**Kids’ Corps, Inc.**

**Policy Council Meeting Minutes**

**March 27, 2017**

**Members Present: Members Absent:**

Tracy Peters, President Stephanie Brown, Secretary

Lynndsi Strong, V. President Tiria Young

Raheel Asghar Pauletta Delgado

Maria Muldoon Jesse Lynch

Rose Justiniano

Noreen White

Enuh Velega

**Guest:**

Tasi Sablan, East 5

**Staff:**

Dirk Shumaker, Executive Director

Rachel Schafer, Family Services, Health, EHS and PAT manager

Ronnie Brown, FCE Specialist

Meeting called to order at 6:07 pm. Quorum is present.

**Welcome and introductions:**

Guests were welcomed and everyone introduced.

**Selection Criteria:**

Guest Rachel Schafer introduced the new selection criteria for EHS and HS for the 2017-18 program year. She discussed the changes recommended by the FS Advisory committee and why the changes were important. She directed the parents to line items and bulleted items at the bottom of each. She discussed the importance of have a few slots open for OCS children so they were not placed on a waitlist but enrolled and receiving services as quickly as possible. She discussed the new Performance Standards and the changes made to the 45 day rule and how KCI would implement the new rulings. Floor was opened for questions and comments. Rose motioned to approve the new changes to the Selection Criteria for both HS and EHS, Lynndsi seconded. Motion approved.

**Financials:**

Dirk discussed the financials and credit card expenditures. There will be a change in health care coverage, dental coverage and possibly vision coverage offered. KCI received a $5,000 grant from Anchorage Home Builders Association, $2500 from Wells Fargo and a promise of a donation from BP.

Credit card expenditures were reviewed. Question regarding travel and training expenses were discussed. Dirk explained that certain monies are designated and can only be spend for training. Travel to a location for training is part of the same monies allocated for that purpose. All other purchases are monitored closely to keep expenses down. Parents discussed fund raising options. Dirk explained what the board was doing for fundraising (see ED report) and any start up monies or staff wages had to be reimbursed to the federal funding from the proceeds. KCI does not ask parents to contribute to fundraising but will review all suggestions parents have.

**Minutes:**

Minutes were reviewed. No questions or amendments at this time. Rose motioned to approve the February minutes, Noreen seconded. Minutes approved.

**New Hires:**

Ronnie explained for the new members and guests how the new hires are phone voted and then presented again at the PC meeting for group discussion and approval. No new hires were generated in March. Must approve substitutes at each meeting. Raheel motioned to approve the new hires, Lynndsi seconded. Motion approved.

**Program Option Changes:**

Dirk passed out sheet with three options for next program year. Part day/ part year program will reduce one classroom for the program year 2017-2018. Hours for full day/fee based with be shortened by one hour. There may be a reduction of hours from 40 per week to 35 per week for several different positions. Based on the proposal we received from the Faith Community Center, an outside kitchen facility for our own lunch prep is not economically feasible at this time. Lynndsi motioned to reduce the full day/fee based hours of operation, reduce part day program to one classroom only and reduce weekly hours worked for program year 2017-18, Rose seconded. Motion approved.

**Personnel Policy Changes:**

Dirk passed out sheet with many different option for changes for the 2017-18 program year. Much discussion ensued on paid Holiday’s, leave accrual, layoff leave used, longevity, and other options. Comparisons were discussed to bring about the greatest savings to agency and staff for fiscal security. PC recommendations will be presented to board of directors. Rose motioned to accept the recommendations as presented, Lynndsi seconded. Motion approved.

**Seat New Members:**

Tasi was asked if she would like to be seated as a member of the PC. Enuh motioned to approve Tasi as a representative for East center, Rose seconded. Motion approved.

**Executive Directors Report:**

Dirk updated council on the grant for the new bus. Total grant request will be $72,000. Dirk also thanked parents for getting the stories from their parents at last month PCM/cafes. He will be taking them to Juneau later this week to present to the legislative body to encourage funding for Head Start. He will report at next month meeting.

**PCM’s/ Cafes report:**

**Chester Valley** – Lynndsi reported that even though the number of parents participating, they were different parents than usually stay for the café. The bingo game was really fun and parents enjoyed learning about each other and got really into it. Shared the PC minutes and asked parents to write their story to share with legislators. Several parents wrote their story. Ronnie will take back to have ready to share with legislators upon short notice.

**East center** – Rose and Tasi shared that they had a lot of fun playing the bingo game and learned a lot about each other. Some parents had never been to their PCM before and they really got into sharing. They all wrote their stories to share. It was a great turnout.

**Muldoon** – Noreen shared that they had a decent turnout and between her and Tuloa, they had parents not only sharing their stories in writing but sharing their stories to each other. The bingo game was fun with everyone talking about the things they like to do and things they have never tried before. Good activities to do at home was also presented. The parents really got into making the craft items with their children.

**Mt. View** – Ronnie reported that they played the bingo game at Mt. View and the parents chose two things that related to them and then told the group about them. Many wonderful stories shared. PC minutes were reviewed by Family Advocate.

**Ridgeline** – Enuh reported that she was out of state during her PCM time. Ronnie reported that she heard everyone had fun sharing their experiences with each other.

**Family and Community Specialist:**

Ronnie then reported that she was able to visit several different centers for their PCM’s and that parents really came alive when the game was explained and everyone got up and moved around to play. Smiles everywhere and a lot of conversations. This is how to build a good relationship with the families within your center/community. She then had the PC play the “Life with the Wright Family “ game. This was about listening. Last month families told their stories, first step to advocating. Getting comfortable enough to share what’s important to them. This game was to help parents understand the importance of listening for the whole story, not to let distraction keep them from hearing. Put aside distractions, phone, utility bill, dinner thoughts, etc. and listen to the person talking to you. Listen for the real story, not just the occasional words caught between own thoughts. Really engage with child, spouse, neighbor, teacher, etc. You will enjoy the conversation much more and so will the person you are talking (listening) with.

Lynndsi motioned to adjourn at 8pm, Maria seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Ronnie Brown, FCES