. Morehead gave examples and references to funders who might be interested in each of these projects.

E. Bisgaard-Church thanked the Board, and asked if there were any further questions.

With no further questions, K. Smith requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

J. Valdés made the motion.

Tony Perlstein (“T. Perlstein”) seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned.