



# Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015; 8:00 a.m.  
ELC Board Room

**Board Attendees:** Adrian Alfonso (Chair); Gilda Ferradaz (Vice Chair); Robert Eadie (Treasurer); Marisel Elias Miranda (rep. for Magaly Abrahante, Ed.D); Russell Benford; Dr. Tina Carroll-Scott; Philip Gassman; Helene J. Good; David Lawrence, Jr.; Harve Mogul; Dr. J. Abilio Rodriguez; Gerald K. Schwartz, Esq.; Robert Eadie; Theresa Axford; Shaleen Fagundo; Dr. Mara Zapata; Lucy Pineiro; David Williams

**Absent Board Members:** Charles Auslander; Roderick E. Beasley; Commissioner Heather Carruthers

**Staff Attendees:** Evelio Torres (President/CEO); Angelo Parrino; Lisa Sanabria; Jackye Russell; Fred Hicks; Fiorella Altare; Ana Rodriguez; Pamela Hollingsworth; Kerry Allen; Yesenia Reyes; Milton Silvera; Diana Lane; Le Chau; Victor Caballero; Paloma Lopez-Barcena, Ileana Vallejo, Aileen Martinez; Keith Preciados; Isabel Alfanador; YasminWong-Peraza

**General Attendees:** Santiago Echemendia, Shutts & Bowen LLP; Michele Watson, Watson Policy Solutions; Gail Gregg, FIU; Pat Cucci, Scholastic; Silvia Palenzuela, MDCPS; Susan Miller, Citrus; Jackie Romillo, CHN

## 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 (16) 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 introduced this meeting's Board Member Spotlight: Commissioner Heather Carruthers.
  - G. Ferradaz
- A. Alfonso stated the following item was included in this month's Board packet:
  - ELC Board Attendance
- A. Alfonso stated that the Early Learning Coalition will be holding parent and provider focus groups to obtain the different perspectives about the current priorities and future direction. The meetings are scheduled for May 12th, 13th and 14th. Information from these meeting will be shared with the full board at the Strategic Planning Retreat, June 1st. A. Alfonso thanked Dr. Zapata for serving as chair of our strategic planning committee. Dr. Zapata has held two meeting and plans to hold a third following today's board meeting. All board members are invited to attend.
- A. Alfonso stated that since the Early Learning Coalition has a number of board members stepping off the board, he is making the following committee appointments:
  - Gilda Ferradaz: Board Vice Chair
  - Program, Policy & Provider Services Committee: waiting to hear from Dr. Scott and Dr. Schaechter (chair), Gladys Montes (member)
  - Alan Eckstein: Governance & Bylaws (member) and Nominating Committee (member)



- Finance Committee: Bob Eadie (Chair) Alex Soto (member)
- Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning Committee: Mara Zapata: (chair), and members Rick Beasley , Gilda Ferradaz, Theresa Axford, Dr. Judy Schaechter, Charles Auslander, Helene Good, Shaleen Fagundo, Dr. Abilio Rodriguez, Gladys Montes, Alex Soto, Magaly Abrahante and anyone else who wishes to participate. Meeting notices will be sent to all board members. Michele Watson who you may remember from the work she has done on tiered reimbursement and provider payment rates will serve as this year's facilitator.
- Legislative Committee: Alexander Soto (chair)

- Motion to approve by A. Eckstein
- Motion seconded by H. Good.
- Motion was unanimously passed.

## II. Approval of Minutes

**Adrian Alfonso**

- A. Alfonso called for the approval of the meeting minutes from May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
  - M. Zapata moved to approve the minutes.
  - A. Eckstein seconded the motion.
  - Motion was passed unanimously.
- A. Alfonso stated that the Early Learning Coalition learned last week that Scholastics will partner with the Early Learning Coalition to sponsor a community service project as part of their annual symposium. They will work with Scholastics to select a provider, based on their criteria, who will be the beneficiary of a complete center makeover. Patrick Cucci from Scholastics was present and said a few words about the project

## III. Programs, Policy & Provider Services Committee Report

**The Hon. Cindy Lederman**

- Bumblebee Day Care and Learning Center – 3 class 2 Violations, problems have been remedied.

The committee is recommending a 6 month probationary period

- Motion to approve by M. Zapata
- Motion seconded by R. Eadie
- Motion was unanimously passed.

- Decoro Large Family Child Care Home – 1 class 1 violation, problems have been remedied

The committee is recommending a 6 month probationary period

- Motion to approve by M. Zapata.
- Motion seconded by A. Rodriguez
- Motion was unanimously passed.
- L. Pineiro recused herself.

- Olympia Heights Methodist Preschool – 3 class 2 violations, problems have been remedied

The committee is recommending a 6 month suspension.

- Motion to approve by M. Zapata.
- Motion seconded by A. Rodriguez
- Motion was unanimously passed.



- Vankara: A learning Exchange – 2 class 2 violation, Vankara was on probation for 12 months. During this probationary period they were not to receive any class 1 or 2 violations.

The committee is recommending termination of contract and they are not to reapply for 12 months.

- Motion to approve by M. Zapata.
- Motion seconded by A. Rodriguez
- Motion was unanimously passed.
- L. Pineiro recused herself.

#### **IV. Finance Committee Report**

**Robert Eadie**

- R. Eadie reviewed the financial statements and stated it was business as usual.
- Resolution 04292015-01 Authorize the President and CEO to receive and execute the grant agreement with the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for the Monroe Early Childhood Conference.

Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein.  
Motion seconded by A. Rodriguez.  
Motion was unanimously passed.

- Resolution 04292015-02 Authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute the renewal of the following contracts listed within the background section of this resolution.

Motion to approve resolution by G. Schwartz.  
Motion seconded by T. Axford.  
Motion was unanimously passed.

- Resolution 04292015-03 Authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute the following contracts listed within the background section of this resolution.

Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein.  
Motion seconded by S. Fagundo.  
Motion was unanimously passed.  
H. Good recused herself

- Resolution 04292015-04 Authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract PSA14-106 with Goldstein, Schechter, Koch, P.A.

Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein.  
Motion seconded by H. Good.  
Motion was unanimously passed.

- Resolution 04292015-05 Authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract PSA14-106 with WELS System Foundation, LLC.

Motion to approve resolution by S. Fagundo.  
Motion seconded by A. Eckstein.  
Motion was unanimously passed.



- Resolution 04292015-06 Authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract PSA14-117 with University of Florida Board of Trustees.

Motion to approve resolution by H. Good.

Motion seconded by A. Eckstein.

Motion was unanimously passed.

- R. Eadie stated that the slot utilization shows Miami Dade County wait list at "0". The Early Learning Coalition will try maintain a "0" wait list by sending out packets to people as soon as they apply. The ELC will maintain a "0" wait list till end of this fiscal year. Monroe has maintained a 0 wait list for over a year.

#### **V. CEO Report**

**Evelio Torres**

- The presentations are available at the following link:

[http://www.elcmdm.org/about\\_us/Board/minutes/Board/CEO%20report/CEOR05042015.pdf](http://www.elcmdm.org/about_us/Board/minutes/Board/CEO%20report/CEOR05042015.pdf)

<http://youtu.be/uKLPmpMcfPU>

#### **VI. Adjourn**

**Adrian Alfonso**