



OKLAHOMA PARTNERSHIP FOR SCHOOL READINESS

Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 19, 2015

Department of Libraries

1:00 PM

The agenda was posted at 421 Northwest 13th Street, Colcord Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on Friday, February 13, 2015 @ 8:15 a.m.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ann Cameron at 1:10 p.m. Ann welcomed new OPSR board member, Pam Kerr, and asked Pam to provide information about herself.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Marny Dunlap, OPSR Board Secretary.

Members Present

Debra Andersen, Ann Cameron, Edd Rhoades for Terry Cline, Andrea Hall for Joe Cordova, Phil Dessauer (1:15 p.m.), Marny Dunlap, Ed Long for Nico Gomez, Bob Harbison, Marcia Karns, Pam Kerr, Lesli Blazer for Ed Lake, Susan McVey, Ryan Posey (1:20 p.m.), Ray Potts (3:15 p.m.), Sarah Roberts, Dan Schiedel, Vaughn Clark for Deby Snodgrass, Jay Weatherford, Amy Chlouber for Terri White, Amy Tate for Stephan Wilson

Members Not Present

Victoria Bartlett, Somerlyn Cothran, Kathy Cronemiller, Bill Doenges, Kay Floyd (Robert Brandenburg, Designee), Joy Hofmeister, Glen Johnson (Kermit McMurry, Designee), Marcie Mack (Janet Karner, Designee), Lisa Smith (Treaa Lansdowne, Designee), Anthony Stafford, Annie Van Hanken

Staff Present

Sarah Ashmore, Debby Guthrie, Lori Lake, Stephanie Mendenhall, Cyd Roberts, Wendy Smelser, Megan Tyler

Approval of December 2014 Minutes

Ann Cameron requested that the Board review the December 11, 2014 minutes.

The following amendment to the minutes (in italics) was proposed:

- Under **Members Present**, Amy Tate proposed that the minutes reflect *Amy Tate for Stephan Wilson*.

A motion was made by Dan Schiedel to accept the December 11th minutes as amended. Susan McVey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with one abstention vote from Ed Long. Phil Dessauer, Ryan Posey and Ray Potts had not yet arrived at the meeting so was unable to vote or abstain.

Finance Report

Andrea Hall presented the OPSR FY15 Financial Status Report as of December 31, 2014. The YTD budget (July-Dec) for the organization was \$817,120 and YTD expenditures were \$696,368. For the prior year, the FY14 budget was \$1,780,480 and the FY14 expenditures were \$1,685,191. The financial report received as submitted.

OPSR Board Retreat

Ann Cameron on behalf of the Executive Committee proposed that the OPSR Board Retreat be held on Friday, March 27, 2015 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the American Red Cross building located at 601 NE 6th Street in Oklahoma City, OK.

A motion was made by Jay Weatherford to approve the OPSR Board Retreat date, time, and location. Bob Harbison seconded the motion. The motion passed by acclamation. Ryan Posey and Ray Potts had not yet arrived at the meeting so was unable to vote or abstain.

Proposed State Legislation and Budgets Relating to Early Childhood

- Ed Long, Edd Rhoades and Dan Scheidel provided a brief overview of their agency's budget summary, respectively. Budget summaries received by Smart Start Oklahoma will be provided to all OPSR Board Members and Designees electronically.
- Debra Andersen provided an update on legislation relating to the Family Support Accountability Act authored by Representative Echols (HB 2157). Debra provided insight that the State Early Childhood Advisory Council is actually the OPSR Board. She added that the OPSR role is not to collect data but to convene program role to pull group together to perform work collaboratively.
- Terry Smith, OICA, commended Debra Andersen on her work and echoed other concerns voiced by board members and designees relating to the potential for budgetary cuts that could affect children's services. He encouraged meeting participants to contact the new members in state legislature about early childhood services. Terry advised that OICA.org has created a page on their website to track legislation; the site is broken down by state agency, updated every day and will be tracked all the way through legislation.

EHS / CC Partnerships Presentation

The following presentations relating to recent awards were provided, as follows:

- ✓ Tulsa Educare, Inc. – Amy Anderson, Project Manager
- ✓ Choctaw Nation – BJ Robinson-Ellison
- ✓ Little Dixie Community Action Agency, Inc. – Rebecca Reynolds, Executive Director. She also introduced two staff, Kathy James (Program Design) and Dawn McDaniel (Implementation).
- ✓ Sunbeam Family Services, Inc. – Dan Craig
- ✓ Northeast Oklahoma Community Action Agency, Inc. – Jean Cooper, Executive Director

Lesli Blazer introduced herself to the presenters and collectively thanked and congratulated them for their partnerships. She then announced that DHS will waive the family share co-payments for families with a child attending one of these partnerships and will authorize the child to receive the full time weekly rate which helps the child care program with their subsidy reimbursement payment and helps with continuity of care. She advised that DHS has not been able to approve the 12 months authorization yet as that will require a system change, but that policy change will be in the works because it's required

by CCDBG reauthorization. Upon conclusion of Lesli's comments, various OPSR Board Members asked questions of the presenters.

Break

At 2:32 p.m. Ann Cameron announced a brief 10 minute break. The meeting reconvened at 2:47 p.m.

Smart Start Oklahoma Community Networks: Standards and Procedural Development

Debra Andersen and Ann Cameron brought to the Board a recommendation to revisit the MOU standards document as it relates to entering into and out of agreements with the Smart Start communities. Ann recommended that a MOU advisory group be formed and asked for volunteers. Per Ann, once the advisory workgroup reviewed and made revisions to the document, there would be legal consultation relating to the same. The matter would then be brought before the OPSR Board for their consideration. Marny Dunlap, Ed Long, and Andrea Hall all agreed to serve on the MOU Advisory Workgroup.

Child Care Development Block Grant Presentation

Lesli Blazer provided insights relating to the new child care development block grant. (The presentation PowerPoint prepared and utilized by Lesli can be provided upon request and is a part of the electronic record.) In closing, Lesli mentioned the CCDF Plan Preprint and indicated that she would like members of the OPSR Board to review the same and weigh in. (SSO staff later sent the CCDF Plan Preprint to the OPSR Board electronically on 02-20-15.)

Community Report

Megan Tyler provided information relating to projects funded by the Sarkeys Foundation grant. This grant is allowing us to pilot some parent engagement strategies in three of our communities using the ABLe principles and tools to gather feedback from families about concerns they have about early childhood services and supports in their communities. The three sites are located in Durant, Norman, and Stillwater. Each of these three communities is working with existing parent groups to gather feedback, as well as working toward forming parent coalitions. Additionally, the grant provides funding to offer stipends to parent leaders to assist with gathering feedback from other families, as well as generating interest from families in participating in a local parent coalition. Durant is preparing to have their first parent coalition meeting next month and Norman has had three parent meetings thus far. Megan advised that a community map and an ABLe handout will be provided to OPSR Board members and designees electronically.

Executive Director's Report

- Debra Andersen provided a brief Foundation Report.
- Debra indicated that the W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant has been submitted with March 1st being the tentative grant effective date. This grant will support two positions relating to a three year coordinated data and assessments systems in early childhood. Debra indicated that Smart Start Oklahoma (SSO) will be hiring in the near future and recommended that potential staff be directed to the SSO office.
- Video on the home page of the Smart Start website (www.smartstartok.org) was shown. Debra indicated that three year grant funding dollars was utilized to help produce the video. She relayed that when she showed this video at a recent OKCEO event, she received amazing compliments. OPSR Board Members and Designees also provided complimentary remarks regarding the video.
- Debra provided insights about the OKCEO initiative through the Potts Foundation. At the OKCEO event that Debra recently attended, Smart Start Oklahoma was recognized and received

an award from *The Journal Record*. Additionally, Stacy Dykstra with Smart Start Central received award and recognition from the Inasmuch Foundation. Debra further recognized Ryan Posey for his glowing recommendation to the CEO award recipient in the Chickasha area.

- Debra indicated that both the Ad Hoc Child Care and Ad Hoc Early Literacy committees are winding down and will provide information to the Board at a later date.
- Susan McVey indicated that the next Early Literacy Committee meeting will be held on March 10, 2015.
- Debra asked Ed Long to provide an update relating to the Policy and Workgroup Committee. Ed advised that there was no quorum at the last meeting; however, there was informal discussion relating to revisiting current structure.
- Debra provided additional information relating to the OPSR Board Retreat. She posed the following questions: (1) What are you hoping to get out of the OPSR Board meetings that you are not getting right now? (2) What do you want the Board to accomplish? Debra relayed that, following the interactive OPSR Board Retreat, the Board can then begin brainstorming about the proposed restructuring of current committees and workgroups.

Chairperson Comments

- Ann Cameron recognized Marny Dunlap as Marny recently spoke to Rotary Club 29 about brain development and *Raising a Reader*.
- Ann announced that in May, elections for OPSR Board Officers will be held for Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Ann encouraged board members to nominate or self-submit to her prior to the May board meeting.
- Ann provided brief insights about the New Board Member Orientation in early February and thanked those who participated.

Announcements

- Marny Dunlap announced that the *Green Eggs and Ham* fundraising breakfast will be held on March 2, 2015; there will be free activities all day for young children.
- Debra Andersen announced that Annette Jacobi with the Oklahoma State Health Department just received both the formula and competitive grant which is more good news for Oklahoma.

New Business

- No new business to report.

Adjournment

Ann Cameron adjourned the meeting at 3:35 PM.

Next Meeting:

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 1:00 PM at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Oklahoma City.