

Early Childhood Iowa: Lakes Region Board Minutes
Thursday, February 6, 2014
Hartley Library Hartley, Iowa

Vision: *Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful*
Mission: *Early Childhood Iowa: Lakes Region will provide services collaboratively to families and children birth through five years for the purpose of improving the quality of life for families with children.*

Attending:

Voting Members Attending

1. Rich Mattison
2. Becky Huss
3. Bill Leupold
4. Mary Sloan
5. Connie Olhausen
6. Dan Friedrichsen
7. Joe Skow
8. Paula Miller
- 9.
- 10.

Voting Members Absent

- Merlin Sandersfeld *
Barb Wilkerson*

Others Present (Nonvoting)

- Paulette Karolczak
Lori Dingel
Travis Edwards
Shakira Meyer
Jessie Hansen
Erin Binneboese
Cindy Warntjes
Karly Shaw
Linda Dagget

Quorum present. *Recorded excused absence. Quorum maintained.

Call to Order/Adopt Agenda/Comments from the Public:

Chair Rich Mattison called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

- A. Adopt Agenda – Motion by Connie Olhausen to approve the agenda. Second by Dan Friedrichsen. All ayes. Motion passed.
- B. Comments from the Public – Board members and public attendees introduced themselves. The KIDS program handed in their re-accreditation materials & the reviewers may ask the ECI LR Board questions in April. Linda Dagget introduced Lori Dingel as the new CCR&R representative for the lakes region. Shakira from Hand in Hand invited the Board to attend any of their child care trainings on the schedule emailed to the Board.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Dan Friedrichsen to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2014 meeting. Second by Mary Sloan. All ayes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

The financial report was emailed to Board members prior to the meeting. Travis Edwards reviewed the ECI FY14 financials and expenditures through December 2013. Motion by Dan Friedrichsen to approve the Treasurer's report. Second by Mary Sloan. All ayes. Motion passed.

Directors Report: Paulette Karolczak, Director

The report was emailed to Board members for their review in advance of the meeting. Paulette talked about there being more program monitoring visits. Some concern was expressed about the number of higher income families being served and needing to focus on lower income families to stay within future Family Support guidelines. Programs expressed difficulty getting into At-risk family homes at times. Mary discussed director's time and ability to be involved in all these activities. Paulette says she can't take on more projects at this time with the Level of Excellence coming up, and will work on balancing her time with being active in these groups and not getting over committed.

Old Business:

- A. Marketing Plan was accepted. Motion by Connie Olhausen to accept this plan. Second by Becky Huss. All ayes. Motion carried.

New Business:

- A. FY15 Program RFP renewal. It was discussed if the Board wants to renew the contracts for one more year or open things up? Motion made to renew by Bill Leupold and second by Joe Skow. All ayes. Motion passed.
- B. Update Vision and Mission. Discussed current vision/mission statements. Discussed adding language that would help to affirm parents who choose to stay at home with their kids and do not work. Discussed if Vision statement should include "pre-birth" wording. Mission statement needs to reflect 0-5 since we no longer are connected to DCAT. These updates will be emailed out for board to review for further discussion. Motion to table until March meeting was made by Mary Sloan. Second by Dan. All ayes. Motion passed.
- C. Board shared Needs Assessment Progress. Information was shared there is a need for more care providers for special needs children 0-12. Respite/Time Out Nursery care funding has been cut for parents who need this service. Paula shared that over regulations and the issue of children not growing up with self-worth are obstacles. Paulette asked all needs assessment forms be turned in soon so they can be put into a spreadsheet for analysis next month. Paulette shared more about the Levels of Excellence and the need to pull all our efforts together to show that we are working collaboratively. The Board discussed what is needed for a quality assessment. It was suggested that phone calls be made to get follow up from requests for input. A need for more family input was expressed. Sitting at a booth at Home Shows, Family Fest, and asking people directly were discussed.

The bi-annual REDCap data report was suppose to be available to ECI directors January 31st but it has not been received yet. Local programs who sent in reports that still track on the old data report form were handed out for Board review. This is no longer a requirement for Family Support programs who are required to use REDCap.

Future Agenda Items:

- A. Community Plan Progression- Turn in needs assessments. Board members need to read through Levels of Excellence packet and timeframe tool. Community Plan in Board binders will show the past needs assessment data.
- B. KIDS Annual Presentation

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn by Dan Friedrichsen. Second by Bill Leupold. All ayes. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m..

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Miller, Board Treasurer

The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.
at the Hartley Public Library, 91 1st Street SE, Hartley IA.