



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 8, 2014

8:00 AM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 260 (Madison Municipal Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Denise DeMarb; Linda E. Benzschawel; Jennifer Templin; Patricia A. Lasky;
Diane B. Adams; Karalyn A. Kratowicz and Muriel Simms

Absent: 1 - Scott Peters

Staff Present: Monica Host, Lois Evenson, Varinia del Moral, Jim O'Keefe

Lasky called the meeting to order at 8:04 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY DEMARB, SECONDED BY SIMMS TO APPROVE THE MARCH 13, 2014 MINUTES. MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

Adams mentioned that perhaps at the end of the year we could do a summary that lists all motions done by ECCEC for the year. Is it worth it? How difficult would that be to generate? Becky will check with Legistar Program and report back at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [33973](#) Madison Accreditation: Next Steps

Host gave a brief overview of the handouts and the Child Care Units discussion and possible accreditation changes. This could have a financial impact which could require committee approval at a later time.

Quality child care for families is a priority. Currently over 50% of the children in Madison child care centers are in accredited care. YoungStar ratings were discussed. Accredited centers receive 5 stars from the YoungStar program. Quality care costs more which leads to tuition increases to cover staff salaries. This can lead to the out pricing of low-income families. The Child Care Unit is looking at potential methods of avoiding this.

There are several ideas on how to keep centers that are already accredited and help them better deal with poverty and its impact on children and families. These include training regarding poverty and working with low income families, setting expectations for centers regarding service to low income families, creating an affiliate level to allow the Child Care Unit to help centers that have licensing challenges with grants etc. before they are officially accredited. Lois Evenson from the Child Care Unit elaborated on the plan and the problems seen in potential affiliate centers that include staff lacking training, high turnover levels, poor environment and lack of curriculum. Consultation and training could be a tremendous assistance to centers in this position.

Host provided handouts showing two options for the CDD budget in 2015. This includes increasing the wages of center staff to match median wages and revising the timeline and process for working with stable, long time accredited centers on process.

4. [33976](#) Funding Process and Funding Study Update

This item was moved to the 2nd item. The Director of the Community Development Division, Jim O'Keefe, proved updates to the group about the funding process and the funding study. Forward Community Investments was recommended as the agency to conduct the funding study based on RFP submissions. They are in the process of finalizing that recommendation and the contract. Work on the funding study should begin soon and they will most likely be contacting the ECCEC as part of the study.

Common Council authorized the extension of Community Resources contracts for 1 year for all 2014 contracts with the stipulation that the agencies maintain satisfactory performance reviews. Contracts will now run through 2015 to allow for time to complete the funding study. Only the few program areas such as housing and employment will participate in a funding process this year

The Wisconsin Youth Company has been recommended to operate Theresa Terrace Neighborhood Center.

3. [33975](#) 4 Year Old Kindergarten Update

Host recently met with Scott Zimmerman the Director of Early Childhood Care and Education. 4K is doing well. 32 accredited community sites are serving approx. 900 children. 1,200 students are in MMSD school sites.

The professional development of which accreditation specialists play a role has also worked out.

2. [33974](#) Child Care Assistance Report 2014 1st Quarter

Attachments: [Child Care Assistance Report 1st Qtr 2014](#)

Varinia del Moral discussed the 1st quarter report. The Child Care Assistance Program being on track for enrolling families.

5. [33977](#) ECCEC Meeting Schedule

There will be a meeting in June. Host will ensure that there are necessary agenda items for each meeting or the meeting for that month will be cancelled.

6. [31494](#) CSC Report

Lasky has been unable to attend recent CSC meetings. DeMarb stated that O'Keefe covered most pressing issues with his funding process update. Staff will be reviewing contracts of centers that are being extended and if they are not in compliance decisions will need to be made regarding reallocation of funding.

7. [31496](#) ECCEC Subcommittee

Since the committee only has 1 vacancy the subcommittee is no longer needed to ensure quorum and no need to designate subcommittee member for each meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ADAMS, SECONDED BY SIMMS TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:03 AM. Motion passed by voice vote.