



Minutes

Board of Directors
Meeting
June 1st, 2015; 8:00
a.m. ELC Board Room

Board Attendees: Adrian Alfonso (chair); Charles Auslander (via conference call); Theresa Axford; Russell Benford; Tina Carroll-Scott (via conference call); Heather Carruthers; Robert Eadie (treasurer); Gilda Ferradaz (vice-chair); Philip Gassman; Helene Good; David Lawrence Jr.; Dr. Judy Schaechter; Alexander Soto; Alan Eckstein; Dr. Mara Zapata; Gladys Montes; Magaly Abrahante

Board Absentees: Rick Beasley; Shaleen Fagundo; Lucy Pineiro; Abilio Rodriguez; Gerald Schwartz

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres (President/CEO); Angelo Parrino; Lisa Sanabria; Jackye Russell; Fred Hicks; Fiorella Altare; Pamela Hollingsworth; Kerry Allen; Milton Silvera; Trish Sullivan; Lisney Badillo; Sandra Gonzalez

General Attendees: Santiago Echemendia, Shutts & Bowen LLP (via conference call); Michele Watson; Pam Lopez, The Learning Center; Christine Patterson, Inez Martin Child Development Center; Beth Barrett, Wesley House Family Services; Julia Ortega, Our Kids of Miami-Dade/Monroe

I. Welcome and Introductions

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- L. Sanabria called roll and a quorum was established with sixteen (14) voting members.
- A. Alfonso stated that if anyone has a conflict of interest on any item coming before the Board, to declare the conflict and see Lisa Sanabria for a form.
- A. Alfonso stated the following item was included in this month's Board packet:
 - ELC Board Attendance
- A. Alfonso stated that he was delighted to be able to hold the June board meeting in Monroe County and this year's board retreat. Miami-Dade and Monroe are two very different counties but together they have figured out a way to respect and acknowledge the differences and to make the partnership work. The Early Learning Coalition has maintained a strong presence in Monroe with service centers in Key Largo, Marathon, and the main office in Key West. The waiting list in Monroe has been kept at zero for close to two years as the result of the efficiencies. These same efficiencies have allowed the ELC to grant a reimbursement rate increase to child care providers.
- A. Alfonso stated that there is a very strong commitment on the board to always include Monroe County board members on key committees so that Monroe has a strong voice on all key decisions that come before the board. Bob Eadie is the Finance Committee chair with oversight of our entire \$184 million dollar budget. He is also a member of the executive committee and Theresa Axford, Alan Eckstein and Commissioner Carruthers are all very active members of the board. Their monthly visits to Miami to attend the board meetings are appreciated.
- A. Alfonso also acknowledge the community partners and funders that make it possible to do so many great



things for the children of the Florida Keys. They include the Ocean Reef Foundation, the Klaus Murphy Foundation, Commonweal Foundation, and so many others. And the amazing child care centers and family child care homes throughout the keys who are in the front lines working with children and their families to make sure they receive the early education other supports necessary to enter school ready to learn.

- A. Alfonso welcomed all the guest and gave a special welcome to Pam Lopez, Director of The Learning Center, who prepared a very special video of the children in her school just for today.
- A. Alfonso introduced Beth Barrett who serves as Executive Director of Wesley House Family Services. Among other things they provide full case management services for all children in foster care and protective services in Monroe. Beth is a community partners in Monroe who works very closely with the ELC to make sure that children who are at-risk of abuse or neglect are placed in high-quality programs.
- A. Alfonso introduced Christine Patterson who serves as the director of the Inez Martin Child Development Center. Inez Martin is part of Wesley House. The center is not only beautiful structurally, but also in terms of the quality of care children receive.
- A. Alfonso also introduced Julia Ortega representing Our Kids of Miami-Dade/Monroe. Our Kids is the lead agency for child welfare services and one of the ELC's strongest partners in both counties.
- A. Alfonso stated that the Strategic Planning Committee will meet directly following the board meeting and will begin this year's strategic planning discussion. Dr. Mara Zapata has served as chair of the strategic planning committee and along with other board members and the facilitator Michele Watson they have done lots of work leading up to today. They have met in person, held conference calls, focus groups and conducted board surveys. Today's discussions are:
 - Decide on the critical few strategic goals and objectives that will have the greatest impact on children, the community, and beyond.
 - Understand any underlying contradictions between the ELC mission, ELC reality, and public policy and how to overcome the challenges.
 - Decide where the ELC wants the organization to be in 3 – 5 years.
 - Decide on primary and secondary priorities and next steps.
- A. Alfonso stated that at the last board meeting board members heard a presentation from Ana Rodriguez who manages the coalition's Loss Prevention Department. A. Rodriguez announced that at the June board meeting the ELC board members would be asked to approve the Anti-Fraud Plan that is due to the Office of Early Learning no later than June 30, 2015. The plan is a requirement under Rule 6M-9.400. A. Alfonso asked for a motion to approve the Early Learning Coalition's anti-fraud plan.
 - A. Eckstein moved to approve the minutes.
 - J. Schaechter seconded the motion.
 - Motion was passed unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called for the approval of the meeting minutes from May 4th, 2015
 - A. Eckstein moved to approve the minutes.
 - R. Benford seconded the motion.
 - Motion was passed unanimously.



IV. Finance Committee Report

Robert Eadie

- R. Eadie reviewed the financial statements and stated it was business as usual.
- Resolution 05272015-01 presents the Evaluation Committee's scoring results for Request for Proposal RFP#ELCMDM2015-03 (Sub-recipient Financial Monitoring Services) to the Finance Committee for review and recommendation of vendor selection to the Board of Directors. This resolution also requests authorization and approval for the President and CEO to negotiate and execute a contract with the selected vendor. Recommendation is for BDO to become sub recipient financial monitoring service.
 - Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion seconded by T. Axford.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Resolution 05272015-02 presents the Evaluation Committee's scoring results for Request for Proposal RFP#ELCMDM2015-02 (External Auditing Services) to the Finance Committee for review and recommendation of vendor selection to the Board of Directors. This resolution also requests authorization and approval for the President and CEO to negotiate and execute a contract with the selected vendor. Recommendation is for Verdeja & De Armas to become external auditing service.
 - Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion seconded by G. Ferradaz.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Resolution 05272015-03 Authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract PSA14-124 with Scholastic, Inc.
 - Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion seconded by J. Schaechter.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Resolution 05272015-04 Authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract PSA14-126 with Teaching Strategies, LLC.
 - Motion to approve resolution by R. Benford.
 - Motion seconded by G. Ferradaz.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Resolution 05272015-05 to approve the Coalition's temporary decrease in School Readiness Award for fiscal year 2014-2015.
 - Motion to approve resolution by R. Benford.
 - Motion seconded by H. Carruthers.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Resolution 05272015-06 to approve the Coalition's Initial Annual Budget for fiscal year 2015-2016. The only difference shown is the monies from Early Head Start Program.
 - Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion seconded by J. Schaechter.



- Motion was unanimously passed.
- Resolution 05272015-07 authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to contract PSA14-129 with Shutts & Bowen LLP.
 - Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion seconded by R. Benford.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Motion to allow the Executive Committee to approve funds being restored from Resolution 05272015-05
 - Motion to approve by H. Carruthers.
 - Motion seconded by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

V. CEO Report

Evelio Torres

- The presentations are available at the following link:

http://www.elcmdm.org/about_us/Board/minutes/Board/CEO%20report/CEOR04062015.pdf

VI. Adjourn

Adrian Alfonso