



Executive Committee

1/28/2009

5:30 PM

6301 NW 5th Way, Suite 3400

Fort Lauderdale

Members in Attendance:

Harry Duncanson, Chair, Sidney Calloway, Jeffrey Dwyer, Maria Kuhn-Brotton, Robyn Perlman

Members Absent:

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer

Staff in Attendance:

Penny Westberry, Executive Director, Andrea Braynon, Chief Financial Officer, Sandra Gonzalez, Accounting/HR Manager, Deborah David, CRRD Director, Janice Carter, ECE Program Specialist, Leticia Strasser, ECE Program Specialist, Debbie Bainton, Executive Assistant

Others in Attendance:

Burnadette Norris-Weeks, General Counsel, Gilbert Rincon, Ilene Gevitz, Dr. Barbara Weinstein, Ainsworth Geddes, Joy Gordon, Khalil Zeinieh

Welcome and Call to Order

Harry Duncanson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:47 pm

Quorum established

The chair congratulated Sidney Calloway on his new position as Chair of the Ft. Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Barbara Weinstein introduced Khalil Zeinieh, noting that he has been hired to replace Howard Bakalar who left Family Central for a position at United Way.

Approval of December 1, 2008 minutes

Motion made by Sidney Calloway to approve the minutes of December 1, 2008. **Seconded** by Robyn Perlman. **Unanimously approved.**

Action items:

Keep minutes on file

Person responsible:

Executive Assistant

Deadline:

1/30/09

Allocation of AD Henderson Grant Funds

The Chair indicated that if there is no objection agenda items will be taken out of order to insure action items could be voted on.

Termination from SR Program Follow-up

Penny Westberry stated that staff tried to pull additional information regarding terminations as requested by the Committee. She pointed out the following:

- Remember imperfections of EFS
- Not seeing difference from years ago
- Will probably be seeing more people from the Workforce door
- Hear from providers that people are losing their jobs everyday
- Have to make sure clients – especially if job lost – go to Workforce right away to continue care
- Need to plan – perhaps at systems – to get information to providers

The Committee made the following comments:

- Would like to see totals and percentages on the data report
- Important for provider network to get information out to parents
 - ELC to work with providers together to get something out

Allocation of AD Henderson Grant Funds

Motion made by Sidney Calloway to approve increased scholarship funding for Contract FCI-09-ELC3 by \$50,000 for approximately 40 additional CDA National scholarships and/or scholarship application fees, at an average of \$1,250 per CDA National Scholarship or \$350 per CDA National Application, with priority for those on the waiting list who currently receive coaching or mentoring from other ELC 3-FCI or ELC 3 – SBBC. **Seconded** by Maria Kuhn Brotton. **Unanimously approved**

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Develop materials for distribution to providers and parents to assist in maintaining child care	CPO/Systems Gathering participants	2/28/09
Place Allocation of AD Henderson Grant Funds on Coalition Agenda	Executive Director	2/9/09

CCEP Additional Funding

Penny Westberry pointed out the following

- CCEP Board very vocal about favoring small counties
- Broward advocated that the amount of match on the table should count for something and Broward did receive that money in accordance with that

Motion made by Jeffrey Dwyer to approve the allocation of additional CCEP funding of \$423,234 to Family Central, Inc. for use in slots and related costs. **Seconded** by Sidney Calloway **Unanimously approved**

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Place Additional CCEP Funding on Coalition Agenda	Executive Director	2/9/2009

Waiting List Committee Recommendations

Penny Westberry stated that the waiting list item is being pulled to allow the Committee to finalize its recommendation and will be brought forward at the Coalition meeting.

Office space

Additional information was handed out to Committee members. Harry Duncanson gave a brief summary of events that led up to this point. Penny Westberry pointed out the following:

- New Vice President just contacted ELC and gave their latest offer is \$675,000 for five years
 - Moving costs are estimated at \$30,000 - \$50,000
 - CSC has said that they wanted to get rid of some things such as wiring and mike system and indicated they would give it to us inexpensively

Mr. Duncanson outlined the following:

- Pointed out there are intangible costs to moving
- Current landlord has come down from \$820,000 to \$675,000
- Other building has a potential lower deal

The committee members discussed:

- Suggest make an offer to option b – facility and improvements not that different from current location
 - Offer closer to the price of 606,000
 - Let them know – can stay in current space
 - Give them the choice to make or break their own destiny
 - Put offer in writing – last and best offer
- Suggested that offer be made to current space for 660,000
- Lease terms must be okay with any of the options

- Concern over leaving money on the table
- Decision needs to be made by the next board meeting
- CSC lease filters down to us and if ELC stays past April rent doubles – if we plan to stay in current space, not an issue
- Offer 606,000 and if they agree must be prepared to move

Penny Westberry recommended staying in the current space saying the intangible costs outweigh the difference at this point.

Motion made by Sidney Calloway to authorize the Chair and Executive Director to continue to negotiate with current lessor to see what can do to get best price possible not to exceed \$675,000 and acceptance of ELC’s basic lease terms. **Seconded** by Robyn Perlman. **Motion passed**

Mr. Duncanson indicated that he would go to the current lessor and offer \$660,000 and see where it goes.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Proceed with negotiations with current lessor to include lease terms and place on Coalition agenda	Executive Director	2/9/2009

State Budget Update

State Budget was discussed at Finance Committee. Jeffrey Dwyer indicated he reviewed the budget and has spoken to Tallahassee.

Federal Budget Opportunity

Penny Westberry referred the committee to a hand out stating that there is a big opportunity to get additional school readiness money in the Federal stimulus package. She encouraged everyone to use their voices at the national level to stress no State match requirement. Ms. Westberry inquired to OEL as to what formula will be used to distribute any additional funding but has not as yet received an answer.

FLKRS Results Update

Penny Westberry stated that there is preliminary information on the low performing providers but are not ready to put out. She indicated that additional information on FLKRS will be brought forward to the Board.

FAU Research Update

Penny Westberry reported that FAU will have a proposal for the Board meeting. She stated that \$150,000 is a bargain price for this research project.

The committee discussed the following:

- Research to determine if school readiness is effective or not
- Question raised about \$150,000 allocation and when approved if research was to assist low performing providers
- Request made for minutes to be pulled from meetings where decision was made to ensure original intent

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Pull previous minutes to determine if FAU proposal should move forward.	Executive Director	2/6/09
Place FAU proposal on Coalition Agenda, as indicated	Executive Director	2/9/09

Termination form SR Program Follow-up

Discussed earlier in the meeting

Committee Reports and Recommended Action Items

Finance Committee

Financial Statements

Discussed earlier at Finance Committee meeting. Jeffrey Dwyer indicated he has no comments

Utilization Report

Discussed earlier at Finance Committee meeting. Jeffrey Dwyer stated he will reserve his comments for a later date expressing his concern for the lower numbers based upon the vote on the issue

Budget modification

Discussed earlier at Finance Committee meeting. This may come back depending on State budget.

CRRD Report

Robyn Perlman reported that the Committee is still working on the community profile. The survey is currently being adjusted to be sure it is reflective of the community. Maria Kuhn-Brotton volunteered to work with the CRRD Committee on the survey

Unfinished Business - none

New Business

Robyn Perlman thanked Julia Musella for all the work that she has done noting that she has gone over the top to get the information out in the community.

Mr. Duncanson shared with the Committee that Representative Evers has introduced a bill to eliminate the Coalitions. Dr. Barbara Weinstein expressed her concerns that this would be harmful as it relates to quality in child care centers. He also reported that the next round of budget cuts will be much greater and more severe.

Public Input

Julia Musella reported that a provider meeting is being held at Family Central tomorrow (Jan 29, 2009). She expressed the need to get the information out to the providers and she appreciates all the facts that she gets from the Coalition.

Next Meeting: March 25, 2009

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 6:45 am

These minutes contain the action items of the Executive Committee meeting of the Early Learning Coalition. They do not include all facets of each issue discussed. A tape recording of the meeting is held in the Coalition office. Corrections from the Coalition members will be taken prior to approval at the next meeting.

Submitted by

Debbie Bainton

Reviewed and Edited by

Harry Duncanson, Chair

Penny Westberry, Executive Director