

Kids' Corps, Inc.
Policy Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 22 , 2021

Members Present:	Members Absent:
Brittany Pickens, President	Noreen White, excused
Rhonda Drake, V. President	Tasi Sablan
Kaya Avilla	Caitlyn Thompson
Shawna Bailey	
Jessica Teague-Beach	
Staff Present:	
Dirk Shumaker, Executive Director	
Ronnie Brown, FCES	

Greetings and Welcomes extended: Due to Covid-19, meeting was held virtually. Quorum present.

Meeting called to order at 6:10pm.

While waiting for more members to join, Ronnie asked members to think about “What really makes you happy?” We all immediately think of the things we always think of, but do they really make us happy today? Take a few minutes and think of things that make you happy today! Answers were varied. (Going back to work, feeling like I can get financially stable again, getting a pet, get through a whole day without kids fighting, having a good night’s sleep, having sports back in the schools for kids outlet, not having to cook tonight, I built a computer, everyone has their health, it’s okay to live your values and put people first, making a connection with a family during virtual distancing.)

Minutes:

Minutes were reviewed. Rhonda motioned to approve the minutes, Shawna seconded. Motion approved.

New Hires:

Ronnie explained the changes and new hire. Questions as to where center directors would be for next year was asked. Explained that if a center director was moved from current placement, it’s due to their strengths and the need of the center. Rhonda motioned to accept the new hires, Kaya seconded. Motion approved.

Covid-19 Leave and Pay Policy:

Dirk presented recommendations to the Covid Leave policy that was implemented and adjusted for the current program year. Recommendations were reviewed and discussion ensued. The new recommendations are looking forward with more people returning to work, vaccines available and more classrooms opening up. The board will discuss at their meeting on April 1 and make the final revisions. We are considering dates for resuming our regular pay scale, whether to continue participation in the federal FFCRA leave program, phasing out unexpected closure leave, etc. Members discussed how we deal with staff leave related to Covid symptoms and shared their employers’ leave policies. Members felt that KCI shows how much they care for their staff by having so many different ways to help cover

absences and retain getting paid. Dirk stated that there are many different scenarios and contingencies to take into consideration. All questions and input will be considered as they present to the board.

Parents as Teachers Grant Application:

Dirk explained that the grant is on a three year rotation for \$120,000 a year from the state. This is our third year and would like to apply for the next year at \$120,000. Rhonda motioned to approve the application for the grant, Shawna seconded. Motion approved.

Parent Survey/Community Assessment:

Dirk asked members to review the questions and see how they read and if they have any other questions they feel would be good information to know. Members felt it needed to be clear that this was not about KCI but the parent's community, neighborhood. A couple questions to add, under part 1, "having help with taxes" and "access to legal services. Under part three, add "accessing services". Under part four, add a comments section.

Executive Directors Report:

Dirk reported that KCI will receive the EHS grant. There were about 62 programs that will receive the grant. KCI will receive approximately \$800,000. This will allow for 24 more center based, 0-3 years and 10 home based children.

Financials:

Dirk had members review the financials through February and Credit cards through half of March. He explained that KCI was one third through the federal year and have used one third of funding so in really great shape. No issues at this time.

COLA:

Dirk explained how COLA works and that the increase is 1.22%. KCI will get the increase but needs to apply for it. This will be \$46,000. Most will go into employee wages and what is left over will help to offset health insurance benefits. Rhonda motioned to apply for the COLA increase, Shawna seconded. Motion approved.

Next meeting will be April 26th. Everyone wanted to keep it on the fourth Monday of the month. Easy to remember and plan for.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ronnie Brown, FCES