

Kids' Corps, Inc.  
Policy Council Meeting Minutes  
March 3, 2020

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Members Absent:</b>
Brittany Pickens, Pres.	Tasi Sablan
Rhonda Drake, V Pres.	Josh Dahl
Kaya Avila, Sec.	Jose Luna – Pagan
Noreen White	Pili Kane (stepped down)
ZamZam Landau	Caitlyn Thompson
Ashley Willis (stepped down)	Salsabil Amri
Shawna Bailey	Tawnya Palmer
Jessica Teague-Beach	
<b>Guests:</b>	
Bryan Willis	
<b>Staff Present:</b>	
Dirk Shumaker, Executive Director	
Ronnie Brown, FCES	

Meeting brought to order at 6:15 pm. Quorum is present. Introductions were made.

Juneau update: Dirk and Rhonda stated there were many representatives from around the state and the atmosphere was one of positive energy. Many legislators came from educational backgrounds and were very positive about our programs. Rhonda mentioned sitting in on the Senate Finance Committee and having the chance to hear everyone's story. She was amazed at the variety of reasons for Head Start and how it impacts their lives. Dirk stated to the parents "that there is no better lobbyist than a parent who is living it". There are many friends of Head Start in the legislature this year, no arguments, no cuts. Legislators stated that the state still spends too much and will need to work it out.

Personnel Policy Change: Regarding staff traveling on a paid holiday. Dirk explained to the council how every now and then a staff person travels for a training on a holiday, typically a Monday. Proposal is, "If an employee works or travels for an outside meeting or function on a scheduled holiday, KCI will allow the employee holiday pay on a different day of the same work week." Discussion followed. Rhonda motioned to accept the proposal, Kaya seconded. Motion approved.

Seated new member: Ashley stated that her new work schedule doesn't allow her to be at the Monday evening meetings and would like to step down at this time. Bryan Willis is willing to be seated in her stead and represent Ridgeline. When she (Ashley) is able, she will come to the meetings with him for input, ideas and suggestions but will not have a vote. Rhonda motioned to seat Bryan Willis to the council, ZamZam seconded. Motion approved.

Health and Nutrition Coordinator Wage Scale: Dirk proposed a wage scale inclusion at a higher level as a way to value the credentials of RN or dietician. The proposal is to add a rate for the Health and Nutrition Coordinator who has the qualification of a RN or dietician. Discussion ensued. Jessica

motioned to accept the wage scale increase for inclusion of credentials for Health and Nutrition Coordinator, Rhonda seconded. Motion approved.

COLA and Wage Scale Priorities: The federal government has approved a 2% COLA increase. KCI knows the increase rate for wages will be retroactive to November 2019, but the money may not be received till summer sometime, possibly not till July. We know we get it, just need final dollar amount. Proposal is to implement the increase right away, once notification of the dollar amount is known. Kaya motioned to accept the proposal, Rhonda seconded. Motion approved.

Minutes: Minutes for November and January were presented. Members reviewed, no questions or changes at this time. Noreen motioned to accept both sets of minutes, Bryan seconded. Motion approved

New Hires: New hires for November, January and recent hires in February were reviewed. No discussion at this time. The new hires recently interviewed had their bio's read for the council. Rhonda motioned to accept the new hires, Bryan seconded. Motion approved.

State Reallocation Discussion: Dirk reviewed with the council two different scenarios that could possibly help deal with loss of state Head Start grant dollars. Dirk reminded members that this is not a funding cut. The state will begin to allocated Head Start funds differently starting July 1, 2020. Currently some Head Start programs in the state get much bigger state grants than others. The state intends to provide and equal allocation to all grantees. KCI is a program that will lose some money with this plan. Some other programs will get more. Based what the state told us earlier this year, we can expect around \$375,000 less in state funding next year.

In both scenarios, KCI will apply for federal Early Head Start expansion funds later this year. This will be a very competitive process because there is not much expansion funding available and a lot of programs interested in applying for it. If we get expansion funds we should be able to keep all our facilities. If we do not get expansion funds we will have to withdraw from one or two classrooms.

Dirk asked the PC members to think about other options that the management team might not have thought of. He also mentioned that we are looking for places in the community that would be good for an EHS classroom. If we can find more space we can apply for more expansion funding. He asked parents to let him know if they think of any place in Anchorage that might have potential and the team will check it out. Ie churches, club houses, community halls where classrooms are already built in.

Financials: Dirk explained that the Audit was completed and KCI had no findings. A clean report with low risk value. He referred to the started budget, unfinished at this point till KCI knows exactly how much state funding will be and EHS expansion. Reviewed credit card expenditures, no questions at this time.

Family Engagement Specialist: Ronnie went over the activity to use for the March PCM's. Due to lack of time, they wouldn't be able to play tonight but FA's would know how to play and assist them. She passed out member rosters and asked if everyone was ok with contacting each other. One parent would

like to get text messages for events and can respond better that way than by email. Ronnie then asked if multi texts would be okay, everyone felt it was. Ronnie explained about using the roster to plan for playdates, meeting downtown for events or picnics, etc. She handed out Loussac Library schedules for Main building and Mt. View. Talked about using time during Spring Break to go to the library with all the fun activities for the children. Get out of the house, free to do and don't forget to enjoy Fur Rondy events as well.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Kaya Avila, Secretary