



BOARD MINUTES – 03/22/2018

LINKING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES (Early Childhood Iowa Area) met on Thursday, March 22, 2018, at 12:30 p.m. at the Greater Fort Dodge Growth Alliance, Fort Dodge, IA.

Members present:

- Mike Cooper
- Nate Conlon
- Jim Duncan
- Tammy Varland
- Kristin Teske
- Tabitha Acree
- Clarence Siepker
- Bob Thode

Members absent:

- Paul Beneke
- Mark Egli

Community members present:

- Elizabeth Stanek
- Jami Huster
- Rebekah Hungate
- Mark Doddd
- Jennifer Pinske

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, Mike Cooper at 12:30 p.m. Quorum was met. The Early Childhood Iowa Area Board made introductions. Members of the community also made introductions.

Ms. Cooper asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Motion was made by Mr. Conlin, seconded by Mr. Thode, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Minutes from the last board meeting were reviewed. Motion was made by Ms. Varland, seconded by Mr. Duncan, to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2017 Board Meeting as printed. Motion was passed with no dissenting votes.

Mr. Cooper asked for public comment, no comments were made.

Mr. Cooper asked board members if they had any questions they would like to ask. No comments or questions were posed by board members.

Mark Dodd and Jennifer Pinske, from OneVision, provided a presentation on the Children's Autism Center in Clear Lake and the services that will be available as a center gets started in Fort Dodge. The Fort Dodge Center will start with services being provided one day per week. Referrals can be made by calling Janice at 641-355-1216. They are working on finalizing an agreement with Child Health Specialty Clinic, which is located on the UnityPoint campus.



They will provide intensive Applied Behavior Analysis services and plan to offer supported community living once all of the services are up and running. Funding for the services that will be offered through the Children's Autism Center will be funded through Medicaid, private insurance, State of Iowa's Autism Services Program (ASP) with some funding coming from County Social Services as available.

Ms. Stanek disseminated hard copies of the October, November and December 2017 financial statements for review. Mr. Conlon made the motion, seconded by Mr. Thode, to approve the financial statements for October, November and December 2017 as prepared by David L. Bowser, PC. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Mr. Beneke announced that Mr. Jim Duncan is resigning from the board. Mr. Duncan stated that he appreciated being part of the board and wished everyone well. Motion to approve the resignation of Mr. Jim Duncan, Education representative, was made by Mr. Thode, seconded by Ms. Varland. The board thanked Mr. Duncan and expressed appreciation for his service. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Mr. Beneke asked for a motion to elect Mr. Clarence Siepker and Ms. Tabitha Acree to the board. Mr. Siepker is on the Pocahontas Board of Supervisors, is a business owner in Laurens and is a grandparent of young children. Ms. Acree is the Principal of Riverside Elementary for Fort Dodge Community Schools. Mr. Thode made the motion, seconded by Mr. Conlon, to elect Mr. Siepker to the board as a Grandparent representative and Ms. Acree as an Education representative. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Mr. Beneke stated that the Executive Committee and Finance Review Team are both in need of an additional member. Mr. Thode made the motion, seconded by Mr. Conlon, to appoint Mr. Cooper to the Executive Committee. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Ms. Varland made the motion, seconded by Mr. Siepker, to appoint Mr. Thode to the Finance Review Team. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Board members reviewed the FY18 Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) budgets. Ms. Stanek reported that significant budget cuts are no longer expected for FY19. Ms. Stanek reminded the board that the Family Foundation program had requested \$250,000 in their FY18 proposal and the board provided a contract for \$225,000 for the program, setting aside \$25,000 (SR - \$12,429.52 and EC - \$12,570.48) for future allocation to the program. The projections indicate the program will utilize more funding than what has been contracted, though will not need \$25,000. The board discussed the budget. Ms. Varland made the motion, seconded by Ms. Teske, to allocate the \$12,570.48 from the Early Childhood budget to the Family Foundations program. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Ms. Stanek presented the recommendations of the Executive Committee.



- Recommendation 1 - Approve the FY19 Funding Renewal Application. The renewal will only be available to current contractors for currently funded programs. Motion to approve the FY19 Funding Renewal Application was made by Ms. Varland, seconded by Mr. Conlon. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.
- Recommendation 2 – Approve seeking bids for financial services. Ms. Varland made the motion, seconded by Mr. Conlon to seek bids for the financial services currently utilized. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.
- Recommendation 3 – Accept and approve the Board Evaluation and Executive Evaluation. Motion was made by Mr. Conlon, seconded by Ms. Acree, to accept and approve the Board Evaluation and Executive Evaluation as presented. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.
- Recommendation 4 – Accept and approve the Strategic Plan Update. Ms. Stanek reviewed the update with the board. The board would like to add the graduation rate to the Indicator Trends. Motion was made by Ms. Varland, second by Mr. Conlon, to accept the Strategic Plan Update as presented with the addition of the graduation rates for the area. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.
- There were no policy/procedure changes or updates.

Ms. Stanek provided updates to the board:

- Pocahontas County will now allow Ms. Stanek to stay on their health insurance through December 31, 2018. The premium will decrease and the deductible will increase to \$10,000. Concern was expressed as to the increase in the deductible. Mr. Siepker stated he will have a conversation with the county auditor to see if there is any other remedy to the situation.
- No work has been done on KIDZMANIA for the fall. Ms. Stanek stated that she is unsure if the event will continue due to lack of time of herself and the committee as well as changes at/to the Crossroads Mall. The board expressed support for the popular event.
- The Fort Dodge Child Care Project is still moving forward. Designs and floorplans are on schedule to be completed by May 1st.
- Ms. Stanek is helping the Iowa Women's Foundation with a local reception for the women and their supporters from the Fort Dodge area featured in their publication call "Ovation". The designs for the Fort Dodge Child Care project will be unveiled at the event.
- Family Foundations' audit is complete. Changes to policy and reimbursements were made.
- The board has vacancies and the following representation is desired:



- Parent
 - Business
 - Education or Other
- Corinne Frei, Decategorization Coordinator, has submitted her resignation. Her last day will be April 11th. We will be hiring in the next week or two.

Motion was made by Mr. Thode, seconded by Mr. Conlon, to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 p.m. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Next Meeting: June 14, 2018 at 12:30 p.m. at the Fort Dodge Public Library, Fort Dodge, Iowa

Respectfully Submitted By: Elizabeth Stanek