

## **MINUTES**

**Committee Members in attendance:** Al Whitesides, Chevaun Letman, Glenda Weinert, Jane Hatley, Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Kidada Wynn, Kit Cramer, Leslie Anderson, Mistie Reising-Cogbill, Philip Belcher, Rich Johnston, Robert Pressley, Susan Mims

**County support staff in attendance:** Rachael Nygaard, Angelyn Johnson, Michael Frue, Burnett Walz, Rasheeda McDaniels, Zo Mpofu, Trish Wallin

**Welcome** and agenda review by Jasmine Beach-Ferrara.

**Virtual meeting reminder:** Identify yourself when speaking. All votes will be conducted by roll call. This is a public meeting. If any community members are in attendance, there will be a time for public comment at the end of the meeting.

**Meeting Minutes:** Philip Belcher made a motion to approve the minutes from August 4, 2020. Jane Hatley seconded motion. Vote by roll call vote was unanimous in approval.

### **Old Business**

- Election of FY2021 Officers: Chair; Vice Chair; Secretary
  - Rich Johnston self-nominated for Secretary and Kit Cramer seconded the nomination. Based on Committee recommendations, Chair will remain Jasmine Beach Ferrara and Vice-Chair will remain Glenda Weinert. Approval of nominations was unanimous by roll call vote
  
- FY2021 Roadmap
  - Staff updated the roadmap document to reflect suggested edits from last meeting. October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will have local and state guests presenting system data (both local data and state data) as well as impacts of COVID. For the November meeting, we will have an outside facilitator to guide us around equity in grant making. Rachael has been in communication with Tracey Greene-Washington about facilitating the meeting. Leslie would like to extend the November meeting to allow more time for the facilitator. The Committee decided to begin the meeting at noon if the facilitator can accommodate that request. Rachael will check with the facilitator to verify her availability.
  
- Report from ad hoc Nomination Group
  - Update from Commissioners: Commissioners are trying to standardize the boards and committees processes. Going forward, for committees with funding allocations, the Commissioners will conduct interviews for committee applicants. There can be an ad-hoc committee that makes written recommendations to the Board of Commissioners along with all application materials. The Commissioners will talk about the ECE Committee nominations during today's planning session. Commissioner Whiteside said there would be no requirement for Commissioners to re-interview the applicants for the current ECE Committee vacancies since it was already underway. However, going forward, the Commissioners will be the ones conducting the interviews.

- The ad-hoc nomination group selected Brandy Bowman for community at-large position, and Wendy Wieber for the retiree position. These recommendations will be submitted to the Board of Commissioners for appointment. All applicants were screened for conflicts of interest, etc. Rachael shared the list of applicants with attendees. If anyone would like to view the applications, they are available upon request.

### **New Business**

- Planning for Grantee COVID Meeting 9/15/20, 1:00-2:30 pm
  - This will be a cohort call with up to two members from the grantee organizations and committee members
  - Rachael asked the committee for input or recommendations for organizing the meeting
    - Call will be overall broad topics due to the number of participants. Do we want to pose guiding questions and let the conversation flow?
    - Committee would like to know: How are they tackling staffing issues? What additional resources have they identified they need? How have their numbers been impacted? Are their finances impacted (facing possible closings)? Protective equipment? Emotional well-being of staff? Should portion of FY2022 funds be dedicated to COVID issues? Any access the federal funds? Any of them offered services or expertise for school aged students, essential workers, etc.? What partnerships have been able to work together?
    - Would like to give them an opportunity to collectively provide data and info ahead of time if possible (maybe a survey). Then give them time to articulate their specific stories on the call.
- Site Visit Planning
  - We have provided grantees the quarterly reporting form and informed them of virtual site-visits. The Committee would like to minimize the stress and burden on the grantees. Suggestions for the site visits: Ask them to explain how the grant is being used. What are they doing specifically related to COVID? How are they supporting their community? The Committee enjoys seeing the facility and operations, so maybe the grantees could provide a virtual walk around or share photos/videos. Committee would like to make sure there is time for Q&As in addition to videos. All site visits should be scheduled for one hour. They will be scheduled in October and November. Grantee's first quarter reports will be due, so we should have their current data as a talking point. There will be a sign-up for committee members to indicate in which site visits they want to participate.

### **Announcements**

- Tricia from HHS announced that they are potentially expanding funds to expand services to childcare applicants that are above normal subsidy program income limits. This is pending commissioner input.
- Buncombe County is working on a series of Town Hall topics. One of these Town Halls in the near future will be focused on Early Childhood. Buncombe County Partnership for Children is working with them for this Town Hall.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment



**Early Childhood Education & Development Committee**

September 1, 2020, 1:00 – 2:30

Virtual Meeting

**Next Meeting:** September 15, 2020 Grantee COVID Virtual Meeting from 1:00 – 2:30 pm