

Hampton and Scotland School Readiness Council

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Scott Sears, Cathy Pinsonneault, Sam Roberson, Frank Olah, Joy Becker, Mary Geragotelis, Andrea Kaye, Ann Gruenberg, Frank Baran, Geri White, Anne Marie Davidson

- 1) **Call to order:** Joy Becker called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.
- 2) **Audience for citizens:** None
- 3) **Update agenda as needed:** No updates necessary.
- 4) **Approval of November 24, 2020 meeting minutes:** Frank Olah motioned to approve as amended the November 24, 2020 minutes Geri White seconded the motion. Update to the November 24, 2020 minutes included that Scott Sears chaired the November meeting and it was Scott that called the meeting to order not Joy Becker. Mary Geragotelis and Geri White were in attendance at the November meeting. Motion passed unanimously. None opposed. No abstentions.
- 5) **Acceptance of financial reports**
 - a. **Hampton:** Ann Gruenberg motioned to accept Hampton's financial report as corrected. Geri White seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously. None opposed. No abstentions.
 - b. **Scotland:** Geri White motioned to accept Scotland's financial report as corrected. Frank Olah seconded the motion. Corrections to the Scotland financial report included the removal of adult education costs and Medicaid as they are not part of the School Readiness budget. Discussion on Scotland's financial report included that the income from tuition was not on the report, Cathy shared that they have had 100% payment every month but that it was left off the report because she was new at creating the report. She would become familiar in the next month and provide the information at the February meeting. The Council also discussed Scotland's process for collecting fees. A reminder goes out two weeks before payment is due, then there is a second reminder. If the payment is not received Cathy calls the family to discuss why the payment hasn't been made. Can include an offer for a hardship if the family has experienced a change in income. There is also a statement in the letter t if payment isn't received the child will be withdrawn from the program. There was a question about why there were no instructional aid costs listed on the financial report. Cathy shared that is not paid out of the Readiness budget but yes, there are aids in the classroom. The motion passed unanimously. None opposed. No abstentions.
- 6) **Program updates:**
 - a. **Hampton:** The program has not had to use a remote learning platform yet so the experiences and curriculum have been similar to other years. The children have been very receptive to the changes needed as a result of the pandemic, staying distant, wearing their masks, playing in designated areas. The Christmas celebration was a huge success. Really made the children happy. There is a plan to disseminate Valentine's Day bags to students to celebrate the holiday.
 - b. **Scotland:** Scotland was in remote learning but had been back in the building for a week. Carol Sweat, Scotland's preschool teacher implemented the distance learning plan during that time. Paras participated in the remote lessons.
- 7) **SR Liaison report**
 - a) **OEC Updates:** There was a meeting with Cheryl Sparks on 1/6/21. There is a new system that is being used, switching from ECIS to ECE reporter, people should continue to track the data because it will need to be entered once the change over happens. QE funds will not roll over to 21-22 so if programs anticipate not spending them they should start a discussion about changing activities so they will be spent. Any QE budget revisions are due to OEC by May 1.

8.) New Business

- a. **Grant updates:** The grant is usually out in early February. Cheryl has shared informally that it will be a more streamlined process than a usual full grant application, more like the process and requirements used in the update process last year.

9) Old Business:

- a. **Enrollment:** Hampton will be doing preschool screening at the end of April. Five preschool children will be moving on to Kindergarten and 4 children will stay in preschool. Sam will contact the Hampton librarian about supporting recruitment. Scotland is not sure if they will be doing a preschool screening because of COVID, it will depend on the number of COVID cases. They may hold a virtual screening for the purposes of recruitment because there is a recognition that the screening information is not valid when it is completed virtually. Scotland's library is engaging in a Thousand Books Before Kindergarten initiative and could include information about the School Readiness program in the outreach for that initiative.

10) Audience for citizens: None

11) Set next meeting Agenda: Keep enrollment on agenda, grant updates, add enumeration strategies.

13) Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Frank Olah at 7:08 pm and seconded by Ann Gruenberg. Motion passed unanimously. None opposed. No abstentions.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 2/23/21 6:30-8:00 pm
Held through Zoom

Respectfully submitted by Anne Marie Davidson, Hampton and Scotland School Readiness Liaison
These minutes are unofficial until approved at the next School Readiness Council Meeting