

Boston Community Partnerships for Children

BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS Lead Agent

Governing Council Meeting Minutes
South End Head Start – 112 Shawmut Avenue, Boston

Thursday, October 13, 2011
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Members Present: Anna Adler, Pamela Brooks, Flossy Calderon, Anne Corbin, Carolyn Davis, Bernadette Davidson, Mary Dooley, Rosa Inniss, Cheryl Itri, John Kelly, Matt LiPuma, Yajaira Moore, Anne Mosley and Linda Nelson

Non-Members Present: Cherie Craft, Paul Creighton, Danielle Gantt, Brenda Powers and Lillie Searcy

Meeting Commenced at 6:02 p.m.

Approval of the September 20th, 2011 Meeting Minutes

- Motion made by Matt LiPuma and seconded by John Kelly to approve the meeting minutes, motion accepted, *meeting minutes approved*.

Smart from the Start – Cherie Craft

Provide families and communities with supports necessary to empower parents to give children all that they need for school readiness and success.

- currently in 7 neighborhoods working in Boston's housing developments and Boston Children for Youth and Families' community centers
 - Jamaica Plain
 - South End – Mandela and Lenox Street
 - Roxbury – Alice Taylor homes near Ruggles
 - Charlestown – Newtown: Community Center, and in housing development
 - Mattapan – Mildred Ave, Gallivan Housing Development
 - Dorchester - Franklin Field
 - Roslindale – Archdale Housing Development
- Serving families prenatal to 5 – the entire family (crisis intervention, family stabilization, GED/ESOL, the Nurturing Program, etc.)
- Services targeted to families in the lowest 10% income bracket
- grassroots outreach – door knocking, visiting laundromats
- build relationships based on strengths
- Parent leadership program – help families learn to advocate for children and themselves, eventually other families.
- work not to duplicate, but work in concert with other agencies
- Offering services – we don't figure out what to provide, the communities tell what they need.
- Recruit and retain families – go where families are when they are available.
- take referrals from other communities
- Open to having a representation from the council on the Smart from the Start advisory to better connect services and resources for families.
- Talk with Cherie about a staff person that may be available to sit on the Council

Final

Thrive in 5 Updates – Mary Dooley

- CPC has been through many iterations and changes over the years
- Community Partnerships will no longer serve as the Ready Educator implementation partnership. The Region 6 Educator and Provider Support Collaborative managed by ABCD will now serve in that capacity. Thrive in 5 will be creating a sub-cabinet to address Boston-based issues where our Quality Committee members will be able to sit.
- There is no longer a Ready Educator Manager.
- Many changes are taking place at the Thrive in 5 agency level. They are still seeking an Executive Director
- Need to determine the strategy for filling the gap for true provider support. The Educator and Provider Support grant is strictly about professional development.

Neighborhood Agent FY12 Re-bid process

- Reviewed key questions that the Executive Committee came up with. These questions will be forwarded to the design team for consideration as they draft the RFP.
- The Governing Council has come up with the following recommendations in response to the questions that should be taken into account:
 1. Should there be one application accepted per community or should multiple applications be allowed?
 - Recommendation: allow for multiple application
 - Recommendation: possibly offer additional points for agencies that display collaborative applications.
 2. Neighborhood geography: Should boundaries be changed (i.e. break apart some communities or merge together other communities)?
 - Recommendation: Two months may not be adequate time to review this issue, but it is worth some consideration on the part of the design team because much has changed with neighbor
 3. Realistically, what can be expected from cluster given the small amount of financial resources being offered?
 - Recommendation: the design team should look more closely at the grant requirements and determine what clusters should be accountable for. Use other subcontractors to fill grant gaps.
 - Recommendation: design questions so that neighborhoods complete the proposal according to their community's needs. Let communities respond to how they will use this funding to develop strategies that they will use to fill gaps in their community.
 4. RFP criteria
 - Applicant must be a community convener – define the necessary skill set to accomplish this task.
 - Expectations for subcontractors must be clear.

Bessie Tartt Wilson Initiative and Loan Forgiveness

- seeking to do presentations about opportunities for working off loans

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Final