

Children First Board meeting minutes

6-28-2021, Zoom only using roll call voting

At 1:06 pm this meeting of the Children First board was called to order with the following present:

Board members: Carolyn Baker, Dr. Amanda Gerber, Mike Linnenbrink, Mark Meek, Kathy Osipowicz, Kayla Schwartz, and Amanda Swan. Quorum was met with 7 of 11 board members present.

Board members not present: Rich Harlow, Melissa Mahon, Meagan Vogel, and Ryan Wilson.

Director: Ginger Knisley

Guests: N/A

There was a **motion** by Amanda S and a second by Mike to approve today's agenda as well as the minutes from 5-20-21. All voted aye.

Fund requests from Learning Tree

Ginger reviewed the estimated status of each funding stream for FY22 and reminded the board of the request to use quality improvement funds for a security door at the Learning Tree that was received in the spring as well as the application they submitted for a preschool improvement project. Amanda S commented that she felt the questions the board had posed to them had been satisfied with their responses via email and Kayla commented that the owner is business minded, well established and motivated. There was still some reservation by board members regarding long term sustainability of funding staff.

There was a **motion** by Carolyn with a second by Kathy to grant 50% of the requested amount for the preschool improvement project. All voted aye.

There was a **motion** by Mike with a second by Amanda S to grant 100% of the requested amount for the security door. All voted aye.

ECI area board and advocates association annual delegate nomination

Ginger shared with the board that they have the option to nominate anyone, including a board member, to serve as their delegate to the association for the year. There was a **motion** by Carolyn and a second by Kathy to nominate Ginger as the delegate to the association for FY22. All voted aye.

Bylaws amendment – second read

There was a **motion** by Kathy with a second by Carolyn to accept the second reading of the amended bylaws as written and consider them amended. All voted aye. There are now no specified term limits for board members and officers can serve again after one year out of office.

Financial Report

Ginger explained there was no unusual activities to report and she is just waiting for final bills to determine if the board has met the 20% limit on carry forward as anticipated from

contractors' reports. There was a **motion** by Mike with a second by Amanda S to accept the May 2021 fiscal report. All voted aye.

Board Officer Elections for FY22

Ginger explained that the current officers had served an extra term due to being carried over for one year because of the upheaval of COVID. She also explained that historically the board officers move up a ladder and off of the Executive Committee with secretary becoming vice chair, vice chair becoming chair, chair moving off the committee, and a new member coming on as secretary but there was no mandate to do it that way. She asked Kayla if she planned to stay on the board now that she was not required by the bylaws to step off. Kayla said that was yet to be determined and would stay on at least until a replacement was found for her.

Mike agreed to move from vice chair to chair.

Kayla nominated Amanda Swan as vice chair.

Mike nominated Dr. Gerber to the secretary position.

There was a **motion** by Kayla with a second from Mark to seat the above slate of officers for FY22. All voted aye. Ginger and board members thanked Mark for his leadership and Kayla for her service on the Executive Committee.

With voting items of the agenda concluded, Mike and Kayla signed off, leaving 5 board members on the meeting with Ginger for discussion items.

Director Report

Ginger reviewed her written report which had been emailed out with the meeting materials. The report included updates on legislation, business from the last meeting, updates on the governor's child care task force, and other projects that are ongoing. There was good discussion regarding the various initiatives currently underway. Ginger asked board members to remember to submit their conflict of interest forms to her. In regards to the board meeting calendar for the year, it was determined that Monday at 1:00 pm still works well so it will be maintained.

Board self-evaluation results and planning

Ginger reviewed with the board the summary of responses to the board self-evaluation conducted last month. Ginger explained that the fundraising item was a hold-over from many years ago and that the board had not been involved in fundraising directly for a long time but rather allowed the Director to assist community organizations with their grant writing. There was no desire today to change that course of action.

Reviewing and revising the RFP process and forms is a common topic of discussion and Ginger will prepare materials to start this at the combined meeting in August with possible email communications in the meantime.

In terms of mental health services, the board would like an update from Jamie Beskow on the work happening with the mental health regions.

Ginger will keep an eye on the WAGE\$ program and if funding for it is extended beyond this first year of substantial increase.

Board recruitment will be discussed again at the August meeting. There is some desire to fill all open positions but only if they can be filled with active board members with a real desire and ability to serve.

Public Comment

There was no member of the public present for the meeting.

Board member report out of EC issues & Public Comment

N/A

The meeting was adjourned by Mark at 2:02 pm.

The next **Children First board meeting** will be held in person with the ECTF on Monday, August 23rd, 2021 at 1:00 pm at a location to be determined.

Gk

Date approved _____ Board officer signature _____