

South Carolina Association of Early Care and Education
Board Meeting
Friday, January 13, 2017
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Haynesworth Sinkler and Boyd
22nd Floor Conference Room 4

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Association of Early Care and Education was held on Friday, January 13, 2017. Those members present were: Cindy Walton-McCawley and Margaret Anne Gaffney. Participating via conference call were: Amber Bishop, Ed Brashier, Mara Dunkin, Marsha Davis, Tami Nix and Tricia Sheldon. Present from the staff were Courtney Waldrup and Melanie DuBois.

Call to Order: Vice President Mara Dunkin called the meeting to order and stated a quorum was established.

Legislative Report: Tricia Sheldon discussed the Administrative Law Review Hearing. There are very specific objections from faith-based schools. Once the ruling is made, the plan is to revisit a few points as a board and vote. Sheldon asked the board if they read what was sent to them and asked if there was a need to revisit anything. Margaret Anne Gaffney brought up training hours and Sheldon responded. She also asked everyone to review the documents and offer feedback.

Jeff Thordahl stated that the regulations have a very different process than normal and it may get accomplished this year. Sheldon said that there have been really positive changes. The issue this the increase from fifteen hours to twenty hours of training for everyone in the center. Thordahl asked board members to send changes to Sheldon. Thordahl stated that there will be vacancies on the advisory board, during this time, we will try to get representation.

Thordahl stated that Tuesday was the beginning of the first week of the legislative session. There is a hearing this week about First Steps, which was authorized for a year and is now up for re-authorization. Regarding the licensing bill, Billy talked to representatives this week and expects a draft this week. This is the best shot SCAECE has ever had.

Approval Minutes of November 2016 Meeting: There was a motion to accept the November 2016 board meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed with no opposition.

Financial Report: Gaffney reviewed financials, starting with the assets of the association. Gaffney stated the November 2016 Balance Sheet reports the month end Checking Account balance of \$1,828.79. The Current bank account balance as of January 5, 2017 is \$2,059.87. There is a running deficit of about \$10,500.00 in the current month. This deficit does not include LaPetite's dues of \$3,500 or upcoming conference revenue and expenses.

Courtney Waldrup suggested that the board discuss the deficit. Tami Nix stated that there has not been a discussion about the budget. The conference projections were referenced and Nix stated she will send in the paid registrations from her center, Archway Academy, this week. Waldrup stated that Adlerian provided \$500.00 for door prizes. Cindy Walton-McCawley recommended that management reach out to ABC scholarship centers that have not registered. Gaffney will have a couple of paid registrations. Amber Bishop will have five or six paid registrations. The board began discussing the financial projections and asked management for a projection for the fiscal year.

Walton-McCawley asked the board for ideas about how to handle the deficit. Someone on the phone suggested that SCAECE might want to contact another group about a potential merger. Also, once the conference is over SCAECE will no longer be in debt. There was a request of management to reach out to ABC for a scholarship list and then for management to call the remaining centers that have not registered. Ed Brashier will do a phone blast if he is provided with the appropriate text. Brashier will donate this. Management will look back in notes from last year and send any text available. Nix asked management to send her the e-mail addresses and she will do an e-blast every day. Nix will provide a \$2,000.00 contribution to the lobbyist fund.

Nix asked that the board table the financial discussion until after the conference. The motion carried, with one member, Walton-McCawley, in opposition.

Conference Update: Melanie DuBois reviewed the paid vendors, thus far, for the Conference. Board members will provide two cases of bottled water for the conference. Bottled water will be shipped ahead of time to management or dropped off at The Medallion Center. Walton-McCawley will pre-assign room proctors. Regarding A/V for the conference, there is a \$900.00 budget. Walton-McCawley and others agreed that the Board would like proposals from other vendors. Regarding volunteers, Walton-McCawley will provide 3 people for the Registration Desk. Bishop also will provide assistance with the Registration Desk. Management will limit paid staff for this conference. There was a discussion about logistics and materials, for example the teal folders for attendees.

Newsletter: Waldrup stated that the newsletter will highlight the February conference and called for content.

USC Game Day: DuBois will resend e-mail to Nix and Nix will handle communication with DSS.

Market Rate Survey: McCawley has been in communication with Cathy Kovaks and will keep the board informed of this information.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melanie DuBois & Courtney Waldrup