



# City of Madison

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

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Wednesday, July 2, 2008

8:00 AM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room LL110 (Madison Municipal Building)

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 -

Lynn E. Edlefsen; Joanna R. Parker; Michael B. Jacob; Patricia A. Lasky;  
Tracy K. Kuczynski; Richard C. Schultz and Joanne E. Brown

**Absent:** 1 -

Brenda K. Konkel

**Excused:** 2 -

Bev A. Willer and Kathleen B. Raschke

**Staff:** Lois Evenson, Monica Host, Enis Ragland, Connie Williams, Becky Schesny

Brown called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION** made by Lasky, seconded by Schultz, to approve the June 25, 2008 minutes. Motion passed by voice vote.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Alyssa Kenney is the director at Kennedy Heights Neighborhood Center. She commented that the center serves approximately 150 children per week, approximately 1,000 per year including family nights. They have expanded their school age program to serve 45 children with a third class room. The additional 24 children are more challenging and require more social support. Kennedy Heights has eliminated the waiting list for this program. Alyssa pointed out that their unit costs are reasonable. In addition to the center serving higher needs children, food prices have increased and DPI reimbursement for snacks has not. They hope to expand service to provide program on MMSD early release days and snow days to the neighborhood children.

Alyssa stated that the center gives enrollment priority to children from the Kennedy Heights apartments then the children from the rest of the community. There are currently 87 elementary age children in the complex. Almost all households in the neighborhoods are low-income. 80% of the households have

income under \$10,000. The center's outreach efforts include quarterly family events, literacy nights, book giveaways and parties. Some families have several children in the programs. Two parents serve on the Board of Directors. The neighborhood receives the newsletter with updates and events.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 10613

Declaration of Interest Forms- Announcements.

All members of the board have submitted the Declaration of Interest Statement. Jacob is the only member with a conflict of interest. He will excuse himself and leave the room when the Board discusses matters concerning the Goodman Atwood funding request.

### 10961

2009-2010 Funding Discussion and Preliminary Recommendations for Program Area I

Reconnecting Our Youth and Madison Children's Museum applications for funds were removed from consideration at the last meeting.

The Board discussed individual program funding requests and asked OCS staff questions regarding program outcomes, service numbers and agency performance.

#### -Bayview Foundation

Staff explained the program is currently working on addressing non-compliance issues. The expectation is that the school age program must meet SACERS standards within the next year.

Staff recommendation: Funding with COLA for 2009 and evaluation of SACERS scores and other requirements before 2010 funding is received.

#### -Bridge Lakepoint Waunona Neighborhood Center

Staff shared that the program is successful. Center lost MSCR funds for the afterschool program and is now requesting additional funding from the Office of Community Services.

Staff recommendation: Fund with COLA and provide additional funding (\$13,000) if available.

#### -Community Coordinated Child Care

Agency is in process of hiring a new Executive Director with emphasis on fund development.

Staff recommendation: Fund with COLA.

#### -Dane County Parent Council: Great Beginnings Verona Road

Staff informed Board that Great Beginnings program on Verona Road had a \$72,254 deficit in 2007 with an enrollment of 30 children. The Great Beginnings program has not previously received Community Resources funding. This funding request would replace Stabilization Funds. Great Beginnings is requesting \$43,605. Staff will gather Stabilization Fund information and a more specific projection for the 2008 deficit amount. Board discussed high staff turnover rate. Staff will gather additional information regarding turnover.

**Staff recommendation:** If funds are available provide partial funding of Great Beginnings Infant/Toddler Program.

**-Dane County Parent Council: Wee Start**

The board discussed business model of program. The program is not currently at capacity. Program runs through the school year only. Board questioned if the school district has tried to get funding from other sources to support the program? MMSD provides only the space for the program. . Maximum capacity is 20 children.

**Staff recommendation:** Fund with COLA.

**-Dane County Parent Council: Satellite**

There was discussion regarding level of support for veteran vs. new providers with 3 levels of accreditation (affiliate, associate, accredited). Satellite has a waitlist of Spanish speaking providers that need bi-lingual support. The application explains that the new bi-lingual staff person would assist 7 more Latina providers. The board inquired about a waiting list for English speaking families. Retirement of family providers and 3 levels of service prevent a waitlist there. There are 90 providers total and 20 Spanish-speaking providers. There are currently 66 accredited providers. There is a total of 2.63 FTE positions including the part time bi-lingual staff member to cover the 90 providers.

**Staff will gather information regarding long-term providers versus new providers. Staff recommendation:** Fund at COLA, if additional funds are available increase funding for Satellite to support increased demand for bi-lingual consultant services.

**-East Madison Community Center**

Staff shared that the service numbers are good, the summer camp is full and staff are adjusting to the new building. There is no specific explanation from EMCC regarding the request for additional funding. With support for the capital campaign finished, fundraising for programming continues. (Staff noted that if more than 3 children under the age of 7 are present the program needs to be licensed.) Although the center has the option of licensing the program, this would limit the number of children enrolled.

**Staff recommendations:** Fund at COLA.

**-Goodman Atwood Community Center**

Jacob left the meeting for the discussion of Goodman Atwood Community Center.

Staff shared that the service numbers are good and preschool is solid. The school age program enrollment fluctuated last year with staff illness. This summer the certified program at Lowell merged with the accredited school-age program. The new interim program does not meet Accreditation Standards. The program withdrew its accreditation for the school-age program. The center will close August 8 to move to the new center and reopen in September. At that point the programs will be re-accredited.

**Staff Recommendation for School Age Programs:** Fund with COLA.

Preschool program is requesting funds to serve low-income families who cannot afford the program fees, but do not qualify for Wisconsin Shares or City

assistance.

Staff Recommendation for Preschool Program: Fund with COLA and increase funding if extra money is available.

Board discussed that the issue of uncollected co-payments and priority in income levels needs to be addressed.

Staff clarified that Goodman Atwood received \$45,000 in 2008 for school age programming and \$5,000 to transport children from Worthington Park to community events. Community Services staff will get more information regarding the transportation program. The new request from Goodman Atwood is for \$50,612 for 2009. Brown suggested not funding the transportation portion if Worthington Park is providing the service, they should be the fiscal agent as well in that case.

Jacob joined the meeting again.

**-Kennedy Heights Neighborhood Center**

Staff shared that that the third classroom that was added is a drop in program and has resulted in an increase in older children attending on a regular basis.

Board discussed the potential for a needs assessment for a part day pre-school class in the neighborhood and potential for fee scale for parents. Headstart serves the area at Packers and Northport.

Staff recommendation: Fund programs with COLA. Within the next funding cycle require center to conduct a needs assessment for part-day preschool program within the Kennedy Heights Neighborhood.

**-Neighborhood House Community Center**

Staff shared that the agency has new program skilled staff, new director, adult volunteers, teen volunteers, and UW student volunteers. 29 children attend the summer camp.

Staff Recommendation: Fund with COLA.

**-The Rainbow Project**

Staff stated that that the agency had a high turnover rate of administrative staff. The program is solid and focuses on children with behavioral problems. Board discussed the possibility of centers paying for Rainbow's services. Staff noted that the expansion focus was on neighborhood centers getting funding for PRIDE services.

Staff Recommendation: Fund with COLA.

**-Vera Court Neighborhood Center**

Staff stated that that the program is solid with high quality care and good administrative staff and Americorps workers help to keep the budget lower. Service numbers are high and they utilize Warner Park for space in addition to area schools. Mendota School teachers are connected to the children and have gone to the neighborhood center to assist with ensuring children are matched up with reading materials that meet their current reading level.

Staff Recommendations: Fund with COLA.

**-Wexford Ridge Neighborhood Center**

Staff stated that the \$33,466 the center is requesting in addition to COLA is to expand its program to serve an additional 32 children in a K-2 program. The current program is currently serving 11 children (13 enrolled) – contract service number for daily attendance is 18. Quality issues exist.

Staff Recommendation: Fund with COLA for 2009 with continued funding for 2010 contingent upon increased program participation and stabilization of staffing and program design.

**-WilMar Neighborhood Center**

It is a licensed program and successful.

Staff Recommendation: Fund with COLA.

**-Wisconsin Youth Company**

Staff stated that the staffing has stabilized; program quality is slower in development than expected due to, in part, staffing concerns. OCS staff are monitoring program to ensure quality.

There was discussion regarding staff role in working with programs. Staff recommendations and required changes give agencies an opportunity to make the necessary changes and improve program quality. If the agency and program is not in line with the requirements, a decrease in funding may be considered.

Staff Recommendation: Fund with COLA for 2009 and continued funding for 2010 contingent upon successful completion of licensing and City Accreditation compliance with contract restrictions/requirements including meeting enrollment levels.

**-YWCA**

Staff stated the number of children served has decreased with families staying in shelter longer. There are approximately 10 children a night. There is good staffing with volunteers. The increase in the funds requested is to make the child coordinator a full time position and provide more parent-child programming.

Staff Recommendation: Fund with COLA.

Staff recommendations for Bayview, Wexford and Wisconsin Youth Company are for 1 year of funding with the 2nd year contingent on quality improvements as required by city contract standards, licensing and/or contract service numbers. Staff explained that they were making these recommendations as a proactive step to ensure both quality of program and continued funding. OCS staff review programs because the contract between the city and agency for those programs is to meet certain standards. The board agreed that this was important and what they expected of staff. Board wishes to ensure money is allocated and used wisely based on center's performance and ability to reach high quality and standards required by agencies providing services for the City.

Board discussed the fact that not all school-age programs were state licensed. Staff explained that some programs choose to be drop-in, unlicensed programs because the centers want to be able to serve all of the children who came to the program. State licensing would limit the group size to 32.

**MOTION made by Parker to recommend funding with COLA for 2009 for the following agencies: Bayview Foundation, Wexford Ridge Neighborhood Center, Wisconsin Youth Company with 2010 funding dependent upon centers meeting contingencies. Lasky seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

Jacob stepped out due to a conflict of interest.

**MOTION made by Lasky to fund COLA only for the following agencies: Community Coordinated Child Care, Dane County Parent Council: PEP program, Kennedy Heights Preschool, Neighborhood House, Vera Court Neighborhood Center, WilMar Neighborhood Center, and Goodman Atwood Community Center: Goodman Community Learning Center Program. Schultz seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

**MOTION made by Lasky to fund Goodman Atwood Community Center School Age Childcare Program at \$46,980 for 2009. Edlefson seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

**MOTION made by Lasky to fund Goodman Atwood Community Center Preschool Program at COLA plus \$14,617 expansion. Schultz seconded. Motion failed.**

**Absent:** 1 -  
Brenda K. Konkel

**Excused:** 2 -  
Bev A. Willer and Kathleen B. Raschke

**Ayes:** 2 -  
Patricia A. Lasky and Richard C. Schultz

**Noes:** 3 -  
Lynn E. Edlefson; Joanna R. Parker and Tracy K. Kuczenski

**Non Voting:** 2 -  
Michael B. Jacob and Joanne E. Brown

**MOTION made by Parker to fund Goodman Atwood Community Center Preschool Program at COLA. Kuczenski seconded. Motion passed.**

**Absent:** 1 -  
Brenda K. Konkel

**Excused:** 2 -  
Bev A. Willer and Kathleen B. Raschke

**Ayes:** 3 -  
Joanna R. Parker; Tracy K. Kuczenski and Lynn E. Edlefson

**Noes:** 2 -  
Patricia A. Lasky and Richard C. Schultz

**Non Voting:** 2 -  
Michael B. Jacob and Joanne E. Brown

Jacob joined the meeting again.

**MOTION made by Kuczenski to fund Bridge Lakepoint Waunona at COLA plus \$31,998 to cover expansion. Schultz seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

The priorities of program request will affect the amount agencies receive. Approval of large amounts for A-1 or A-2 programs could lead to decrease or no funding for A-3 programs if Mayor's budget numbers come back lower than expected.

The group discussed keeping expansion funding motions separate from COLA funding motions. The group can prioritize expansion projects to be below A-3 priorities. This would allow for continuation of funding for programs and expansion of programs if funding is available.

The group discussed the possibility of waiting until the budget information was released from the Mayor's Office before making more funding recommendations.

There will be no meeting July 9. Community Services staff will bring information on Dane County Parent Council and other agencies to the July 16 meeting.

**MOTION made by Edlefson to not fund the Rainbow Project expansion. Lasky seconded. Motion passed with Kuczenski voting no.**

**MOTION made by Parker to fund Dane County Parent Council Wee Start program with no expansion. Jacob seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

**MOTION made by Edlefson to fund YWCA program with no expansion. Parker seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

**MOTION made by Kuczenski to reconsider the Bridge Lakepoint Waunona motion. Edlefson seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

Staff recommended funding at COLA and \$13,000 to replace some of the lost MSCR funding, if funding is available in the budget.

**MOTION made by Kuczenski to fund Bridge Lakepoint Waunona at COLA. Schultz seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

**MOTION made by Lasky to fund Dane County Parent Council Satellite program at COLA. Edlefson seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

**MOTION made by Lasky to fund Kennedy Heights Children's Program at COLA. Edlefson seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

The group would like a needs assessment of a part day pre-school program in that neighborhood.

**MOTION made by Lasky that Kennedy Heights and Community Services staff conduct a needs assessment of the preschool program. Parker seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

**MOTION made by Edlefson to fund East Madison Community Center at COLA. Jacob seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

**MOTION made by Jacob to approve Dane County Parent Council Satellite program expansion. Lasky seconded. Jacob then withdrew the motion.**

The group will wait to make funding recommendations for Bridge Lakepoint Waunona Children's program expansion request, Dane County Parent Council Satellite program expansion and Dane County Parent Council Great Beginnings Verona Rd site expansion until further information has been presented. Staff will bring more information to the next meeting.

The group will not meet on July 9, but will meet on July 16 after the Mayor releases budget information. A save the date announcement for the July 23 Public Hearing will be distributed to groups requesting funds.

[10962](#)

ECCEB Subcommittee

The ECCEB Subcommittee will consist of Lasky, Schultz, Parker, Jacob, and Brown.

## ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION made by Edlefson to adjourn. Schultz seconded. Motion passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.**