



Meeting Minutes
Wednesday – December 11, 2019
ELC Office 11:30am-1:30pm

Board Members Present:

Amy Buggle
Karen Feagins
Marian Wilcher
Dr. Tara Haley
LaTanya Wynn Hall
Jason Roth via phone
Dana Kriznar for Dr. Greene

Marcus Rowe
Dr. Tom Connolly
Bruce Ferguson
Saralyn Grass
Amber Holley
Carlos Esquivia- Lee
Jasmine St. Clair for Jacquelyn Green
Christa Henley for Dr. Pauline Rolle

Michelle Braun
Dana Ferrell-Birchfield
Amanda Baggett
Sunny Gettinger
Theresa Little
Sandy Ramsey

Board Members Absent: Miriam Williams, Curtis Hart

Guests: Melanie Clough, Episcopal Children Services

Guest Via Video Conference: Shan Goff, Amy Mathis Lisa Zenos, Laura McKinley,

ELC Staff Present : Denise Marzullo, Cheryl Benveniste, Angel Carro, Johnna Daniels, Jim Ungaro, Kendra King, Gwendolyn Carmichael, Danielle DeCastro, Charlene Gross, Lashonda Hicks, Ann Thompson

Coalition Chair, Marcus Rowe, called the meeting to order and opened with introduction of members, ELC Staff and Guests.

Marcus asked the members to review the draft minutes from the October 30, 2019 meeting. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Thomas Connolly made a motion to approve the minutes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 30, 2019 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Motion was seconded by Michelle Braun and approved

Marcus and Denise gave a brief Bio on Shan Goff from the Office of Early Learning before she and her team joined the meeting via video conference.

EFS Mod Presentation was given by Shan Goff and the OEL team. Shan began by giving kudos to ELC Staff and to Angel for all of his recent help. Shan shared that each coalition now has a case manager so that they are engaged with each coalition weekly. She gave information on system wide data fixes to help with the numbers doubling and tripling payments to ensure we are paying correctly. She discussed that OEL is aware of over and underpaid providers due to estimates. OEL is working on a hold harmless

\$1500 threshold for providers that is in the approval process.. She asked that coalition focus on the underpaid providers first and make flexible repayment plans for those over paid.

OEL has 2 options for filing the audit for coalitions that will be shared on the ED call tomorrow and are as follows:

Option A: continue on current timeline and wait for all to reconcile.

Option B: Each coalition individually moves forward with timely filing based on their current standing.

The options will be chosen by each coalition and not by majority.

It was suggested to OEL by a board member that the MOD system needs to be able to retrieve the data from our legacy system so that we can save the additional dollars. We are currently using on temporary staff to transfer data. We are only halfway done with this process and if the system could just move over the information that would save additional dollars that could go to children.

OEL was asked by a board member how it will explain when coalitions do not meet the admin expense percent as required as we have already paid \$258,000 just on temps due to MOD issues over the last year. OEL shared that they will write whomever they need to and explain.

Question guided to OEL about what will communication look like to local and state officials about MOD?

We will have a united front with talking points in alignment with communication per OEL.

The \$75.00 Registration payment to providers was mentioned and OEL said they are working on a system now to assist coalitions with tracking and implementation.

Denise asked the OEL team about contracted slots and the MOD system not able to accept the information. What will this look like in the future as contracted slots are a huge benefit to our coalition? OEL is working on an alternative to using MOD for contracted slots until MOD is able to accurately be used for contracted slots.

OEL wrapped up the video call and again thanked ELC of Duval and Angel for all their hard work and assistance over the last year with MOD.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee:

SR numbers are looking good. We have 8,000 children enrolled.

We are one month out on waiting list with 89% return rate and 49% approval rate.

We are continuing to enroll and send out funding notifications to the families on the waiting list.

BDO for single audit is currently waiting on numbers from the state before we can close out. All on track for the 78% by end of the fiscal year in June 2020.

Appeals Committee:

We have had no hearings since the last meeting. We have had improvement from the three top providers on the watch list. Care Bears and Busy Bees from the list both closed recently.

We will need to look at Class assessments and the process for those who fall below the 2.5 threshold.

We are the second coalition in the state to have a provider fall below the 2.5 score. We will need to terminate the provider or they can pay to have a second assessment completed. They can choose the coalition or an outside vendor to complete the 2nd assessment. Based off the scores we will continue or terminate the contract.

Legislative Committee:

Children's Day in Tallahassee is January 30th. We are looking to advocate for VPK readiness rate changes. If anyone would like to go with DELDN and ELC's Family Engagement for this day please see Theresa Little.

CEO Report:

The Program Quality and Workforce Development Program is working on contract terms and should be finalized in the next 10 days. We are servicing 78 providers currently.

Center Visits:

Marcus and Amanda have attended several center visits along with Denise over that last week. Going forward the lead team has made a decision that all new board members will go on center visits as part of the orientation of new board member process.

Holiday Party:

December 13th is ELC's staff holiday party. All are welcome to attend.

ELC Office Closings for the Holidays:

Tuesday, Dec. 24 - Wednesday, Dec. 25 - Closed for the Holiday

Monday, Dec. 23 – Tuesday, Dec. 31 - Closed to the Public

Wednesday, Jan. 1 - Closed for the Holiday

With the Agenda complete Marcus opened the floor for public discussion.

A Member asked for an update on Joy Stanton and the board discussion from last meeting. Update was given by Denise that she has tried numerous times to get in contact with Joy.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Benveniste