

**ECIC Executive Board Meeting
MINUTES
May 13, 2009**

Executive Committee Members

Betsy Boggs
Susan Broman, Chairperson
Elizabeth Bunn
Dan DeGrow
Deborah Dingell
David Hollister
Marvin McKinney
Marianne Udow-Phillips
Hubert Price
Larry Schweinhart
Sally Vaughn
Lisa Brewer-Walraven

Staff

Joan Blough
Keegan Cole
Michael Foley
Bryn Fortune
Matt Gillard
Carrie Hatcher
Andrew Heller
Mary Lannoye
Eric Mayes
Alissa Parks
Kathi Pioszak
Karen Roback
Jenny Salesa
Judy Samelson, CEO
Sarah Triplett

Public

Elizabeth Jordan, MI Home Based Child Care Council
Ellin Nowlin, Washington Partners

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Broman called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

II. Invitation for Public Comment

None.

III. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee approves the Minutes of February 11, 2009.

Motion by Marianne Udow-Phillips, supported by Dave Hollister. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Chairperson's Report

Introductions

Judy Samelson introduced ECIC's newest staff members; Dr. Eric Mayes as Vice President for External Affairs on a part time basis, Andrew Heller who will be working on contract in the communications field, Bryn Fortune who will be working with ECIC's Parenting Leadership groups within the Great Start Collaboratives, and Keegan Kole as an Accounting Assistant to help with ECIC's growing audit needs.

Financial Statements

Mary Lannoye directed the group to look at the March financial statements within the board binders and gave a brief description of the material. Ms. Lannoye explained a change made under the term "capital," she said that instead of having one unrestricted number in terms of balance that were carried forward, the terms were broken down so the information would be easier to understand. Ms. Lannoye then directed the board to the 2nd page of materials detailing the budget to actual comparison which compares the current year budget through the actual expenditures and revenues. As of March 31st ECIC's budget is well through half of the the year. Ms. Lannoye also wanted to point out in the budget column under expenditures under "Great Start Results" there is a number missing which should be \$545,399 and directed anyone who would like an updated spreadsheet to contact her. Ms. Lannoye then gave a brief presentation on the financial statements.

Ms. Samelson asked that Ms. Lannoye explain the (\$1.5) net income in the budget documents. Ms. Lannoye explained that we are just a few months behind on getting reimbursed for our operating expenses from DHS and further explained that next time the board meets this portion should be all caught up and all number should be even instead of in the negative.

Audit Update

Ms. Lannoye recounted the last audit update to the board, indicating the auditors had given us a new draft of FY 06-07 with several new findings. ECIC then responded to these findings more than a month ago and have yet to hear a response. Ms. Lannoye

further explained that ECIC has not heard anything regarding the FY 08 financial audit and does not expect to see any problems with it. Ms. Samelson indicated that she and Ms. Lannoye had plans to draft a letter to the auditors to discuss the ongoing payment issue that was discussed in previous board meetings.

Board Appointments

Ms. Samelson detailed the movement occurring with board appointments and thanked those current board members (Marianne Udow-Phillips, Dan DeGrow and David Hollister) who were willing to stay on ECIC's Executive Board for another term as their terms were expiring. Ms. Samelson stated that the Governor's office was in the process of making their final list of appointments to the executive board which would include the appointees of the quadrant leaders. A brief discussion ensued about speculation of board members coming on board and current board members who may or may not chose to move to the Corporate Board.

Plans for September Meeting

Ms. Broman brought the subject of a retreat in September to the board members for discussion. Ms. Broman indicated that this could be an opportunity to meet new members, facilitate discussions and strengthen board relationships. A brief discussion ensued regarding the date, format of the board retreat and the types of discussion that should take place at the board retreat. Consensus for all board members was that a retreat would be extremely necessary and further planning from the retreat would be left to the strategic planning committee.

V. New Business

Budget and Policy Update and Discussion

Federal Update - Ms. Samelson introduced Ellin Nowlin from Washington Partners who joined via conference call from Washington D.C. Ms. Nowlin gave a brief update on the current budget proposed by President Barack Obama which reflects a hopeful focus on early childhood investment. Ms. Nowlin stated that people are excited about the prospect of stimulus money but with the current budget situation, there is no certainty as to what budgets will pass. Ms. Nowlin also gave a quick update on programs that may see some funding such as Title I and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

These programs may be an asset to programs in need in Michigan especially to ECIC as they have the structures necessary to capture some of these federal dollars. Ms. Nowlin encouraged all board members to contact Michigan's Congressional Delegation in support of funding for early childhood programs.

Matt Gillard asked a question regarding home visitation funding, a brief discussion ensued regarding home visitation programs. Mr. McKinney requested the briefing from Ms. Nowlin in electronic form as well as a timeline of the federal budget.

State Update - Ms. Samelson introduced Matt Gillard who works on monitoring state issues for ECIC. Mr. Gillard explained that currently the discussion in the legislature is

dealing with the FY 2010 budget. Mr. Gillard stated the legislature is dealing with the current FY 09 revenue shortfall of 1.3 billion dollars with two competing factors which are a tremendous decline in state revenues and available stimulus dollars. Mr. Gillard stated that the legislative leadership has been engaged over the last week to try and deal with the FY 09 budget shortfall. To address the budget deficit, the legislature chose to pass an Executive Order with \$304 million in cuts and use stimulus dollars to address the rest of the FY 09 budget deficit. Mr. Gillard gave a brief presentation on the speculation surrounding the FY 10 budget. Ms. Samelson asked Ms. Lannoye to give her input on the budget. A brief discussion ensued around the table regarding theories surrounding the budget.

Ms. Samelson stated that ECIC has had three separate funding streams cut, 0-3, Nurse Family Partnership and Great Parents Great Start. ECIC was reduced by \$200,000 in the CCDF line and all of those cuts were brought into FY 09. In the Executive Order ECIC was cut by another \$50,000. Ms. Samelson said that while cuts hurt, ECIC is surviving but the future of the state budget and how it will ultimately affect ECIC is uncertain. Ms. Samelson shared all the great work that is being done at ECIC which includes scholarships, community work, Great Start Readiness Program to name just a few. Ms. Samelson also said that there is an active early childhood advocate team which has been meeting and will continue to meet and collaborate on discussions and programs. A brief discussion ensued around the table about upcoming challenges with the state and federal budget in Michigan which included a discussion about how we do "less with less." Mr. Price and Mr. McKinney offered to write letters to the editor detailing how important early childhood investment is in Michigan during these difficult financial times.

Ms. Samelson stated that there have been discussions regarding planning a business summit with the philanthropy community and the urgent necessity to focus on early childhood investment but had a great deal of pushback from the business community because of their desire to. Ms. Samelson and Ms. Brewer-Walraven discussed the Children's Cabinet and their hope that it becomes a stronger working body for the early childhood community. A brief discussion ensued about the budget and "where do we go from here."

From the discussion, a consensus was reached that ECIC would reach out to stakeholders to discuss the broader picture regarding early childhood investment in Michigan. The Strategic Planning Committee will pick up the conversation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the ECIC Executive Committee approves the financial statements for March FY 09,

Motion by Dan DeGrow, supported by Marianne Udow-Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Samelson and Ms. Udow-Phillips detailed their plans to connect with Phil Power on his "Re-Defining Moment" campaign to see if there is some work which can be done to focus

VI. Old Business

Child Care Quality Improvement Contracts

Ms. Samelson shared that several weeks ago ECIC sent out an RFP evaluation to a group. That group met with 6 potential awardees, from that group of 6, board members met with the top 3 candidates and from that meeting the consensus was that ECIC would like to award the contract to Michigan State University. This contract would be \$150,000 which would come from Kellogg grant money. MSU would work with ECIC throughout the summer to determine the best evaluation.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the upcoming work dealing with the Child Care Quality Improvement Contracts which included talk about vulnerable communities and child outcomes.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the ECIC Executive Committee approves the Child Care Quality Improvement Contract recommendation,

Motion by Marvin McKinney, supported by Sally Vaughn. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Items of Note

Great Start Collaboratives Update and Discussion

Ms. Samelson stated that the Great Start Collaboratives have been making great progress. There are great people who want to be involved and great things happening but said that ECIC is having to look forward and anticipate what should be done if the Governor/legislature eliminates the GSCs. Ms. Samelson introduced Alissa Parks to give some detail regarding the Great Start Collaboratives. Ms. Parks directed board members to information provided in their packets that detailed ongoing core elements of the work of the Great Start Collaboratives. Ms. Parks stated GSCs are now statewide which include; 21 GSCs which are in implementation phase, 11 phase 2 GSCs, 17 phase 3 and finally 6 phase 4 GSCs which are just starting up. Ms. Parks gave a brief presentation on the annual plan all GSCs must work with.

Mr. McKinney had a few questions regarding data of racial/ethnic/class issues are being addressed by ECIC and the GSCs. Ms. Parks stated that it is the intention of ECIC to become better at obtaining those numbers. A brief discussion ensued regarding collecting data.

Mr. Foley discussed exciting things happening with the staff and resources being pooled in the community.

Ms. Blough spoke very briefly about Meghan Cherry who is conducting a report for ECIC.

Ms. Roback shared about the RFP process and a Bitters Conference with 40 people in attendance. Ms. Roback stated that she would bring recommendations to the board for further review during the June 30th board meeting.

I. Adjournment

Chairman Broman adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah G. Triplett