

Kids Central Incorporated Policy Council Meeting September 8, 2010

The Policy Council of Kids Central Incorporated met on September 8, 2010 at the Kids Central Administration office. Dee Strouth, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. In the Secretary's absence, Dee took the roll.

Present: Dee Strouth, Thomas Williams, Deanna Dingus, Sue Coleman, Tabitha Harvey, Michelle Collins, Jenny Mullins, Fred Luntsford, Edward Hutchinson

Staff present: Darrell Edwards, Kim Austin, Lisa Barton, Mary Collins, Lindsey Sturgill, and Sandra Harvey

AGENDA

The agenda for today's meeting was presented for approval. With the revision of adding Lindsey Sturgill under Staff Reports for Family Involvement, **Deanna Dingus made a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Sue Coleman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting (August 11, 2010) were presented. Without any comments or corrections, **Thomas Williams made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Deanna Dingus seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Darrell Edwards, Executive Director, welcomed parents from the Hawthorne center. He explained the role of the Policy Council and the responsibility of its members. All functions of Kids Central must be presented to the Policy Council and approved or accepted before it can be presented to the Board of Directors.

Yesterday (September 7) was the first day of school for the children in our program. We had 436 children attend yesterday and everything went smoothly. The Nita Bond playground has been destroyed by construction workers. It will be repaired.

STAFF REPORTS

Finance Report. Lisa Barton, Comptroller, reported that our ARRA funds end September 30th. Early Head Start funds will end in September also, but that grant will be renewed for one more year. In-kind contributions are going good for the beginning of this year.

We found out that the grant from Rural Development will not be \$250,000. They told us that the amount of the grants have dropped to \$50,000. Some of our buses are over 20 years old. We have sold some buses and that money will go into program income to use by the end of the fiscal year. The cost of each bus is \$43,508. We had to submit an application to the Regional Office for the approval of the loan for the buses. Due to the time constraints, the Policy Council Chairperson signed the application in order for us to submit it prior to the deadline. The Policy Council will now need to take action on submitting the application for the loan to purchase the buses. **Deanna Dingus made a**

motion to approve the submission of the application for the loan to purchases buses. Sue Coleman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Education Report. Kim Austin, Assistant Director, reported that the first day of school went very well. Parents are still calling to place their children on waiting lists. We are fully enrolled and have already met our 10% disability enrollment. Our biggest concern right now is the length of our bus runs.

Transportation/Enrollment Report. Kim Austin, Assistant Director reported on enrollment stating that because this is the beginning of the school year, we really have nothing to report. Some children have gone to Pre-K or Kindergarten. Nora and Coeburn II need more children. St. Paul has 16 children right now. That's great after the problem we had with their enrollment last year. Dickenson County opened a new Pre-K class at Sandlick, which has hurt our enrollment at the Nora center. Our program speaks for itself because most of our recruitments come from recommendations from other parents.

Nutrition Report. Mary Collins, Food and Nutrition Assistant, gave members menus and handouts for September.

Family Involvement Report. Lindsey Sturgill, Family Involvement Specialist informed the Policy Council that Wednesday, September 15th is Kids Central family movie night at the drive in. Families will receive one ticket each, which will allow their vehicle into the movie.

Open house for all centers will be on September 1st and 2nd. We are expecting lots of parents on these days. Homebase will have their open house on September 10th.

On October 18th, Kasey's Academy will be going to The Knoxville Zoo. Information on the trip will be updated on our website. We will have t-shirts printed for children in Kasey's Academy. Kasey now has a facebook page.

FINANCE REPORT FOR POLICY COUNCIL

Deanna Dingus reported that the balance of the Policy Council account at the end of August was approximately \$300. Lisa Barton reported she transferred funds into the account this morning.

OLD BUSINESS

Cameras have been installed in all centers, but they are not functional as of today.

NEW BUSINESS

There wasn't any new business to report today.

COMMENTS

Sue Coleman reported that Shani Davis' homebase took a trip to Natural Tunnel and had a great time.

Lindsey Sturgill reported that the old way of conducting parent meetings has changed. These meetings are now called family days. Parents can come to the center and do activities with the children, cooking experiences, etc. Lindsey is talking with the Health Department concerning training for parents.

Every month we will now have a library day. All of our children will go to the library one day per month. Parents are encouraged to go with their children.

Darrell commented that we haven't had a Family Involvement Specialist position before and he is very pleased with the way everything is working.

NEXT MEETING

The next Policy Council meeting will be held October 13, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at the Kids Central Administration Office.

A Policy Council Executive meeting will not be held in September.

With no further business or discussion, Dee Strouth adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Jennie Thacker, Secretary

Sandra Harvey, Recording Secretary