



NMCAA Policy Council Meeting
October 11, 2018

Minutes by Tiffany Duperon

Present:

Crystal Abramczyk, Felicia Cannedy, Samantha Denning, Tiffany Duperon, Ashley Gaudinier, Jill Gines, Larry Hess, Larissa Hoolihan, Brandy Keeney, Rebecka Kenwabikise, Rebecca Leitelt, Jamie Nelson, Lynn Palcowski, Bethany Parent, Tonya Schroka, Dawn Sherwood, Dena Vanderwall

Absent:

Stephanie Hindelang, Melanie Hurst, Jennifer King, Brittney Kler, Lisa LeDuc, Amy McCoy, Mary Mellberg, Ashley Morey, Shana North, Lisa Sargent, Jennifer Smith, Donna Wiklanski

Meeting called to order by, Policy Council Chair, Tonya Schroka at 10:10 am.

Tonya asked for a motion to approve sign in sheet for roll call, motion made by Dawn to approve the sign-in sheet as roll call, supported by Brandy, motion carried.

Tonya asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the September meeting, motion made by Dawn to approve September's meeting minutes, supported by Brandy, motion carried.

Tonya spoke about the power of "I am" statements: I am strong, I am smart, I am funny, and I am loveable just the way I am.

Agency and Board updates, Kerry Baughman, Executive Director.

- ◆ Kerry described the make-up and structure of the NMCAA Board of Directors and spoke of the consumer vacancy in Antrim Co.
- ◆ Tonya opened the floor for recommendations to fill the vacant Antrim County consumer sector seat on the NMCAA Board of Directors.
- ◆ Jill Gines nominated Crystal Abramczyk for the vacancy, no other nominations were made.
- ◆ Brandy Keeney motioned that the Policy Council recommend Crystal to fill the vacancy, supported by Dawn Sherwood, the motion carried.

Inclusion Activity- Tonya

- ◆ Tonya introduced the game, "Would You Rather" and challenged the parents to engage their children with the game at home.

Administrative report, Shannon Phelps, Early Childhood Development Director and Mini Management team:

- ◆ Shannon thanked everyone for being such a committed Policy Council.

- ◆ Shared with the members that the Continuation Grant had been submitted to The Office of Head Start.
- ◆ Reminded the group that the Fiscal Area 2 Review is taking place the 15th of October.
- ◆ October is Head Start Awareness month, asked the group to think of ways they could share their Head Start experience or information about the program with others in their network. (friends, family, community connections).

MHSA Fall Assembly report, Larry Hess:

- ◆ Shared information about screen time and the importance of parents being role models for their children when it comes to devices, tv programs, etc.
- ◆ Tonya shared about the benefits of laughter and reminded the group of the importance of making time to laugh with their children. Laughter contributes to positive feelings and has a variety of health benefits including stimulating the immune system, lowering blood pressure, pain relief and lowering cholesterol levels and more.

Jill Gines proposed that an amendment to the by-laws to be considered in order to boost Policy Council attendance.

- ◆ The proposed amendment would involve the requirement that a Policy Council member must RSVP or risk losing their stipend if their alternate attends instead.
- ◆ This proposal was tabled due to the need for further thought and discussion.

Adjourned for lunch at 11:40

Reconvened at 12:20

Program information report review: small groups and Mini Management

- ◆ Information from the most recent PIR was reviewed with the Policy Council members.

Focus Area 2 Input gathering Activity:

- ◆ Members were asked to share their thoughts on how Policy Council works to influence and shape the Early Childhood Program

Parent meeting sharing- the group shared what went well at their first parent meeting.

Parents shared upcoming events in their community.

Personnel Issues: a motion made by Dawn to approve the new hires, supported by Larissa, motion carried.

Raffle # 28 Boyne Classroom.

A motion made by Larry to adjourn the meeting, supported by Tiffany, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05