

Bright Starts Cooperative Early Learning Centre Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 20th, 2020, at 6:45pm

Chairperson: Jennifer Bleakney

Minutes

In Attendance: Marina Ivanova, Veronica Michael, Karen Hinnigan, Phil Boyle, Nomair Naeem, Robi Vanos, Owen Gallupe, Jenn Bleakney, Tetyana Richert, Stacey Reid, Mary Robinson, Keri Raif Sura

Regrets: Hassan Asif, Edward Ng

Meeting called to order at 6:45pm

Motion to approve agenda

Moved by Robi

Seconded by Tetyana

All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions

Motion carried

Motion to approve minutes of September 15th, 2020

Moved by Robi

Seconded by Phil

Majority in favor, none opposed, one abstention

Motion carried

Notice to Board of executive motions on September 21st and Oct 8th, 2020

Jenn provided overview motions passed since last meeting by executive committee pertaining to changes to COVID-related policies needed to keep center in line with provincial guidance.

6:55 Executive Director's Report (20 minutes) – SR

Not a lot to update with respect to funding. There was funding for the room closure [due to a COVID case], which helped. This funding is in place to support parents so that we can continue to pay staff without charging parents. The region still encourages operators to apply for federal benefits and this funding will fill the gaps.

We are still applying for CEWS at 75% down from 80%. Stacey will continue to apply for CEWS funds as long as we qualify.

Public health was great during the room closure. The room opened on Oct 13th as planned. Each individual had to be cleared by public health to return so some didn't come back right away. All are back now.

Annual playground inspection coming up in the fall. The annual water sample test occurred recently, which passed.

Enrollment numbers are not as good as hoped. Many parents waiting to January, and a couple extra withdrawals. November is looking consistent this way. Stacey wants to provide some

funding soon for staff to get new toys etc. This year will be a bit different but we hope to do that soon.

Kari Raif Sura arrived 7:08

Question: looking towards winter, is there any funding available for access point to preschool playground entrance? Yes, it is on management's radar; those entrances were not designed to be used this way and there are challenges. It is being worked on. Hopefully we will have a plan soon. And we need to be thinking of this out to the spring too.

Question on hours of operation: pickup at 4:30pm can be hard. Flexibility would be good. The hours of operation is difficult to manage to keep everyone happy, especially is numbers go up in January. And all families are different. And winter will make a difference in terms of getting dressed and undressed. Having an assigned time might be helpful in some regards.

Discussion of Center Requirements for Travel Outside of Ontario during COVID

When we aligned screening processes with province we inadvertently took out the requirement for people who have travelled outside of Ontario to quarantine for two weeks. Do we want to keep it as it was, or as it is now?

Agreement that we should keep it as is. No motion required.

Treasurer's Report

Everything looks good. Full reports available in folder. MI and SR looking at investment opportunities.

Committee Business/Updates

Update from Finance Committee re: 2021 budget on horizon. Budget will be presented at November meeting.

Update from Communications Committee re: call for parent volunteers. No change.

Update from Staff Appreciation Committee re: ECE Day. Robi: On Thursday we are doing EVO lunchboxes and hand lotion. Keri made certificates and they will get gift cards.

New business for next meeting

Supplementary board meeting for budget discussion if needed scheduled for Nov 24th, 2020

Regrets for next meeting

None

Motion to adjourn

Moved by Jenn

Seconded by Mary

All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions

Motion carried