



DRAFT
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2007 at 4:30 p.m.
15506 County Line Road, Suite 104
Spring Hill, FL 34610

Committee Members Present: Elizabeth Callaghan, Jean Rags

Committee Members Excused: John Druzbeck, Dave Meglay

Staff Present: Jo-Ann Kay Fuller, Debbie Antioco

Others Present: Susan McPhee, Maureen Gilbertson, Theresa Miara, Colleen Wolfe, Beverly Petrini, Gerry Hudson, Maude Ford, Judy Head

Jean Rags called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. All members introduced themselves. The Committee reviewed the draft minutes from the March 19, 2007 committee meeting. All members reached a consensus that no revisions and/or additions were necessary.

Jean presented informative articles to the committee regarding Florida's Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program.

Several Pasco County providers were in attendance and had several questions regarding the approval of the provider infant/toddler rate increase. Jean Rags explained that the Coalition has sent an amendment to the Agency for Workforce Innovation/Office of Early Learning requesting this rate increase approval. Jean stated that the Coalition is still awaiting the approval or disapproval from the Agency for Workforce Innovation / Office of Early Learning. Jean further explained that one of AWI/OEL's concerns is how one service area can receive an increase when the other still has children on the waitlist. Sue McPhee, Early Learning Coalition Analyst, explained that a Plan Amendment was submitted to the Office of Early Learning, and it is currently being reviewed. Discussion ensued regarding the School Readiness rate and attrition.

Jean mentioned to the providers that it is highly recommended they follow the legislative session since Pre-Kindergarten services is a very important level of concern. In addition, Jean suggested that providers contact their local representatives and inform them of their concerns regarding issues dealing with provider rates. Jo-Ann Kay Fuller stated that each representative's contact information was distributed during the last provider meeting. Providers in attendance voiced their opinions regarding the rate increase and how, at times, they feel their efforts as providers are not recognized.

Providers mentioned that they would like Coalition meetings to be moved to an evening schedule. They would like to attend these meetings and get a better understanding of the Coalition. The Finance Committee will be making this recommendation to the Board.

Due to the fact that Jean Rags needed to attend a prior commitment, the Committee quickly discussed the surplus dollars allocation. Jean Rags suggested that she will present the surplus to the Board at the next Board Meeting. She requested that appropriate documentation be provided.

Without any further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Maryrose Wersan
Administrative Assistant