

**Coordinating Board for Early Childhood
Minutes of March 14, 2008 Meeting
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Governor's Office Building, Room 460**

Attendance

Members Present: Karen Bartz, Joe Ulveling, Stacey Owsley, Thomas Frawley, Kathy Thornburg, Valeri Lane, Roseann Bentley, Brenda Shields, Nancie McAnagh, Sharon Rohrbach (telephone), Sue Stepleton (telephone).

Absent: Theresa Mayberry-Dunn, Kent King, Deborah Scott, Monica Haaf, Mary Beth Luna and Patsy Carter.

Others Present: Sharon Aldrich, Carrie Shapton, Anne Clouse, Cindy Reese, Jo Anne Ralston L. Carol Scott, Sarah Ledgerwood

Proceedings:

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Chair, Karen Bartz, at 10:17 am.

Quorum: A quorum was present at the beginning of the meeting and for all votes.

Minutes: February minutes were presented for approval. There was a correction that the P-20 legislation is being introduced by Senator Lager, rather than Shields.

The president asked that the February minutes note that pursuant to the Board's by-laws, the February meeting was the second in-person meeting of the year and, thus, is considered the annual meeting of the board.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the minutes as changed. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Executive Director Report:

Karen discussed her written report which was distributed to board members in advance. She stated that, after talking with Mary Beth in the Governor's office, it was decided that the Board was not in a good position to respond to the RFP from the National Governors Association for Early Childhood Advisory Council Grants.

Review of Board Operations

Karen led a discussion regarding member satisfaction with how the Board has operated over the past year. Issues of attendance at the meetings, number of in-person meetings required, use of

conference call meetings, designees and voting privileges, and increasing the number of members were discussed.

Thomas Frawley was asked to draft bylaw changes for the Board to consider regarding designees, officer term limits and attendance requirements.

Budget Information

Sharon Aldrich reported that beginning April 1 all invoicing and tracking funds will be done through the Department of Mental Health (DMH). David Snider, in the Budget section, will keep a spreadsheet that will track expenditures in each account. Also a different form will be used for submission of mileage reimbursement. Sharon said that because DMH will not be managing the account until April 1, any requests for reimbursement will not be processed until after April 1.

School Readiness Panel

Karen reported on the activities of the School Readiness Panel (previously Pre-K). A discussion was held regarding the structure of the Panel and its relationship to the Board. A handout reflecting possible options, including pro's and con's of each, was discussed. Karen reported that if nine members of the Board participated as members of the Panel, thus constituting a quorum, its meetings would be considered a meeting of the Board. The Board did not want that to be the case. Instead, it suggested that four to six members be appointed as members of the Panel.

The request for quote for a consultant received two applications. Both appear to be very qualified. The committee will meet and discuss the candidates' qualifications to make a decision.

The School Readiness invitee list was reviewed. Several other names were suggested. Karen requested that these names be submitted to her so they might be added to the listing. The Board felt strongly that there be parental representation and more representation from rural areas. The next meeting of the committee will be a conference call March 18 from 1 – 3.

Committee on TA and Professional Development

Kathy Thornburg reported on the status of the contract and consultant. The committee will meet as soon as possible to finalize the details of the consultant's work plan.

Legislative Activity Related to Early Childhood

Carrie Shapton with Partnership for Children gave a summary as follows:

- New budget decision items for Parents as Teachers, comprehensive eye exams, and transitional child care assistance have been cut in the House budget committee.

- SB 726 Perfected creates a quality rating system for child care facilities, exempts certain neighborhood youth developmental programs from licensing requirements and establishes the Missouri Preschool Plus Grant Program.
- SB 1052 directs revenue derived from the loss limit repeal and imposition of an education allowance to the newly created Educational Opportunities for Missouri's Children Fund. Voted "do pass" from the Ways and Means Committee 2/25/08. Some of the new revenue would be directed to the Early Childhood Development, Education, and Care Fund, as well as First Steps Program.
- HB 1692 Missouri Preschool Plus Grant Program was heard in the House Elementary & Secondary Education Committee on March 5th. The Hearing seemed to have favorable reception – no report on outcome as of yet.
- SB776 modifies provisions on child care subsidies. It is on the 3/20/2008 informal calendar for perfection with SCS. The language of this bill was also offered as an amendment to SB 726 (QRS) on the Senate Floor but failed to be adopted on a tie vote 15 to 15.
- SB1127 establishes the Office of Autism Services. A 3/4/2008 hearing was conducted by the Seniors, Families and Public Health Committee.
- HB 2264 (Grisamore) raises income eligibility for child care assistance and raises child care provider reimbursement rates to the market rate. Has not yet been referred to committee.
- SB 1221 (Lager) modifies the Missouri P-20 Council. Copies of the bill were distributed and discussed. Language of the bill lends itself to addition of pre-k language.

Motion was made to authorize the chair to register as a lobbyist on behalf of the CBEC. Motion was seconded and approved with majority vote. Nancie McAnaugb abstained.

Department Updates

DSS start up and expansion grant applications for child care, birth to 24 months, open Monday on the DSS website.

The federal Education Begins at Home Act seems to be stalled at this time. Sue will keep us briefed as necessary.

Stacey updated the Board on Head Start performance standards and other aspects of the new legislation. It is taking a lot of work to translate that law and put it into regulations for programs. There is concern of unfunded mandates put forth in that bill.

Motion was made to adjourn. Motion seconded and approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.

Minutes drafted by Marilyn Dayton
 Minutes submitted by Secretary, Deborah Scott, without review.
 Minutes approved on