

CLINTON/JACKSON EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 22, 2021

This meeting was held via Zoom due to the Covid-19 restrictions on gatherings.

Board Members Present

via role call:

Bobbi Bartels-Poll
Carlene Erikson
Linda Hledik
Jack Willey
Jessica Ihns
Jim Irwin
Peggy Sellnau
Sarah Hogan

Board Members Absent:

Rebecca Barnes
Gabe Gluba
David Hinds

Staff Present:

Gwen Deming

Guests:

Jill Bertelsen
Lori Mueller

C/J ECI Board Meeting Called to Order/Roll Call: Jack Willey called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Gwen Deming conducted roll call: Members present listed.

January 25, 2021 Minutes: Gwen Deming presented the minutes from the 1/25/21 C/J ECI Board Meeting. Jim Irwin made a Motion to approve the Minutes as presented; Peggy Sellnau seconded the Motion; all Ayes, Motion carried.

Bertelsen Education / CCR&R Training: Jill Bertelsen from Bertelsen Education and Lori Mueller from Child Care Resource & Referral each gave an overview of their training opportunities for child care providers in Clinton & Jackson Counties. The board made comments and asked questions about current services, including costs for training.

Director's Expenditure Report: Gwen Deming presented the Director's Expenditure Report for review, and noted there were 37 preschool scholarships funded in January, which brings the total cost to date at \$18,650. She also stated Easton Valley reached out for information about scholarships and was sent the mini-grant application. Jim Irwin made a Motion to approve the expenditure report as presented; Jessica Ihns seconded the Motion; all Ayes, Motion carried.

FY2021 Site Visits: The schedule for site visits (March 1, 2021 - March 4, 2021) was shared with the board members. Gwen stated she would send out the site visit reports, along with the Zoom meeting information for each visit. Board members were asked to read through the reports and email any questions before the site visit. Board members were also invited to attend one or more of the site visits. Bright Beginnings requested a few C/J ECI Board Members to attend their credentialing meeting on 3/2/21 @ 9:00 a.m. Two board members, Sarah Hogan and Jim Irwin, agreed to attend.

FY22 Contract Renewals: The C/J ECI Board discussed contract renewals vs. RFPs for FY2022. Since the board is going through the Community Plan this year, it was decided to release contract renewals for all programs except Head Start. The Hawkeye Area Community Action Agency (HACAP) has taken over Head Start in Jackson County. Currently, C/J ECI does not fund Jackson County Head Start but would like to allow them to apply. Jessica Ihns made a Motion to release renewals for all current contracts except Head Start, and to release a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Early Head Start and Head Start Expanded Day in Clinton & Jackson Counties; Peggy Sellnau seconded the Motion; all Ayes, Motion carried. Gwen shared the draft timeline of renewal/RFP process:

by 3/15 - Renewals/RFPs Released

by 4/15 - Renewals/RFPs Due

by 4/26 - Renewals/RFPs Scored

by 5/24 - FY22 Budget

by 6/10 - FY22 Contracts Out for Signatures

Community Plan: To date, 41 parents and 24 providers have completed the surveys that were shared. These surveys will be available through March 31, 2021. Both electronic and paper copies have been sent to providers for parents/caregivers to complete. The 0-5 in 60 Minutes meetings have been facilitated since December to allow for communication among 0-5 providers, as well as gain direction and ideas from providers.

2nd Quarter Reports: The 2nd quarter reports were emailed to board members for review. No comments or questions at this time.

No Hit Zones: Gwen shared information about the No Hit Zones project that is happening around the country. She stated she reached out to partners to see if there was any interest, but no one responded at this time. To learn more, please visit <https://nohitzone.com>.

New Business/Other: An e-vote was sent to approve a budget amendment from Nurse-Family Partnerships. The request was to move \$900 from mileage to parent incentives in their budget. All C/J ECI members voted to approve this request, please see attached sheet.

Adjourn/ Next Meeting Date: The next C/J ECI Board Meeting will be held on March 22, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom

*Respectfully submitted by Gwen Deming, C/J ECI Director
Any person needing special assistance or with special accessibility needs should contact
Gwen Deming at GDeming@ClintonCounty-IA.gov or (563) 659-3651.*

Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.