



CHILDREN . . . THE HEART OF THE MATTER

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Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children, Inc.

An affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children

NeAEC Board Meeting Minutes April 21, 2011 – 1:00 – 2:30

Orientation: Dawn Mollenkopf and Linda Zinke coordinated orientation for three new board members, Crystal Kozak, Michelle Rupiper, and Shelley Kahrs prior to the meeting. Linda Maslowski and Kathy Zadina also joined the orientation.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Dawn Mollenkopf, President. A quorum was established.

Attendance:

- Members present: Karen Decker, Shelly Kahrs, Sarah Ann Kotchian, Crystal Kozak, Linda Maslowski, Dawn Mollenkopf, Michelle Rupiper, Linda Sullivan, Sue Ellen Wall, Kathy Zadina.
 - Kim Madsen participated by Webinar.
- Members absent: Gina Battey, Pat Enevoldsen, Jen Haggart, Deb Ross, Jose Zapata
- Staff present: Linda Zinke, Executive Director; Jennifer Harris, Accountant; Gina DeFreece, Special Projects Coordinator; Pat Hoffschneider, Office Manager

Welcome to New Members: Dawn welcomed the New Board Members. Everyone introduced themselves.

Addition to the Agenda: An item was added to the agenda – approval of the nominations committee's recommendation for President Elect (new business).

Secretary's Report: Sue Ellen moved the secretary's report be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded and carried.

Financial Reports:

- **Financial Information Summary:**
 - Linda reported that will be having a single audit for 2011-2012
 - She provided a review of funding sources, including proposals that have been submitted
 - NeAEC also submitted applications to participate in the Combined Federal Campaign.
 - T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood NEBRASKA will be re-competed this summer. NeAEC holds the T.E.A.C.H. license, but to continue to receive funds from the Child Care Block Grant, NeAEC will need to complete a competitive proposal.
- **Statement of Financial Position, October 1-March 31 actual expenditures and budget narrative: Report by Jen Harris, Accountant.**
 - We have considerable amount of cash due to ARRA funds. We moved some funds to Pinnacle Bank due to FDIC Insurance.
 - Jen reviewed each of the categories with any differences.
 - NBHLB Hearing Projects – basically a reimbursement project. Project received some donations. This project is not really managed by us – more of a pass-through project.
 - A report was provided for each of the Chapters
- **Finance Committee held two conference calls:**
 - February 9, 2011: This conference call was about a mix-up with the retirement plan for part-time employees. All members of the finance committee were involved with the conference call. A plan was developed with the help of the auditor and our new retirement plan provider. All finance committee members voted to approve the plan.

- March 14, 2011: This finance committee conference call was regarding the audit and the final 990. There were many new rules and regulations this year, but the audit is complete and the 990 has been submitted. The finance committee unanimously voted to approve the audit and 990.
- Michelle Rupiper made a motion to approve the financial recommendation from the finance committee. The motion was seconded and carried.

Program Reports:

- **Membership report:** Membership information for March, 2011 was posted with the board information. The NeAEYC summer membership campaign generated only 7 new members

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Public Policy Report:** Presented by the Public Policy Chair, Sarah Ann Kotchian. Highlights included forward movement of LB204 regarding state-wide lead testing for young children prior to kindergarten, and progress on LB 464, regarding provided subsidy reimbursement. While this bill will still be difficult for providers, it is better than it started out. Senators Nordquist, Mellow, and Conrad provided support. LB 84 is moving a LARGE amount of money from sales tax to roads. Email Sarah Ann if you have any questions regarding the bills.
- **Report on Public Policy Forum:** Sarah Ann and Tracy Gordon, Special Projects Coordinator attended the public policy forum in Washington DC in March/April.
 - They also attended the Quality Ratings Information Scale meeting. Sarah thought there were good conversations about the project. We don't have this in Nebraska, though we did have a pilot project for two years.
 - Public Policy Update: They visited all of the Nebraska legislators. Senator Nelson provided support for a bill helping early childhood. They provided framed children's art for each legislator.
 - Sarah Ann expressed appreciation for the opportunity to attend. It is expensive, and NAEYC holds three large group events every year. Many years there is not enough money to attend all of them.

Midwest AEYC & NAEYC Representative Update: Dawn Mollenkopf, Representative Midwest AEYC has an annual conference. Dawn and Linda reviewed the agenda and evaluated the available budget, and decided not to participate this year. Many of the states participating in Midwest AEYC are small states without staff, and have different needs than do states with staff and projects.

Old Business:

- **Board Structure Chart:** We have three new board members. Crystal Kozak was selected by Lincoln AEYC. Shelley Kahrs and Michelle Rupiper were elected via Survey Monkey vote. All members are participating on a committee.
- **Report on Legislative Breakfast:** This was held on an icy, snowy day. 17 state senators came, several staff members, and two board members that had come to Lincoln the day before. All new senators received framed children's art.

New Business/Discussion Topics:

- **Nomination Committee Recommendation:** The Nomination Committee has unanimously voted to recommend Michelle Rupiper for the position of President Elect. This position will serve as President Elect during 2011, President during 2012 and 2013 (and possibly 2014, and Past President during 2015. Karen Decker moved the recommended be accepted. The motion was seconded and approved.
- **Distinguished Service to Children Award:** We had a discussion about this award. It was recommended we recognize the three Regional Training Project Coordinators that will no longer have those positions. They are Pat Schmidt (Lincoln), Paula Southworth (Hastings), and Connie Schweitzer (Loup City). (Linda will be sure these are the correct three coordinators).

- **Technology update:** A brief update was provided. The newsletter is now being electronically distributed every other month, we have a Facebook page where early childhood stakeholders can become our “friend”. We are also using Survey Monkey for voting and surveys. We had a brief discussion about additional ideas to use Survey Monkey. We have been gathering emails for members, T.E.A.C.H. students, and Accredited Centers. We hope to publish the results of the surveys in the newsletter.
- **Agenda for Retreat:** We discussed the tentative agenda. Two of the board members will be providing opening information. Several board members will be leading teams.

Local Affiliate Reports:

- Omaha AEYC: Written report submitted by Jen Haggart
- Kearney Chapter: Karen Decker provided a report on Kearney’s WOYC activities, and showed us the new banner.
- Southeast Student Group: Crystal Kozak provided a on the Southeast Student chapter
- Columbus Chapter: Kathy Zadina provided a report on their WOYC activities

Adjourn:

Seeing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm by President Dawn Mollenkopf.

Next meetings:

- June 9th , following the annual retreat at Mahoney State Park
- September 15th , 1:30 – 3:00 – Mill Towne Building, Lincoln

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Hoffschneider, Office Manager (in the absence of the secretary).



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