



Early Learning Coalition of Lake County Innovative services for children of Lake County

These minutes summarize the key issues of the ELCLC Board of Directors' meeting on June 30, 2010 held at the Early Learning Coalition of Lake County.

Mr. Pruitt called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The following members were in attendance: Ms. Cheryl Ridley, Ms. Kathryn Sutherin, Ms. Jennifer Walz, Mr. B. E. Thompson, Mr. Will Pruitt, Mr. Hays Ginn, Ms. Dawn Mainville, Mr. Oscar Palau, Dr. Barbara Howard, Ms. Jeanie Rowin, and Ms. Porcha Green. The following members present via conference call: Ms. Sherry Olszanski, Ms. Linda Stewart, Ms. Michele Rawls and Ms. Kimberly Grabert. The following members were absent: Ms. Marie Carlberg, Ms. Maureen Jergins, Mr. Eddy Workinger, Mr. Eric English, Ms. Sabrina Ciceri and Ms. Marsha Carpenter. The following staff was present: Ms. Lesha Buchbinder and Ms. Patricia Pierce. The following guests were present: Ms. Denise Lancaster, Ms. Carol Dozier and Ms. Rebecca Foley-Kearney.

Ms. Pierce determined a quorum was present.

CONSENT CONSIDERATION

Mr. Pruitt presented action items 601-603 for consideration and asked if anyone had questions or wanted to pull items for discussion. Mr. Thompson asked that item 603 be pulled for discussion. A motion was made and seconded to approve action items 601 and 602. Motion carried.

Ms. Buchbinder explained the situation regarding Child Care 2000 #1 stating that the facility was found out of compliance for failure to attend the required number of trainings and SR meetings. Ms. Buchbinder commented that at the June 2nd meeting, she commented that an SR meeting would be held on June 10 and 15 centers needed to be present to maintain their contract. Ms. Buchbinder added that 14 of the 15 did attend the meetings; however, the Director of Child Care 2000 #1 failed to attend the SR meeting. There is another Child Care 2000 in Wildwood (#2) which was not affected by this action. The letter presented to Ms. Barrett stated that the contract was being terminated effective immediately and explained the Grievance Policy as well as the deadline for submission to the Coalition. Ms. Barrett came to the office on July 14 to submit her written grievance letter which explained the reasons why the Director of Child Care 2000 #1 had not attended the meetings. The information was reviewed via conference call by the Grievance Committee on June 29, 2010.

The Grievance Committee made a motion to: Recommend Option #3: if approved: Probation for 6 months, June 30, 2010 – December 31, 2010. During the probationary period the provider will only be able to serve the children who are currently enrolled in the facility. During the probationary period the provider will not be eligible to serve any new SR children or receive and ELC Quality dollars. The provider will be required to attend 3 SR Meetings and 1 Enrichment Session between the dates of 7/01/10 –12/31/10. Failure to meet these requirements or any other violation of the SR Provider Agreement, during the probationary period, may result in termination of the provider's SR Agreement for a period of one year. Effective January 1, 2011, the provider will be able to resume full participation in the SR program.

Mr. Thompson reported that he attended a meeting of the Community of South Lake Foundation regarding funding requests. Mr. Thompson stated that the Foundation members commended the Coalition for making providers accountable for operating their programs and use of Coalition dollars.

A motion was made and seconded accept the recommendation by the Grievance Committee that Child Care 2000 #1 be placed on probation as stated in Option 3 effective June 30, 2010.

Ms. Buchbinder proceeded to give an update on Bright Ideas, a provider who was placed on 6 months probation in April, 2010. Ms. Buchbinder stated that Ms. Bell had requested that she be allowed to schedule make-up days that would extend the program from June 10 to June 21, 2010. The make-up days were approved. Ms. Bell stated that she would contact parents in writing to inform them of the extended program timeframe. During this time, several phone calls and/or on sight visits to the facility were conducted by Ms. Simone Hylton. During a routing phone call, on June 18th, it was determined that the director, and VPK Lead Teacher, was not present during scheduled class time. Ms. Hylton conducted a site visit and was told by the assistant teacher that there were no VPK children in attendance that day and the director had attended a mandatory training/conference in Ocala. Ms. Buchbinder commented that the start time of the conference had indicated that the director would have traveled prior to the beginning of class, therefore, it was not clear how she knew the VPK children would not be in attendance for that day. Ms. Buchbinder said that three of the five parents were contacted and they stated that they were not informed of the extended program to June 21, 2010. Ms. Buchbinder stated that she feels this is a violation of the probation and wanted to bring it to the attention of the board. After further discussion, a motion was made and seconded that a letter be sent to Bright Ideas stating that the facility is in violation of the probation period and that their contract will be terminated and they will not be eligible to reapply until the 2011-2012 program year. Ms. Buchbinder commented that the facility can continue with a program for four year old children but it would be as private pay by the parents and not the state offered VPK program.

Ms. Buchbinder proceeded to discussed item 604: ITN Budget Negotiations. Ms. Buchbinder proceeded to review the draft minutes for the subcommittee meetings of June 8, 2010 and June 23, 2010. Ms. Buchbinder summarized the minutes commenting that the ITN Budget Negotiations Subcommittee had reviewed the initial proposal from LifeStream on June 8; however there were several areas of concern addressed upon the initial review and a meeting was scheduled with LifeStream to review the budget that was submitted. The Committee asked that LifeStream provide a revised budget as well as transparent explanations for the specific areas of concern raised by the Committee. Ms. Buchbinder reviewed the changes made in the budget stating that while some of the changes made were reduced, but the overall budget was increased to \$848,395 which was higher than the initial budget of \$780,444. Ms. Buchbinder commented that though the revised budget demonstrated an overall increase, LSBC still indicated the bid on the table was the original bid for \$780,444. The revisions included charges for the fourth floor of the LifeStream building which was based on depreciation and not on square footage, etc.

Ms. Buchbinder commented that also included in the minutes was a motion made by the Committee on June 23, 2010 to make a recommendation to the full Board. Mr. Pruitt reviewed the agenda item page and asked that it be rewritten as an action Item for consent consideration to include the recommendation as mentioned by Ms. Buchbinder. Ms. Pierce made the revision to the agenda page adding the language of the recommendation from the Committee that reads: *The ITN Negotiations Committee met on June 8, 2010 with representatives from LifeStream to discuss questions and specific concerns resulting from the initial application submitted for the 2010-2011 procurement process. The Committee asked LifeStream to respond to specific areas of concerns and submit a revised budget to the Coalition on June 18, 2010. The*

Committee met on June 23, 2010 to review the revised budget. The Committee moved to make a recommendation to the full Board to move forward in discussions and a decision to move services in-house with the Coalition, based on program efficiency and cost savings. The motion also states that there will be no further negotiations prior to presenting the Committee's finding to the full Board. The motion carried.

After further discussion Mr. Pruitt asked each Board member to share their thoughts on whether or not to go forward with a decision to bring LifeStream services in house or to continue negotiations. After a lengthy discussion a motion was made to withdraw the recommendation of the ITN Committee to bring services in house at this time. Furthermore, the motion was expanded to allow LifeStream to submit a revised and final budget for consideration along with the opportunity for Mr. Jon Cherry, President of LifeStream to come before the Board to present the budget. The motion was seconded and passed. Mr. Thompson abstained. The LifeStream revised budget will be presented at a special meeting of the full Board membership on Wednesday, July 14, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

There was no further business. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 11:00am.

Respectfully submitted:
Patricia Pierce
Executive Assistant

Approved August 4, 2010