



Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting
October 3rd, 2016; 8:00 a.m.
ELC Board Room

- Board Attendees:** Adrian Alfonso (chair); James Haj (via conference call); Theresa Axford; Rick Beasley; Russell Benford; Robert Eadie; David Lawrence Jr; Gilda Ferradaz; Alexander Soto; Alan Eckstein; Dr. Mara Zapata; Marisol Diaz; Gladys Montes; Loreen Chant; Tina Carroll-Scott; Shaleen Fagundo; Heather Carruthers (via conference call)
- Board Absentees:** Philip Gassman; Judy Schaechter; J. Abilio Rodriguez; Gerald Schwartz; Gladys Montes (excused)
- Staff Attendees:** Evelio Torres (President/CEO); Lisa Sanabria; Jackye Russell; Mercy Castiglione; Fiorella Altare; Dr. Anabel Espinosa; Kerry Allen; Michelle Meilan; Sandra Gonzalez; Lucretia Jones; Chemika Burkhalter; Wilfredo Ayala; Jason Johnson; Milton Silvera; Miguel Alfonso; Lydia Clarke; Victor Caballero; Angelo Parrino
- General Attendees:** Santiago Echemendia (Shutts & Bowen); Jonaily Mirande (Children's Paradise); Naydy Oalderin (Bumblebee Daycare); M. Pierre (Garden of Light Academy); Davis C. (Children's Paradise); Elizabeth Prada (Little Ones Academy); Darphine Snell (CCELC); Lowell Crawford (A&Safer); Isabel Perez (Just Kids Centers); Shelia Dudley (Room 2 Bloom); Silvia Arrastia (Silvia's School); Katerine Uribe (Katerine Urbie LFCCH); Daniela Foerch (FIU); Eliana Esis (The Kids Academy); Vittora DeCaria (Deavreux); Lui Gianni (Tiny Town); Hanan Ali (Hanan's Academic Dev. Ctr.); Alicia Fernandez (Just Kids Centers); Juanita Walker (Sheyes); Arleen Lant; Geno Roefaro (A&Safer); Trese Henderson (Building Tools Learning Center); Moraima Quintero (The Kids Academy Preschool); Sandra Palacio (Little Me Learning); Jaculine Sumads (Steps for Learning); Julienne Balham (Devereux); Sam Johnson (Fulford Academy); Rolquine Joseph (Mickey Mini); Malory Roger (A New World Academy); Deborah Veles (Tiny Town); Regla Mendez (Petite World); Rudy Mendez (Petite World)

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 seventeen (17) voting members.
- A. Alfonso began the meeting with a moment of silence for Angel who tragically lost his life after being left inside a van, a preventable tragedy that is seen all too often.
- A. Alfonso thanked all who attended the Circle of Friends Reception which was held on Friday September 23rd and honored board member Gerald K. Schwartz as the recipient of the 2016 Chairman's Award.
- A. Alfonso stated that the annual conference with more than 800 participants was held at Ronald Reagan High School on Saturday, September 24th. This year's theme was Early Education, Lifelong Success. A. Alfonso thanked all the board members who attended and everyone who worked so hard on the planning and execution of the conference. A. Alfonso also thanked the 100 volunteers and generous sponsors who made the conference possible. A. Alfonso stated that Deputy Mayor Benford addressed the participants and presented a proclamation, Mayor Luigi Boria from Doral also



presented a plaque to the ELC, and Mayor Oliver Gilbert of Miami Gardens spoke. A. Alfonso also thanked local anchor Maria Fernanda Lopez of Univision who serves as the media partner for the Talk, Read, Sing initiative and partners with the Early Learning Coalition on the Pequeños Y Valiosos campaign, for her participation.

- A. Alfonso stated that in the packet there is an article about the proposed special tax on tobacco and bar-served alcoholic beverages in Monroe County. Mayor Carruthers and other leaders have worked to educate the community about the need for a special funding source to support human services in the keys.
- A. Alfonso congratulated Lidia Clarke, Managing Director of the Early Learning Coalition's Professional Development Institute, on becoming Florida HIPPI's Advisory Committee Chair.
- A. Alfonso stated that the Early Learning Performance Funding Project is a voluntary statewide initiative sponsored by Representative Erik Fresen. After two successful years the project received funding for a third year now totaling over \$30 million. A. Alfonso thanked E. Torres, Dr. Brittany Birken, Executive Director of the Florida Children's Council and Senator Ellyn Bogdanoff working with Representative Fresen to get the legislature to fund the project. A. Alfonso stated that to be eligible, providers must have at least 30 percent of their birth-5 children receiving School Readiness subsidy, No class I and no more than two class II licensing violations within the last 2 years. The project gives eligible early care & education providers an opportunity to earn additional compensation for improving school readiness program outcomes. A. Alfonso introduced the providers who qualified for a bonus by demonstrating improvement in their teacher child interactions using a nationally normed tool called the Classroom Assessment Scoring System. A. Alfonso called the following providers to receive their bonus checks: Building Tools; Bumblebee, Burton Memorial; Childrens Paradise, Community Coop, Education 1st, Fulford Christian, Hanan's Academies, Just Kids, Katherine Uribe FDCH, Lambert Family, Little Me, Little Ones, Mickey Mini Miracles, Petite World, Silvia's School, Steps for Learning, The Kids Academy & Tiny Town.

II. Approval of Minutes

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called for the approval of the meeting minutes from September, 2016.
 - B. Eadie moved to approve the minutes.
 - A. Eckstein seconded the motion.
 - Motion was passed unanimously.

III. Nominating Committee Report

David Lawrence

- D. Lawrence stated that The Nominating Committee met on September 21st but did not have quorum so a recommendation for full board approval to approve Abilio Rodriguez's and Russell Benford to serve a second term.
 - Motion to approve second term by R. Beasley.
 - Motion seconded by B. Eadie.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- D. Lawrence stated that the Nominating Committee interviewed Matthew Bruno who would like to serve on our board. Recommendation for full board approval to approve M. Bruno to serve on the Early Learning Coalition's Board.
 - Motion to approve second term by D. Lawrence.
 - Motion seconded by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

IV. Finance Committee Report

Bob Eadie

- Resolution 10032016-01 authorizes the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an agreement with Miami Dade Family Learning Partnership. Fiscal Impact: A total amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 for the fiscal year 2016-2017, which is subject to the availability of funding. Funding Source: Miami Dade County Public Schools



- Motion to approve resolution by S. Fagundo.
 - Motion seconded by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
 - D. Lawrence recused himself.
- Resolution 10032016-02 is for approval of the Early Learning Coalition's First Amendment to the Annual Budget for the fiscal year 2016-2017. Fiscal Impact: Decreasing the Approved Initial Annual Budget to \$188,647,197.00 Funding Source: Multiple Funding Sources.
 - Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion seconded by R. Beasley.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
 - B. Eadie reviewed the finance statements and stated that it was in line with prior years.
 - E. Torres stated that the snapshots show an increase in number of children and dollars spent, the wait list continues to grow and 500 letters were sent to families to enroll.
 - E. Torres stated that Monroe County continues to have 0 children on the wait list.
 - E. Torres stated that EHS has 564 children on the wait list.
 - E. Torres stated that a report of the credit card charges made by the EHS program was included in there packet.

V. Monroe Advisory Council

Alan Eckstein

- A. Eckstein gave the following overview of the Monroe Advisory Committee:
 - Established in 2005 at the time of the merger of the two counties into one coalition.
 - Purpose is to address issues/concerns specific to the Monroe County child care provider community.
 - Membership includes ELC Monroe Board Members, ELC CEO, and community partners, including:
 - Representatives from the provider community, School District, After School, Providers, Special Needs, and DCF
 - As needed, the Committee makes recommendations to the ELC board, as a whole.
 - There may be a global policy that doesn't work well for Monroe County, where an exception might be appropriate. As an example, the Coalition policy is to support children from birth to five years of age. So when funding was refocused away from school age children and instead to clearing the wait list to serve more children, the committee advocated for continued services for the school age group because of a lack of available resources in the community. The Coalition maintained extended age limits for School Readiness services and continued to clear the wait list monthly.
 - Meetings held quarterly except over summer break.
 - Reports presented at the meetings include:
 - CEO report is given by E. Torres who joins personally. E. Torres's report may include a Monroe County enrollment snapshot, Monroe Service Center statistics, most recently how our strategic planning process is progressing, the Monroe HIPPI Program, and anything that may be relevant to what is currently happening in the Coalition.
 - Monroe ELC report is given by Mary Williams, the Managing Director for Monroe County. M. Williams report may include trainings available for Monroe providers, utilization of the Family Upload Utility Portal for wait list and redeterminations, grants received to benefit Monroe County children for health screenings, classroom mentoring, and support for the annual Early Childhood Conference, and other information that is helpful to the providers.
 - Provider Representative, who surveys all of the other providers, tells us if there are any problems the Monroe providers are experiencing or whether things are going smoothly. If there are problems, many times they can be resolved through help from the Coalition and sometimes through committee members. As an example, the providers were having difficulty going through the DCF fingerprint process. The Florida Keys is approximately 97 miles long from Key Largo to Key West. If you have only one location that can process fingerprinting, it creates problems regarding time and transportation. This problem was resolved



by DCF providing a staff person who travels to the Middle & Upper Keys to provide this service on a monthly basis, as needed.

- School District report which tells up how many enrollees we have in VPK and Head Start or how the School District is coordinating with the ELC HIPPIY Program.
- DCF report may inform the providers of changes in the law or upcoming requirements.
- Other community partners report as needed.

VI. Strategic Planning Committee Report

Mara Zapata

- M. Zapata stated that the Strategic Planning Committee had met twice in both meeting changes to the Strategic Plan was discussed.
- M. Zapata stated that the committee had decided to send a survey to parents, providers and board members.
- M. Zapata informed the board of the location and dates that the provider focus groups were be held:
 - Early Learning Coalition Offices in Coral Gables
Tuesday, October 11th, 2016
10:00 a.m.
 - Early Learning Coalition Offices in Key Largo
Wednesday, October 12th, 2016
10:00 a.m.
 - Department of Children and Families, Key West, FL
Wednesday, October 12th, 2016
6:00 p.m.
 - Arcola Lakes Branch Library
82407th Ave., Miami, FL
Thursday, October 13th, 2016
4:00 p.m.
- M. Zapata stated that a Parent Focus Group will be held on October 11th at 6:00pm in the Early Learning Coalition Offices in Coral Gables

VII. CEO Report

Evelio Torres

http://www.elcmdm.org/about_us/Board/minutes/Board/CEO%20report/CEOR10032016.pdf

VIII. Public Comments

Adrian Alfonso

IX. Adjourn

Adrian Alfonso