**MALea Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday August 24th, 2022**

**2:30am-3:05am**

**Members Present:** Jessica McCrory (Chair), Debbie Best, Vivien Stearns, Kenneth Pettigrew

**Members Absent:** Natashi Williams, Anna Miller Fitz-Water

**Smart Start Staff Present:** Louis Finney (Chief Executive Director of SSFC), Garet Beane (Chief Strategy Officer) Melissa Estler (Director of Continuous Quality Improvements and Partnerships for SSFC), Tabitha McAllister (Chief Program Officer of SSFC), Deysi Reyes (Child Care Scholarships), Saquana Terry (Child Care Scholarship), Vanessa Sawyer-Wilson (Teaching and Learning Services), Betty Trujillo (Teaching and Learning Services)

**Public** Shana Heilbron (Center for Exceptional Children, Katura Jackson (Child Care Resource Center), Elizabeth Miller (The Parenting PATH) Karen Flynt (The Parenting PATH), Adam Hill (Forsyth Futures), Angel Conrad (Imprints Cares), Elizabeth Mitchell (Imprints Cares) Sarah Heinemeier (Compass), Reginald McCaskill (SSFC Board Chair)

**Call to Order**

A quorum was established, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business. The meeting was called to order at 2:34 am.

**Welcome/Public Comment**

Jessica opened the floor for public comment. Jessica McCrory shared information about an organization she has been working with call You Can Vote. She shared that the organization has a member that will come to events to help people register to vote and if anyone on the call is interested in having this person attend any events please email Jessica McCrory.

Karen Flynt with the Parenting PATH shared that her agency will be having a back to school and diaper supply giveaway this evening from 5:00pm to 7:00 pm so if anyone would like to attend or donate please bring them to the Parenting PATH office at 500 West Northwest Blvd.

**Review and Adopt Agenda**

Jessica McCrory reviewed the agenda. Jessica McCrory then asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion: Debbie Best

Second: Kenneth Pettigrew

There was unanimous approval, motion carried.

**For Committee Action**

Melissa Estler presented the June 16th meeting minutes.

Jessica requested a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion: Debbie Best

Second: Vivien Stearns

There was unanimous approval, motion carried

**Committee Review and Discussion**

The committee discussed what it’s role would be in non-allocation years. The committee has not operated in a non-allocation capacity since the 2019-2020 fiscal year so a review of the roles was seen as important.

Jessica McCrory shared that in the past each provider would have a full meeting to share what information about their program and agency to the committee.

Debbie Best agree that this was the case and that the committee found it very helpful.

Jessica asked for the feedback of the rest of the committee and noted that Debbie Best was in agreement.

Debbie Best and Jessica McCrory shared that this would be especially helpful for all the new committee members that would be joining MALea. Melissa Estler offered a timeline to accommodate this.

Jessica McCrory asked the providers present if they had any thoughts on this that they would like to share.

Tabitha McAllister asked for the committee to be a bit more specific about what information they would like shared so the providers can be more intentional and focused.

Debbie Best shared that she though allotting a full meeting (90 minutes) for each program would be a bit daunting for most programs. She suggested setting 45 minutes aside for each program.

Karen Flynt asked that committee give some type of format as to how they want the information shared with them (ie specific questions, should it be in power point, should it just be an open discussion? Etc.)

Jessica McCrory asked if this was something that needs to be figured out right now?

Melissa Estler shared that this did not need to have the answers at this exact moment. She shared that all of these questions are wonderful to have ahead of time so that when the new committee members start they can consider what they feel the responses should be.

Melissa Estler also asked if the 45 minutes time allotment is meant to be per program or per agency.

Jessica McCrory and Debbie Best shared that they think it would be best to allow the providers preference to determine how much time they need.

Shana Heilbron then asked if there would be an opportunity within these presentations to share information about the agency and what they do outside of what is funded by SSFC and how these programs are intertwined with their overall agency goals and mission.

Kenneth Pettigrew shared that he thinks this would be helpful for the committee, especially when it comes to the committee duty in making sure there is no duplication of services in the programs they fund.

Jessica also recommended that this non-allocation year be used to set out an outline for both the committee and providers on how the allocation process should look and what role the rubric should play in allocations.

**Open Discussion**

Jessica opened the floor for open discussion. Jessica McCrory shared that Yolanda Bolden submitted her resignation. This was due to a change in her schedule with the public library.

Garet also shared in the chat that SSFC is hiring for open positions.

Tabitha also shared the TLS is hiring for a specialist position as well. Tabitha also shared all the success from the SSFC Health Fair and thanked Jessica for connecting SSFC with the individual who registers people to vote.

**Next Meeting**

The next committee meeting is scheduled for September 28th, 2:30pm-4:00pm

**Motion to Adjourn.**

Jessica McCrory requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Kenneth Pettigrew

Second: Vivien Stearns

There was unanimous approval, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at: 3:04pm.