

# REGION VII HEAD START ASSOCIATION



The Region VII Head Start Association promotes and supports the effectiveness of Head Start Associations and members to ensure quality services for children and families.

## Region VII Head Start Association Board of Directors GoToMeeting©

**Tuesday • January 12 • 2010**

- I. 1:30 pm Linda Bleything, R7HSA Vice President called the meeting to order. (Attendance Roster on file).  
Welcome to new Board member: Linda Zinke, NeAEYC, NE Friend Representative
- II. Donna Veatch called the roll. Ten voting members participating, a quorum was present. Ten Ex-Officio members also present.
- III. Adoption of Agenda  
No changes to the agenda as presented.
- IV. Hot Topic Remarks: Early Head Start Expansion and Head Start Expansion  
Participants expressed a concern regarding the lack of communication in respect to EHS expansion awards. Beth Cox, Regional Office stated that the delay in communication was due in large part to the process in place to notify programs who will be receiving the grants first. The number of submitted applications exceeded the expectation of the Office of Head Start making the process longer for review and notification. Concern was heard from attendees that lack of communication throughout the process left programs wondering if their grant applications were received, etc.
- V. Executive Report:
  - Currently in the implementation stage of the new on-line association management system, AVECTRA.
  - 1099 Reports to be completed and mailed this month.
  - Current planning for the upcoming 2010 Leadership Conference is in full swing with the Call for Proposals and Exhibitor packet released.
  - Fifty participants registered for the 2011 Management Acceleration Class. The training was held the first week of December in Kansas City, MO.
  - WIPFLi Partnership for Regional Training will be offered in late March.
- VI. Entity Reports (\*) Indicates report on file  
Regional Office: Beth Cox, HS Program Specialist, Reporting & LaTrice Davis, HS Program Specialist joining the call.
  - Early Head Start expansion grant award review has taken longer than anticipated due to the number of grant applications submitted. Announcements have been delayed as the review process continues.
  - The Head Start Impact Study soon to be released is reported to depict a negative view of the long term success of Head Start children after third grade. Programs may get calls from media regarding this study.
  - Programs closing due to H1N1 and other health and non-health related issues, i.e. inclement weather were reminded to notify their program specialist.
  - The Regional Office in partnership with the Office of Grantee Performance Support Specialists and State Based Head Start Training & Technical Assistance Offices is offering a regional training effort the first week of February. The title of the event is: "Accountability/Transparency/Risk Management: Building a Fundable Application". Directors are encouraged to attend and bring a team which consists of the Head Start/Early Head Start Director, Agency Executive Director and the Fiscal Officer. Head Start Association Staff and Collaboration Office staff is also invited to attend.

State Based Head Start Training & Technical Assistance (HSTTA) Report:

  - Mary Finney-Afrank reporting: Each of the four states has put together their training tasks for 2010. Currently the Office of Head Start is reviewing how the TA offices submit their reports. Changes in reporting requirements are expected.

Grantee Performance Support Specialists (GPSS) Office: Linda Benoit reporting

  - GPSS staff will be focusing on supporting: Early Head Start expansion sites.
  - Ms. Benoit stated that the upcoming Regional Office training will include all staff from the Regional Office and give programs a time to hear updates and have direct face to face time with RO staff.

Collaboration Office

Iowa-no report brought to the Board

Kansas, Carrie Hastings reporting

- Currently working on the Centers of Excellence at the state level and with the SEK-CAP Program.
- The Collaboration Office Need's Assessment has been completed and approved. The results will be disseminated in the near future.
- Strategic Planning is underway with a goal to complete by the end of January.
- Working with state partners to review and develop a Memorandum of Agreement.

Missouri-no report brought to the Board

Nebraska, Eleanor Kirkland reporting (\*)

- State budget deficient is causing issues with travel restrictions.
- Applications for Early Childhood grant funds are due in February.
- Worked in partnership with the University of Nebraska to do a study that will be submitted for publication. A system's team has been established to look at the early childhood system across the state.

#### State Association Offices

Iowa, Gregg Cummings reporting (\*)

- Currently working in partnership with Region VII, and NHSA on co-hosting the Fifth Annual Lady Byrd Head Start Heroes Award ceremony for Senator Tom Harkin. The event is planned for the evening of January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 5:30 PM on Capitol Hill.
- The IHSA spring conference is scheduled for April 14, 2010. The new Director of the Office of Head Start, Ms. Yvette Sanchez Fuentes will be the featured keynote speaker.
- Iowa QRS (Quality Rating System) undergoing a restructuring process. The IHSA Education Committee members, Collaboration Office, and State TA system are working close on this project. There are currently 62 Head Start sites that use and are rated in QRS.
- The Iowa State Empowerment Office was recently voted to be moved to the Department of Education. It has been housed in Department of Management.

Kansas, Mary Baskett reporting

- Focus on state advocacy work-presented the KHSA Legislative Agenda for 2010.
- Working to protect the children's initiative fund which includes three million dollars for Early Head Start.
- Continuing to lead in the area of collaborative programming regarding Block Grant-visit the website to access resources and learn more about this important work.

Missouri, Linda Bleything reporting

- Experiencing state budget cuts have resulted in a delayed start up for some Early Head Start expansion sites.
  - Impact on Project Construct with state funding pulled from budget.
- New MHSA website up and running.
- Tina Bernskoetter, MHSA reported that Parent Leadership Training is being planned with a focus on getting parents involved in advocacy efforts. Legislators and registered lobbyist will be participating in the training effort scheduled for April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Annual Meeting is planned for February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Nebraska, Sue Obermiller reporting

- NeHSA Advisory/Board meeting was held 1-6-10 via conference call due to inclement weather. Linda Zinke, Executive Director for Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children was elected as the new NeHSA Friend Representative to the R7HSA Board.
- Elections also occurred for NeHSA Director/Staff Representatives to R7HSA beginning term July 1, 2010. Deb Ross – Director and Tina Cummins – Staff were elected. Continuing to research the feasibility of hiring an association executive director in 2010.
- Would like to request more involvement of regional entities, i.e. the Regional Office at the state association level either in person at meetings, teleconference or by written reports.

#### NHSA Representative Report, Kesha Curry, IA Parent Representative reporting

- Attended NHSA Parent Conference in December.
- Participated in the special Office of Head Start Parent Listening Session at the conference.
- All four R7HSA representatives will be in attendance at the upcoming NHSA January Leadership Institute.
  - Kesha Curry, IA is planning some parent off-site events during the week for parents attending from Region VII.

Region VII Head Start Association Board of Director's Meeting: January 12, 2010 Minutes

## VII. Business meeting called to order

### Minutes

**Motion:** Minutes stand approved as submitted.

Financial Report: Leigh Ann Nelson, CPA McKeone, Spilker and McKeone presented the December ending financial reports to the Board and provided explanation regarding the reports. Ms. Nelson explained that reports show assets and liabilities and that an income statement is available for each project/program, i.e., conference, etc. to show revenue and expense related to individual activities. Ms. Nelson reminded the Board that reports can be generated in a different format if needed. No change or request was noted regarding the report format or information presented. It was noted that January marks the middle of the fiscal year.

**Motion:** Keshia Curry, IA moved to accept the financial report as presented by Ms. Nelson. Sue Obermiller, NE seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### Unfinished Business: Executive Director Annual Appraisal Report

**Motion:** Sue Obermiller, NE moved to accept the recommendation from the Executive Committee to renew the contract for executive services with Ms. Veatch at a six percent increase for 2010. Tina Cummins, seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion passed.

### Board Election

Call for Vote based on ballots in circulation for the Friend and Director NHSA Representative seats on the National Board: unanimous vote heard all around in favor of Linda Broyles, KS filling the Director's Representative seat (to be seated July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010) and Donna Veatch, R7HSA continuing to fill the Friend Representative position. The positions are considered two year terms.

### Committee Reports

- Outcome I: Professional Development Committee
  - Linda Bleything reporting: Professional Development Committee voted to move forward with a regional PITC (Program for Infants and Toddler Care) Training in a series format with two trainings covering all five PITC modules. The PD Committee will continue to monitor state training efforts regarding CLASS and the potential need for CLASS Training in the Region.
  - Conference Call for Proposals has been released for the 2010 Leadership Conference.
- Outcome II: Executive Committee: Executive Committee met on January 4<sup>th</sup> to conduct Executive Director Appraisal. The committee recommended that the Board renew the current contract for services with Donna Veatch for 2010. This recommendation is considered an action item and will be acted on. (Refer to the unfinished business section above of these proceedings).
- Outcome III & IV: Advocacy Committee
  - Met and voted to elect Gregg Cummings, IAHSA as the Chair of the Advocacy Committee.
  - Committee voted to support the upcoming Senator Harkin reception that will be held during the January NHSA Leadership Institute.
- Outcome V: Partnership Committee
  - Sue Obermiller reporting: Shared list of Region VII Award Winners. The winner applications have been forwarded to NHSA for judging at the national level. Award winners have been notified and invited to the regional conference in May. A media release was also sent to all winners. Non-winners have also been notified and congratulated on their nomination.

### New Business

- No actions noted under new business from committees or from those present so noted. Refer to unfinished business for action items as presented by the Executive Committee.

## VIII. Other Business: Regional Report to NHSA ongoing

## IX. Adjournment

Hearing no further questions or business, Linda Bleything entertained a motion to adjourn.

**Motion:** Pam LaFrenz, MO moved to adjourn the meeting, Kesha Curry, IA seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned. Minutes respectfully submitted, Alora Cummings, Intern