

ECCC Meeting
Wednesday, November 12, 2015
9:00-12:00
Minutes

Members Present:

Barbara Andrews
Jennifer Arnaiz
Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta
Stephanie Brant
Jody Burghardt
Deann Collins
Amy Cropp
Patsy Evans
Kim Grant
Michelle Green
April Kaplan
Carol Legarreta
Dede Marshall
Bernadine Occhiuzzo
Linda Owen
Tobi Printz-Platnick
Natasha Ramberg
Barbara Warman (for Meredith Myers)
Portia Willis
Vivian Yao

Staff Present:

Sarah Wilch-Spamer

Guests:

Vicki DiSanto

Convene:

- Introductions

September Meeting Minutes:

- Motion from Tobi Printz-Platnick to accept the minutes from the September 9, 2015 meeting
- Second motion: Michelle Green
- Vote: 15 in favor
- Resolved: Motion Carried; Accept the minutes from the 9/9/15 meeting

Updates:

- The RFP for the Strategic Planning Consultant went out and is now closed. The Public Policy Officer, Administrative Specialist, and Office Services Coordinator positions are prepared and at the Office of Human Resources. No recruitment date has been set. Funding for those positions will be available in January. The positions will be posted on the County Office of Human Resources web page.

- The advertisement for applications for the newly forming ECCC was released on November 6th. Because the ECCC is a new entity being formed, the formal recruitment process is required. Anyone from a public agency or from the public will need to officially apply to ECCC through the advertisement which will run for three weeks. County, MCPS and State employees do not need to apply online—a request will be sent to the director of your agency requesting that they appoint someone to the ECCC as an Ex-Officio member. Please refer to the November 6 and 7 emails from Barbara Andrews for additional information. The deadline to submit applications is 11/27/15. The County Executive appoints and the County Council confirms, and members will receive a confirmation letter when the process is complete.

Committee Meetings/Reports with Priorities:

- Committees met to review and discuss the ECCC priorities from the annual report.
 - Literacy: The committee is working to set up a pilot lending library program at two laundromats in Gaithersburg and is considering having volunteers go into those laundromats to read to children. The committee may also provide a bookmobile in the future.
 - Media & Outreach: Discussed some of the current models being used in community-based settings regarding improved communication and school readiness information for parents. The committee will gather information and share their findings. The committee also discussed how to best connect with MCPS and engage principals to help create a birth to 3rd grade system of early childhood education. The committee plans to survey the Organization of Child Care Directors membership to determine what programs are currently doing to improve communication with families.
 - Parent/Family Engagement: The committee discussed how best to get information to families, including the possibility of the larger entities creating one website where families can get all of the information they need. The committee discussed surveying families on best way to get information to them. Committee members also discussed ideas on the best way to help families understand social/emotional development and its importance as related to school readiness.
- Committee meeting minutes should be submitted to Barbara

Discussion of Hub Consortium:

- According to the Child Care Expansion and Quality Enhancement Bill, one of the duties of the ECCC is to “develop a hub consortium that connects family child care providers to accredited child care centers and schools to provide training, technical assistance, and mentoring to family child care providers”.
- Several ECCC members provided an overview of the original hub consortium discussion from the Pre-K workgroup several years ago.
- Concerns regarding hub consortium:
 - May appear condescending or inappropriate
 - What might be some other options beyond a “hub consortium”? What would be beneficial for all licensed programs?
 - Components of time & money must be incorporated into the discussion; capacity—who administers/executes it?
 - Training or coaching/mentoring? May be looked at differently depending on the perspective of the provider.

- May be more concern about illegal/informal child care than competition with other licensed programs; varies between programs/areas
- What are the incentives to participate? Staff don't have room for one more thing to do
- Sustainability?
- Workforce issue—there are not enough people that have the qualifications to do the high quality work; no incentive to enter into ECE field
- Where do we go from here? Research/gather information to get sense of whole child care community to determine if this concept or another one will fit

Other Reports/Announcements:

- The Regional Early Care and Education Funder's Collaborative is working with The Washington Area Women's Foundation to develop an implementation plan for the National Research Council Workforce Report. Local work is being done to consider how the regions in the Washington Area can collaborate. The workforce report, in part, addresses workforce issues in the provision on Universal Pre-K.
- The Children's Opportunity Fund Governing Board is made up of County Executive, President of the County Council, President of the Board of Education, and the Superintendent of Schools. The first meeting of the Governing Board is November 20, 2015. The governing structure and bylaws are to be discussed at the meeting. Shirley Brandman is the interim Director of the fund. The focus of the fund is on increasing academic capacity and it is focused on birth through age 21.
- Parent Café Facilitator Training scheduled for December 3-4, 2015.

Adjournment:

11:56 a.m.