

**Coordinating Board for Early Childhood
Minutes of April 11 Meeting
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Governor’s Office Building, Room 460**

Attendance:

Members Present: Karen Bartz, Sue Stepleton, Stacey Owsley, Kathy Thornburg, Valeri Lane, Hillary Elliot, Roseann Bentley, Patricia Carter, Joe Ulveling, and Sharon Rohrbach. By phone, Brenda Shields and Theresa Mayberry.

Absent: Kent King, Deborah Scott, Kent King, and Patricia Carter, Nancie McAnaug, Tom Frawley, Monica Haaf.

Others Present: Carrie Shapton, Paula Nickelson, Sarah Ledgerwood, Carol Scott, Doris Hallford, Anne Clouse and Sharon Aldrich.

Proceedings:

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Chair, Karen Bartz, at 10:15 am.

Quorum: A quorum was present at the beginning of the meeting and for each vote.

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

Discussion of the School Readiness:

Stacie Goffin, the consultant hired by the Board to facilitate the work of the School Readiness Panel: Focus on Pre-K Education, was present to discuss planning and scope of the work with member of the Board. The “Charge to the Panel” sent to invitees of the panel, was reviewed. Concern was voiced that school readiness be viewed as birth to 5 years, not just 3 & 4 year olds. Another suggestion was that the charge of the panel be specific to asking what is best for children of Missouri, while the board will design the steps to get there. It was also suggested that the Board give ongoing feedback to the panel and continue to keep guiding the panel’s work.

Discussion occurred about how to dispense information to the public. One suggestion was to hold “hot topic” conference calls. No decision was made. Stacie anticipates conference calls between panel meetings.

Executive Director Report:

The executive committee had a conference call to discuss hiring an Administrative Assistant to replace Sharon, or another Executive Director. It was unanimous that an Admin. Asst. should be adequate for the duties required.

Sharon reported that members who wanted to be reimbursed for expenses to meetings, needed to complete a Vendor form which was distributed. In the future members will use DMH invoices, as the facility to draw-down money has been completed for DMH to pay expenditures.

Sharon also asked for the Board to address meeting dates over the summer and through the work of the Panel. Those changes impact the final date for the Professional Development Consultant's work and presentation to the Board. It was agreed that October 31, 2008 would be the amended end date.

Chairman's Report:

Karen reported that she is now a registered Lobbyist for the CBEC. She asked for approval to pursue \$50,000 grant with the Hall Family to support the Board activities. The budget for 2008-2009 will be submitted in June.

Motion: A motion to establish CXBEC fiscal year as July 1 to June 30 was seconded and approved.

Motion: A motion was made to approve application to the Hall Family Foundation for \$50,000. It was seconded and approved unanimously.

ECCS Steering Committee Report:

Paula Nickelson distributed the ECCS update, including an update on local infrastructure development. It appears that another year of funding is likely at \$140,000. Paula presented possible options for use of the funds submitted for the record. One new possible use was to support development of parent advocacy and education groups at \$20,000. While opinion was voiced that this activity is important, the Board members preferred to use the \$20,000 as general revenue for Board activities. The Board will decide at a later time if parent advocacy and education is a priority issue and how to approach the task.

An inventory of existing screening programs/protocols may be done within the ECCS plan. This would provide the background information that the board would need to look at this issue and may reduce the Board's financial investment in this activity.

Motion: A motion was made to accept use of for 2008-2009 ECCS funds as follows: 1) DHSS staff salary, travel and expenses, 2) continued support and expansion of local infrastructure work, and 3) support for work of CBEC. It was seconded and approved.

Legislative Update:

- Cari Shapton reported on the status of QRS bill. It had its second reading but has not been referred to house committee. Efforts are underway to remove some aspects of bill, such as automatic five star rating for NAEYC accreditation, as this could open up questions regarding equity among accredited programs.
- P-20 Council bill has been attached to a consent bill which may clear the way for passage but no amendments can be made now.
- Most additional budget items for early childhood have not made it through the budget committees but the Governor's reinvestment package is still in tact. That will help retain

subsidy rates at 127% of poverty, and a transition rate to 139% of poverty, provide \$1million more for EHS, and provide an adjustment of subsidy rates to more accurately reflect market rates in different parts of the state.

- Sue Stepelton reported that Education Begins at Home legislation was heard in house and senate hearings last week. Staff briefings have been held and expect increased interest in the bill as other legislative issues are resolved.

Adjournment:

Motion: A motion was made to adjourn at 2:00p.m. which was seconded and approved unanimously.

Next meeting will be May 9, 2008 from 9:00a.m, to 11:00a.m via conference call.

Minutes drafted by Sharon Aldrich

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Deborah Scott,

Minutes approved