

Bright Starts Cooperative Early Learning Centre Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 17, 2020, 6:45pm

Chairperson: Jenn Bleakney

On Minutes: Phil Boyle

Meeting by video Conference

In attendance: Jenn Bleakney (JB), Marina Ivanova, Stacey Reid (SR), Mark Stuart, Phil Boyle, Jenn Tung, Robilyn Vanos, Owen Gallupe, Veronica Michael, Amina Giliani, Tetyana Reichert, Nomair Naeem, Hassan Asif, Leanne Varey, Mahyar Shafih, Phil Boyle

Motion to adopt the agenda

Moved by Robi

Seconded by Scott

All in favour, none opposed, no abstentions

Motion to approved minutes of March 17th

Moved by Jenn

Seconded by Phil

Majority in favour, none opposed, 1 abstention

Motion to approve minutes of March 26th, 12pm

Moved by Jenn

Seconded by Phil

Majority in favour, none opposed, 4 abstention

Motion to approve minutes of March 26th, 6:30pm

Moved by Jenn

Seconded by Phil

Majority in favour, none opposed 3 abstentions

Motion to approve minutes of April 1st

Moved by Jenn

Seconded by Phil

Majority in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions

Report of the Executive Director

The Region had a teleconference recently about funding; there is no news from the region to share. All 2019 reconciliation reports have been files with a copy to Mark. The 2019 financial audit is also complete, hopefully that will be reviewed by Financial Officer and an approved draft circulated in May.

The CEWS application is not available yet but Stacey is keeping an eye on it. There is a calculator available and it looks like we will get around \$89k. There is uncertainty about how long it will take for that to get into our accounts. And we still quality for the 10% wage subsidy.

Stacey has been thinking about what reopening will look like when we get there. We will have to recall staff in advance of reopening for cleaning, sanitizing, laundering, ordering food. There is some anxiety from staff about what reopening will be like after the kids have been away for so long; we might have

lots of crying children in the first couple of weeks. We had some thoughts about staggering times for returning children.

Scott: staggering might not be appreciated from parents. How would we make those decisions about who is allowed to come back and who has to wait? A lot of parents will want to drop their kids off.

SR: we have had 4 withdrawals since closure; that might change the numbers in some of our rooms.

Veronica: reiterate Scott's comments about staggering; some extra hands sounds good. The transition will be difficult

SR: we could leave some spaces open to reduce ration for a bit?

Owen: perhaps we can ask parents to do half days? Would that make it easier?

Nomair: we can probably expect more withdrawals as we get closer to June/July and do not open.

Jenn B: if we didn't encourage staggering, perhaps we can poll parents to see what to expect.

Robi: would we prorate payments for parents who might stagger children?

Phil: or is it possible to allow parents to shift kids to part time?

Karen: moving to part-time is hard. It is hard to match up kids without moving them around. Shorter days would be hugely helpful. The staff will be in in full force anyways.

SR: maybe we don't charge for the first week, that might be a good soft opening for parents to bring them in for shorter days. Staff continue to put out videos and outreach to families once a week or so, and staff are very grateful for keeping them on staff rather than laying them off. We are lucky we can do that for our people. We want them to come back. Security enhancements and bathroom renovations are on the table for the next board; we also want to change the clocks so that they change automatically like the university's do.

SR: is the board ok with keeping the open spaces vacant for a while after reopening to make things a bit more manageable at first? Yes.

Report of the Treasurer

In March we had a loss of \$73k of income compared to March of last year. Most other things in line as expected. Full report of Treasurer available in G-drive folder.

Nomair: will we need to present our finances in light of the CEWS at the AGM?

SR: auditor will present the finances of 2019, not 2020.

Nomair: perhaps it is a good idea to know where we stand as of April as we will probably get questions on the recent months.

SR: we should come out of this ok. It will depend on when we reopen and how many withdrawals we have. We will probably have low enrolment in July and August

Updated from the Nominations Committee

Leanne: application window was extended, which got us a few more interested applicants. We had only one up to the original deadline. We can have a max of 15 people on the board so we can accept everyone who applied.

Leanne presented the potential nominees to the board; slides available on G-drive folder.

SR: how does the board feel about parents who don't have children in the center in September, will they lose interest?

Nomair: that includes me, and I wanted to continue.

Motion to recommend the appointment of Tetyana Reichert, Jennifer Bleakney, Edwin Ng, Nomair Naeem, Keri Raif Sura, Robert Reid, and Mary Robinson to the Bright Starts Board of Directors at the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

Moved by Leanne

Seconded by Veronica

All in favour, none opposed, no abstentions

Leanne: nomination was committee also discussed recommendations for the executive committee to be voted upon at the first meeting of the new board

Recommendations of the Nominating committee for the executive committee of the 2020-2021 BCELC Board of Director are: Jenn Bleakney for President, Teyiana Reichert for Vice President, Phil Boyle for Secretary, and Marina Ivanova for Treasurer.

Jenn gave thanks to non-returning board members.

Good news roundtable: haircuts, new PhD adventures, and tenure.

Motion to adjourn meeting

Moved by Nomair

Seconded by Phil

All in favour, none opposed, no abstentions