



Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting
October 7, 2019; 10:00 a.m.
Florida Keys Mosquito Control
503 107th Street Gulf
Marathon, FL 33050

Board Attendees: Adrian Alfonso; Matthew Bruno; Heather Carruthers; Marisol Diaz; Bob Eadie; James Haj; Gladys Montes; Abilio Rodriguez; Gerald Shwartz (via conference call); Aaron Slavens (via conference call); Iris Strachan (via conference call); Loreen Chant

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Board Absentees: Rick Beasley; Gilda Ferradaz; Maurice Kemp; Jenni Roig; Judy Schaechter; Alex Soto

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres; Miguel Alfonso; Anabel Espinosa; Lucy Shrek; Pam Hollingsworth; Jackye Russell; Belkis Torres; Vanessa Aguilera; Lisney Badillo; Ileana Vallejo; Angelo Parrino; Sandra Gonzalez; Mercy Castiglione; Laurie Dunn; Lisa Sanabria; Sandra Marrero; Adelina Gross

General Attendees: Bob de la Fuente (Board Counsel); SueEllen Bennet

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 twelve (12) voting members.
- A. Alfonso stated that the ELC annual meeting would be held today and the strategic planning retreat. It will start with regular board business and then ELC staff will provide a status report on the Strategic Plan. The staff presentations will be followed by a report and discussion by Strategic Planning Committee Chair Loreen Chant. At the last retreat it was decided to create a five year plan, today's discussion will focus on updates and minor edits of the plan.
- A. Alfonso stated that there would be a discussion later regarding recruitment of board members. There are a number of vacancies that need to be filled. A. Alfonso stated that he needed the board members to suggest someone to the nominating committee who can serve on the board. A. Alfonso asked Commissioner Carruthers to chair the Nominating Committee meeting. A. Alfonso stated that the composition of the board is prescribed in statute and board member recruitment is extremely important to keep a good balance.
- A. Alfonso thanked Marisol Diaz for accepting to serve on our board as the District superintendent of schools or designee representing Miami-Dade County.



- A. Alfonso stated that the slideshow being displayed was an event he attended on September 25, the PFP Tiered Payment event where The Children’s Trust awarded 105 providers with bonuses for having quality childcare. A. Alfonso thanked Jim Haj, his team, and the Trust board for their leadership and for helping to break barriers to high quality early care and education.
- A. Alfonso stated that due to a pending litigation against the ELC involving an incident involving a child who was left in a van and passed away, he was establishing a litigation committee consisting of the members of the Executive Committee, plus board members Aaron Slavens and Gerald Schwartz. B. de la Fuente stated the following:
 - The ELC has to name every party that will be attending the shade (not in the Sunshine – attorney/client privileged) meeting by name in the public notice. The requirements are:
 - The request for the shade meeting must be made at a public meeting first
 - The entity shall give reasonable public notice of the time and date of the attorney-client session and the names of persons who will be attending the session. The session shall commence at an open meeting at which the persons chairing the meeting shall announce the commencement and estimated length of the attorney-client session and the names of the persons attending. At the conclusion of the attorney-client session, the meeting shall be reopened, and the person chairing the meeting shall announce the termination of the session.
- A. Alfonso stated that according to the Appointment and Terms of Office section of our bylaws, except for the Chair, who is appointed for a four-year term, each Officer shall be appointed for a three-year term. No Officer may hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms. Whenever possible, terms of office shall coincide with the Coalition's Fiscal Year. Except as set forth in the third paragraph of this Article VI, the term of office for a given Member, as an officer shall not exceed the term of that Member's membership as provided herein. A. Alfonso stated that they do not have to reappoint any officers at this moment because their terms expire in 2021.

II. Approval of Minutes

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called for the approval of the meeting minutes from August 2019.
 - L. Chant moved to approve the minutes.
 - M. Diaz seconded the motion.
 - Motion was passed unanimously.

III. Finance Committee Report

Bob Eadie

- B. Eadie stated that Finance Committee meet on October 2, reviewed, and approved two resolution.
 - Resolution 10072019-01 - Authorize the President and CEO to submit a request for repurposing the funds from 2018-2019 that are still pending completion of activities in order to cover a 2018-2019 deficit.



- Resolution 10072019-02 - Authorize the President and CEO to request, receive and use a supplemental funding for the 2019-2020 budget of the Early Head Start Program.
 - B. Eadie moved to approve the resolutions in a block vote.
 - M. Bruno seconded the motion.
 - Motion unanimously passed.
- B. Eadie stated that a third resolution was added after the meeting took place:
 - Resolution 10072019-03 - Authorizes the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract PSA 19-13 with Teaching Strategies, LLC.
 - B. Eadie moved to approve the resolution.
 - H. Carruthers seconded the motion.
 - Motion unanimously passed.
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- B. Eadie stated that the EHS credit card report was included in the packet for board members to review.
- B. Eadie stated that he need a motion from the board to approve donation of furniture that will not be needed once we move.
 - B. Eadie moved to approve the rauthority of disposition.
 - H. Carruthers seconded the motion.
 - Motion unanimously passed.

IV. Governance & Bylaws Committee Report

Evelio Torres

- E. Torres stated that Governance and Bylaws Committee met on September 10 and discussed the following:
 - Ther bylaws indicate that there should be five board members from Monroe County, but there has always been just four members. As a result, the ELC had a finding on the last OEL monitoring report. At the last bylaws committee meeting a recommendation was made to reduce the number on the bylaws to the actual number of members we have had on the board, particularly because it has been quite difficult to find replacements. The proposed changes were sent to all board members as required by the bylaws prior to this meeting.
 - H. Carruthers requested that the number remain at five and offered to take an active role, as a member of the nominating committee, in filling the two private sector vacancies.
 - E. Torres stated that if there were no objections, the committee’s recommendation will be amended to leave the number at five and take a vote on the other proposed edit to the bylaws. Sections 8.3, 8.3.1, 8.3.6 and 8.35 which pertain to adding the subcommittee, Cybersecurity to our Finance Committee.
 - B. Eadie moved to approve changes made to the bylaws.
 - H. Carruthers seconded the motion.



- Motion unanimously passed.

V. VII. Board Member Recruitment

Heather Carruthers

- H. Carruthers stated that the ELC is having a difficult time recruiting board members from Monroe County. An ad was placed in the Keys Weekly and the Chambers have been contacted. Over 20 people have been approached and asked to join but most did not meet the requirements, which are:
 - An owner having at least 10% ownership interest in the business entity; or
 - The chief executive or operating officer of the business entity; or
 - A business executive or employee of the business entity who is at the management level or higher with optimum policymaking or hiring authority; or
 - An individual who previously met one of the above criteria but who is retired from the business entity

VI. Monroe County Advisory Committee Meeting Report

Heather Carruthers

- H. Carruthers stated that the Monroe Advisory Committee met on September 20th and the following items were discussed:
 - Theresa Axford was presented with a plaque by CEO Evelio Torres and Chair Heather Carruthers for her time on the board. She accepted to be the interim Superintendent of Monroe County Schools.
 - 474 approved VPK certificates were issued. There is no waitlist for School Readiness and applications are being accepted. We continue to send invitations to families to enroll their children.
 - During the last provider orientation they took the opportunity to speak to some of the providers who were participating in the VPK Initiative and some expressed their concerns about providing their information. They all had different reasons of why.
 - Currently there are nine private centers and seven school based that have signed on for the VPK initiatives, for a total of 30 classrooms. Class assessments started this week and should be completed by next week. The goal is to have every classroom screening done by October 31st.

VII. Provider Services Committee Report

Abilio Rodriguez

- A. Rodriguez stated that the Provider Service's Committee met on September 26 and reviewed the following cases:
 - Growing Up Day Care - on 07/16/2019, the provider's insurance company advised that they had not renewed their policy. Subsequently, the provider submitted a copy of a renewed Certificate of Insurance but the insurance provider verified that they had not had a policy with their company since 07/07/2018, indicating that the current policy as well as the previous policy submitted to ELC by the Provider were altered. After reviewing all documents and hearing, the providers' testimony the committee voted to terminate the provider's contracts and revoke eligibility for 5 years.



- St. Justin Martyr Pre-School – received a class 1 violation for a form of discipline used by staff that included the use of spanking or other form of physical punishment. The child’s arms were held while teacher instructed another child to hit the child. The teacher did not hit the child. After reviewing all documents and hearing the providers’ testimony, the committee, voted to place the provider on a one year Corrective Action Plan, if the provider receives any class 1 or 2 violation they void the right to appeal and will have eligibility revoked for 5 years.

VIII. Monroe County Providers: Challenges and Opportunities

- SueEllen Bennet and Keith LaFountain discussed the challenges Monroe County has faced after Hurricane Irma

IX. Strategic Planning Committee Report

https://www.elcmdm.org/Content/Uploads/elcmdm.org/files/Meeting%20Packages/BOD_Annual%20Meeting%20Packet%2010.07.19.pdf

X. Public Comments

Adrian Alfonso

XI. Adjourn

Adrian Alfonso