

# **Kids Central Incorporated Policy Council Meeting March 10, 2010**

The Policy Council of Kids Central Incorporated met on March 10, 2010 at the Kids Central Administration office. Dee Strouth, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Jennie Thacker, Secretary took the roll.

Present: Dellia King, Jennie Thacker, Clifton Lyall, Kayla Wallace, Marsha Steele, Alicia Armstead, Deanna Dingus, Tabitha Harvey, Dee Strouth, Thomas Williams, and Edward Hutchinson

Staff present: Darrell Edwards, Kim Austin, Chris Austin, Lisa Barton, Mary Collins, and Paula Bates

## **SEATING OF NEW MEMBER**

Sue Coleman, representing Shani Davis' homebase is attending the meeting today for her first time. **Deanna Dingus made a motion to accept Sue Coleman as a member of the Policy Council. Kayla Wallace seconded the meeting. Motion carried.**

## **AGENDA**

The agenda for today's meeting was presented for approval. **Deanna Dingus made a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Jennie Thacker seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## **MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting (February 2010) were presented. With no corrections or additions, **Clifton Thacker made a motion to accept the minutes. Tabitha Harvey seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Darrell Edwards reported that updated program calendars for make-up days due to snow days will be posted on-line as soon as they are available.

The year-end bash is in the planning stages. The date and list of events will be given at the meeting next month.

The annual report is completed. Each member present was given a copy. The information gives details regarding our program and helps parents understand the difference between our program and Pre-K.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

**Finance:** Lisa Barton gave members a copy of the financial statements. The refunding application has been submitted. The 1.8% COLA funds are now permanent. She does not have an in-kind report due to the centers being closed due to snow.

We have spent 65% of our Head Start funds and 61% of our Early Head Start funds. The equipment category has gone over its budgeted amount.

**Education:** Kim Austin reported Casey's Academy went to Disney Live in Johnson City on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. A total of 130 people attended. In order to be in Casey's Academy, a child must turn four (4) by September 30<sup>th</sup>. We encourage parents to enroll their children so they may be in Casey's Academy.

Our COR reports for the 2<sup>nd</sup> period were higher than any we have seen. We attribute this increase to the use of Houghton Mifflin. Staff will be conducting PALS testing soon.

**Transportation/Enrollment:** Chris gave members a copy of February's enrollment report. February's attendance was 67.8%. We feel the low attendance was attributed to the weather. Some of the numbers will fluctuate monthly due to center vacancies. Early Head Start Home Visitor Miranda Bradley needs more children or pregnant women to serve.

**Nutrition:** Mary Collins gave members copies of the menus and handouts for March. She stated we were trying to get back in line with our food orders at the centers where they have been closed.

## **FINANCE REPORT FOR POLICY COUNCIL**

Deanna Dingus reported that the balance of the Policy Council account is \$1095.00.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**KCI Bucks:** Darrell reported that KCI bucks will expire on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Everyone is encouraged to visit the store and redeem their bucks. The store will be on a bus and will visit all the centers next year. Anyone who is not receiving their KCI bucks should talk with the Teacher.

**Haysi Center:** Darrell Edwards reported that we still do not have a lease for the building that houses the Haysi Center. If we are unable to obtain a lease with Stone Mountain, we will be forced to vacate the building. We do not want to move that center.

**Haysi Learning Center:** We will withdraw from any affiliation with the Haysi Learning Center on May 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**New Hires/Transfers:** Chris Austin reported that we have one promotion to announce:

- Teresa Barnette – Promoted from Maintenance Staff (Janitor) to Substitute

**Deanna Dingus made a motion to approve the above listed promotion. Kayla Wallace seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## **COMMENTS**

Ed Hutchinson stated that some Energy Star items will qualify for rebates beginning in April. The items and the amount of the rebate is still undecided. Information will be posted on our website as soon as it is available. Mr. Hutchinson also recommended people visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for tax information.

Darrell commented on the article Chris wrote on the parent page of our website regarding check cashing loans. Some of these companies are charging up to 300%. People need to beware of companies such as these.

Dee Strouth spoke about Policy Council participation. She would like to have a pot luck lunch for the next meeting instead of the meal being catered. She would also like to invite the staff. Dee stated she would organize the lunch. Thomas Williams and Dellia King stated that thought it was a good idea, and it would help to get to know the members better.

Kayla Wallace asked about the lease for the Haysi Center. Darrell stated a written lease agreement was necessary for our records.

Marsha Steele asked about the playground at Ramsey. Darrell explained that we once had a playground at the Ramsey center but it was destroyed. We are going to try to install another, hoping neighbors will keep a watch. We will also have the police patrol the area. The playground equipment costs approximately \$18,000. Marsha stated she would be willing to keep a watch on the playground.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next Policy Council meeting will be April 14, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at the Kids Central Administration Office.

The next Executive meeting will be held on March 30, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Kids Central Administration Office.

With no further business or discussion, Dee Strouth adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

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Jennie Thacker, Secretary

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Sandra Harvey, Recording Secretary