

**In attendance:** Don Vrotsos, Gina Blean, Dale Snyder, Ashley Weber, Dan Huss, Kim Glaser, Staff (Abbey Degenhardt)

**In attendance vis conference call:** Jim Guentherman, Linda Martin, Jay Wickham,

**Absent:** Angela Petsche, Ashley Melchert, Cindy Steffens, Pat Emerson

**Program Participants Attendance:** Kim Gonzales, Tara Roddick, Amy Kallahaer,

**The meeting was called to order by Don Vrotsos 12:02 p.m.** – introductions took place.

**Discussion of action items included:**

- **Jan 2020 BOD Meeting Minutes**
  - Ashely Weber questioned the fundraising goal. \$38,000.00 is the goal.
- **Exec/Finance Meeting** – no discussions
- **Bank Statement** – Abbey discussed specifics of January bank deposits.
- **Directors Notes**
  - Abbey went through thorough details on her report which can be found in the directors report and covered Gala, LRP Committee, Grant Updates and audit.
- **ECE Minutes** – no discussions
- **New Board Member Application**
  - Welcomed Laura Roussell and gave us some background information. She retired from Black Hills Energy and is current on City Council. She is looking forward to learning more about child care and how it is being addressed in this community. She is excited to bring her connections and experiences to this organization.
  - Motion by Don Vrotsos to approve Laura Roussell replacing Luis Del Toro. Second by Dale Snyder. Motion carried. Welcome Laura and Thank you!
- **Grant Recommendations** - 2 quality improvement grants will provide an additional 12 infant childcare with the purchase of cots and sheets and encourages safe sleep.
- **Motion** by Kim Glaser to approve all other action items mentioned above as well as grant recommendation. Second by Dan Huss. Motion carried.

**Updates:**

- **GALA:** 5 or 6 more sponsors needed. Abbey will send info with sponsorship info and current standings. Continue to please collect silent and live auction items. NEED items!
- **March 15** – Diamond Jo annual Spring tasting. If you are interested in attending, please contact Don.
- **Solutions Tours Updates:**
  - Tara Roddick provided updates on Solutions Tours. Sounds like it was a successful event in both sessions.
  - The event was directed by Dawn Oliver from Iowa Women’s Foundation. They have done these events throughout the state of Iowa and have shown to be very successful.
  - AM Session – business/community partners attended. Look at the childcare solutions and broke out into groups they wanted to represent and from there they formed a committee assigning a coordinator and worked on forming one goal. The next step is making contact with the coordinators to keep the process moving along.
  - PM Session– spent the session discussing child care needs, wages and benefits. Good feedback.
  - Thank you to all of you that could attend. Great support!

- **Dubuque County Board of Supervisors grant request** – Tara provided the update on the presentation. Very intimidating situation but went well. Jay was very consistent on his support of DCEC and the programs. There were three proposals presented that day on child care and all three were funded. In-home is lagging so this might be a little more directed to those people and hopefully good results. DCEC is funding CCRR which is directly working with the other program
- **Family Resource Guide** – Don & Dale are meeting with Radio Dubuque discuss the possible partnership and increasing the quantity of books printed making it more available to more families in Dubuque County. The guides were a huge success this year and we ran out. If we increased printing, we could offset the cost with additional advertising. They will provide an update at the March board meeting.

**Program Updates:**

- PAT – Full capacity of 80 families, 75% of families have to meet one of 3 criteria for DCEC funding, waiting list of 35 families,
- CCRR – currently working with a center towards a level 5 for their first time. We have a lot of new home inquires but little follow through. ABC Learning was awarded by DCEC in October and purchased the requested equipment to increase capacity.
- VNA – Finishing up flu vacation, influenza is still an issue. Making sure centers are staying up to date on their vaccinations.

**Adjourn** – motion by Laura second by Gina at 12:48pm

Next meeting: March 25, Keystone AEA at 12:00pm, Room 1ABC