

South Carolina Association of Early Care and Education
Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 13, 2016
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Haynesworth Sinkler and Boyd
22nd Floor Conference Room 4

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Association of Early Care and Education was held on Wednesday, January 13, 2016. Those members present were: Tricia Sheldon, Carolyn Watt, Cindy Walton-McCawley, Nancy Pryor and Ed Brashier, Margaret Anne Gaffney, Melissa Jordan and Mara Dunkin. Those members participating via conference call were: Tami Nix, Marsha Davis, Sheila King and Amber Bishop. Present from the staff was Lynsey Cichon and Courtney Waldrup.

Call to Order: Vice President Sheldon called the meeting to order and stated a quorum was established.

President's Resignation: Waldrup reported, Nix submitted a letter of resignation. According to Robert's Rules of Order, the board must either accept or reject the letter of resignation. Waldrup reported that the bylaws stated the Vice President automatically succeeds to President in the event of a vacancy. Sheldon stated that if Nix resigned that she could not succeed to President and would henceforth resign. Discussion followed. There was a motion to reject the resignation. The motion was seconded and passed with no opposition.

Review Revised By-laws: Tabled for further review.

Approval Minutes of Nov 2015 Meeting – Nov 4 and Nov 17: There was a motion to accept the November 4 and 17 board meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed with no opposition.

Financial Report: Waldrup reviewed financials stating the December 2015 balance sheet reports the month end checking account balance of \$7,613.87 and the current bank account balance, as of January 11, 2016, is \$4,231.51.

Legislative Report: Thordahl and Sheldon reported that - at 2pm in Gaston, SC, - there will be Governor's Press Conference, which will call for the dismantling of the 4K programs. This will directly affect licensed centers. 4K CDEP programs are in the process of being implemented into the public school systems through the program First Steps. Discussion followed. It was stated, if the four-year-old programs are taken from the licensed child care facilities and moved to the public school sector, licensed child care facilities would not be able to sustain on just the 0-3 year old program. Sheldon will get a breakdown from DSS of children's ages in licensed child care centers. Walton-McCawley asked the management company to survey the membership about their four year old programs to find out how many licensed centers will be affected and how losing the four-year-old programs will affect the member's centers. There was a motion to create and distribute a survey, this motion was seconded and approved with no opposition. Sheldon and Thordahl reported that they met with the Boy's and Girl's Clubs and they are in favor of requiring licensing of facilities that charge \$50 or more a year for a child to attend the program. Thordahl is working on the literature to ensure that the \$50 encompasses any terminology that the \$50 may be considered when a parent or guardian is enrolling their child into a program. Thordahl will compose two letters of talking points and benefits of a licensed child care center; one for business and one for parents. It was suggested that King contact Representative Brian White to ensure that he is an advocate for the efforts of SCAECE's efforts. Dunkin suggested SCAECE use a

letter to help their efforts in keeping the four-year-old programs in the licensed child care facilities. Discussion followed. Watt requested talking points that should be covered when talking to Senate and House Representatives. Thordahl stated to tell one's story on the effects of losing your four-year-old programs, after having already lost five-year-old programs and after schoolers and that private provider cannot sustain on 0-3 year olds.

Annual Conference: Walton-McCawley reported the Conference registration and ABC scholarship letters have mailed. Vendors registered include, **ABC, Bibbs Enterprises, CCCCD & Kaplan.** FCI also confirmed they would be exhibiting at the conference. Currently there are **92** attendees registered. Weekly emails are being sent to vendors and attendees. It was noted that ABC will allow 10 hours of training to be carried forward from one year prior should a provider have excess hours from the year before. It was decided that the board will provide bottle water to be given out in the afternoon and the Medallion Center will be asked to set up a vendor station to sell soft drinks to attendees.

Reports from 5 Focus Areas:

- **Growing membership by 50%** - no report.
- **Marketing** – conducting first regional meeting, anyone attending will receive one hour of training.
- **Benefits of membership** – Pryor presented a member benefit brochure that she and Cichon had created. Walton-McCawley would like to review the brochure in detail before printing and distributing the brochure.
- **Legislative** – no report.
- **Create Regional Chapters** – Improve educational opportunities – no report.

Governor's Advisory Report: no report.

Management Report:

Newsletter - The Spring Newsletter is in the development process. It will highlight the outcome of the Conference. Please provide any content.

Fall Conference Report – The Fall Conference registration final attendance **19** attendees. Thank you to **FCI**, Ed Brashier for agreeing to be the Keynote Sponsor at \$1600. Thank you to **Kaplan Early Learning Company**, Pam Goude for sponsoring the lunch and **Interstate Transportation**, Todd Manuel, for sponsoring the break. Additional vendors were Bibb Enterprises, Lakeshore (cancelled with no refund) and Thirty-One Gifts. Net profit: **\$329.99**. Those registered were: Anne Pitts CDC, Archway Academy, Big Blue Marble Academy, Cambridge Childcare Development Center, LaPetite Academy and Small World of Easley. Those cancelled/not paid day prior to registration was Big Blue Marble Academy. (amount not collected \$525). Nix requests all conference must have a “no refund” policy included in all brochures in the future.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

After the board meeting was adjourned, Nix formally withdrew her resignation by email.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynsey Cichon & Courtney Waldrup