

Dubuque County Early Childhood (DCEC) Board Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2020, Keystone and/or GoToMeeting

2310 Chaney Road, Dubuque, IA

In attendance: Dale Snyder, Angela Petsche, Cindy Steffens, Kim Glaser, Laura Roussell, Jim Guentherman, Ashley Weber, Jay Wickham, Dan Huss, Don Vrotsos, Linda Martin, Gina Blean, Abbey Degenhardt

Absent: Ashley Melchert, Pat Emerson

Program Staff: Amy Kallahaer, Tara Roddick, Stacey Killian, Kristy Fenwick

Call to order: 12:04pm by Angela Petsche

Key Action Items: no comments or questions, motion to approve by Laura Roussell, second by Jay Wickham

1. August BOD Minutes p.2
2. September 15 Special BOD Minutes p.4
3. June Exec – Fin Cmte Minutes p.5
4. Dale Snyder Resignation p.6 – Angela thanked Dale for his service, sentiment echoed by various board members.
5. Bank Statement p.7
6. HK Financials p.8

Discussion/Updates:

1. Gala/Fundraising/Silent Auction: Total \$31,376 – Abbey reviewed breakout of dollars & expense to arrive at total revenue amount.
2. ECI Updates – Tool O Statewide Performance Measures – state is updating tool, updates to go into effect FY22
3. CCRR: New In-Home Child Care Provider Program Updates – Tara provided update on progress. 1 home has completed the process; 2 additional homes at preinspection marker. Met with Jill Connors from the city, if we get more than 10 the city may have additional dollars.
4. Board Development – looking for volunteers to help with this. Will become a focus. Seeking out trainings from foundation and other resources to assist with kicking this project off.
5. Site Visits/Monitoring – Abbey is working on site visits, goal this FY will be to visit each program site 3 times
6. Family Resource Guide – focus for next couple of weeks; \$10,000 donation from Jim Theisen for printing! Already getting calls from community looking for copies.
7. Child Care Coalition/Bricks to Clicks – Coalition meeting every other week to continue to assess childcare needs in the community. Bricks to Clicks is subcommittee, looking at needs that DCSD students have. Found that common need is actually for learning support for middle & highschool students on their non-instruction days. There is not support needed to help them complete their school work. Could be something like a homework/tutoring hotline staffed by volunteers – ideally individuals with education background – Loras, Clarke, UD teacher education students?
8. New Office/Office Furniture – Abbey has new office space at Keystone, has furniture to get rid of – contact her if interested. Also looking for storage space for old fiscal documents – Green Acre Storage \$66/mo.
9. LRP/Steering Committee - had first meeting, lots of great conversation. NICC consultants guiding conversation so that we can explore current plans/ideas/goal in great detail
10. Program Updates – PAT/CCRR/VNA/Clarke
 - i. PAT – continuing with virtual visits & ‘group on the go’. Will continue to take direction from state as to when to start in-home visits again. 4 staff have taken and passed the National Family Support Credential exam!
 - ii. CCRR - continue to do virtual visits. Working with Dream Center on becoming licensed childcare. Also 1 additional current center that is purchasing building to open 2nd location downtown. Received disaster funds (\$1,000) – using to purchase and distribute

masks. Also looking at helping with supply of gloves. Tara shared screen – reviewed impact of CARES act dollars in our county; to date just under \$650,000 in total. DHS has allowed for centers to bill for unlimited absences & are also covering copays that families would typically be responsible for – this has allowed centers & homes to keep their doors open.

- iii. VNA - Nurse consultant continues to work with homes & centers on health and safety, especially around Covid. Beginning immunization audits for centers and schools. Oral health has gotten approval to do screenings, working with preschools to get those scheduled & provide additional guidance in the interim. Started flu vaccines last week – will hold clinics for adults and children, also offering flu vaccine to any parent that brings a child in – these are being offered at no cost. Just received audit reports from 2019 and had a 90% compliance rate. When Covid vaccines do become available, VNA will be a point of distribution for our community.
- iv. Clarke – no update today

New business

1. Input from the Community
 - a. Laura R. shared that Operation New View will be merging with HACAP effective Oct. 1 – should be a seamless transition!

Adjourn: 12:45 pm motion by Jay Wickham, second by Laura Roussell.

Next Scheduled Meeting: October 28, 2020 at 12:00 p.m., GoToMeeting (or) Keystone Area Education Agency, 2300 Chaney Road, Dubuque, IA. Notes prepared by Kristy Fenwick.