

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

April 25, 2019, 4:30 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Weber called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Present:

Thomas Bean

Vince Goodman

Tom Lynch

Melissa McKinlay (joined by phone)

James Martz

Dennis Miles

Jose Luis Rodriguez

Thomas P. Weber

Excused: Donald E. Fennoy II, Ed.D.; Debra Robinson, M.D.

A. Invocation – led by Vince Goodman

B. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Chair Weber

C. Presentations

1. Presentation of TMW – Jennifer Munoz, Program Officer; Katie Dealy, Chief Operating Officer, TMW Center for Early and Public Health; Kristin Leffel, Director, TMW Research Operations and Strategic Innovations.

Q: With the two themes of engaging parents and technology platform, what is the interplay with the EveryParent App?

A: TMW is currently exploring this connection. They have had early conversations and understand that EveryParent App is very valuable and they are actively engaged in building the platform to be able to incorporate the EveryParent App into their plans.

Q: You mentioned wanting to work with a middle sized US community. PBC has an approximate population of 1.4M and it's very diverse in wealth and other issues. How would you deal with our county considering its size and diversity?

A: We applied for the Greater West Palm Beach/Riviera Beach to start as our prominent area and included 13 high needs adjacent zip codes. We will start there and within five years with our partnerships and strong connections with hospitals and our liaison program, we will be able to expand. The selection approach in the RFP was very thoughtful and data-driven. The original idea came through TMW's strategic planning considering a size that would be manageable.

2. Presentation of Strong Minds Evaluation – Michelle Gross, Ph.D., Director of System Performance, Jennifer Coleman, System Performance Lead; Kim Lu, Evaluation Officer; Jianping Shen, Ph.D., WeEval, LLC.

Q: Once you evaluate these programs, what do we do with the information?

A: We ask ourselves, are we improving the quality in the programs and having an affect on the children? We refine the model. We know from our providers that they

are really valuing the services and support that we are giving them. We are hoping that a lot of teachers continue to go through courses to improve their teaching practices. With this information, in year 5 we look at different types of supports and what really lead to the improvements for the children. What we identify as best, we will continue and do more. We also look at what the state is planning to do so that we don't replicate the state's efforts.

Q: Can you please share a success story?

A: There have been times in the past where a teacher might have a child who is experiencing trauma or behavioral issues and decides to separate the child from the classroom because they are acting out. Now, after learning classroom management strategies instead of the teacher separating the child because they are disrupting the classroom, the teacher works one on one with that child, asking them questions, and trying to understand what is going on with that child. As a result, that child is now feeling cared for much more and is also able to stay in the classroom.

Q: How can we bridge the gap between Blacks, Hispanics and Whites?

A: We are at an early point of disaggregating data to look at the impact that we are having. There is definitely a wide gap and we are happy to see that in Strong Minds we are starting to reduce that gap. We know that we have a lot more work to do and we are going to look at what it is that we are doing that is helping Hispanic children so much because they seem to be benefiting the most from our interventions and what can we do better for black children in our programs. We want to look at the effects of racism, implicit bias and understanding that the Kindergarten readiness test itself is on a computer and children have to use a mouse to take the test and that may be affecting some of their performance. In the coming years we will be looking at how we can better improve our efforts. We will be involving the teachers in these discussions, as well as the providers and the families.

Q: When we look at the chart on page 11, the Strong Minds Black children are at 49% and the non-strong minds are 45% and Hispanics are 58-43 and white are 71 to 71. There is no difference in white children. What does this means and should we concentrate strictly on Hispanic and African-American children if there is really no difference between the White Strong Minds and the White Non-Strong Minds children?

A: When we look at the gap, we want to call it an opportunity gap. The gap is not because of the child's performance or achievement, but because the limited access, exposure and opportunities for that child to have all of the things that are needed to be successful on a Kindergarten readiness test that happens the first 45 days in Kindergarten. When we look at those numbers, some of the questions to ask are how can we increase the access, opportunities and exposure for Hispanic children and we seem to be doing quite a bit for Hispanics and they are benefitting the most. What are we doing and what are we not doing for those programs that are serving majority black children and how can we offer more access, opportunities and exposure. Those are the big questions.

2. Minutes

A. March 28, 2019 Council Meeting

A motion by Bean/Rodriguez to approve the Minutes of the March 28, 2019 Council meeting as presented was approved by unanimous vote.

3. Public Comment – Agenda Items – N/A

4. Council Committees:

- Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met today and recommends the Council approve the minutes of the March 28th, 2019 meeting and the Financial Statements for March 31, 2019.

A motion by Goodman/Bean to approve the recommendations of the Finance Committee as presented was approved by unanimous vote.

- Personnel Committee – N/A

5. Consent Agenda

1. Additions, Deletions, Substitutions – N/A

2. Items to be Pulled for Discussion – Agenda item 5A(2) (Reference #3) and Agenda Item 5A(6) (Reference #7) were pulled for discussion purposes.

3. Adoption of the Consent Agenda and Walk-in Warrants List

A motion by Lynch/Bean to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Agenda items 5A(2) (Reference #3) and 5A(6) (Reference #7), and approve the Walk-in Warrants list was approved by unanimous vote.

A. Program – N/A

2. The Institute for Child and Family Health, Inc. Late Fees

Q: If our goal is compliance, and not to penalize our programs, what if we don't pay their monthly fee until they turn in their report? How long has it taken for them to hand it in on time, a couple of months?

A: In this particular case, it was a day. If we move in that direction, they will no longer be able to serve children. The way we set it up with a \$500 penalty, they know that we are serious about compliance but at the same time services are not interrupted. Our Program Performance Officers remind them constantly when due dates are coming and also email notifications to make sure that they know we are serious.

Q: Do we take into consideration if it is a reoccurring issue with a specific program?

A: We don't have an issue with any program having multiple infractions. Regardless of the penalty amount, providers don't like to be penalized. Also, once you are penalized, in addition to the fee, there is a letter that goes to their Board Chair.

FYI only; no action required.

6. Repurposing Organizational Under Expenditures

Q: Is this resolution saying that from now on, under expenditures can be assigned without having to come to the Board? The Board has oversight responsibility on expenditures. If we are referring to six figure expenditures, it should come back to the Board as a consent agenda.

A: Last time we did the Summer Camp under expenditures, the reason we moved forward with adding it to the prior resolution for child care slots was because there were over 400 children on the wait list for Summer Camps in Delray Beach. We didn't have an upcoming meeting so it became a timing issue.

Last year we did a budget amendment because we knew the amount of money that we needed, had the dollars available and knew that we had under expenditures that were going to go back into the budget. This year we are hoping that we can talk about how to change this, but still we want to be able to look at not having to amend every single contract budget going forward. Knowing the under expenditures that we have, we can come to the Board and state based on the under expenditures that we know, our tracking of under expenditures, we will have this much available.

Since 2012 we have had multiple resolutions. The three areas that these resolutions gave authority for the CEO to move under expenditures into are child care slots, summer programming and/or the Great Ideas Initiative. The sole purpose was not having our under expenditures continue to build up our fund balance.

Once we pass this Resolution, it would not come back to the Board.

Q: Would this eliminate the wait list?

A: Yes, based on what the county has shared.

If this is not approved, there will be a walk-in item presented today to discuss approval for an additional \$1.7 million for summer camps this year.

A motion by Rodriguez/Lynch to postpone this item was approved by unanimous vote.

B. Business

1. Warrants List – Approved by Consent
2. Proclamation Declaring May as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

A motion by Bean/Rodriguez to approve this Proclamation to raise awareness and recognize May 2019 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month was approved by unanimous vote.

6. Non Consent Agenda

A. Business – N/A

B. For Informational Purposes Only – N/A

7. Walk-In Items – N/A

A. Increase for Summer Camp Scholarships

Q: Instead of amending the budget to bring the \$1.7 million, would you give authorization to use under expenditures to make up the \$1.7 million?

A: Suggestion to amend the walk-in to use the under expenditures as opposed to an increase to the budget. Accepted by maker of motion and seconder.

Q: How much was the increase we approved last year for summer camps?

A: It was \$2.9 million.

Q: Do we have any other programs with needs besides the summer camp scholarships program?

A: All those negotiations are done by our Program Performance Officers and are brought to you regularly during the year for review and approval.

A motion by Rodriguez/Lynch to approve the amended resolution to provide the CEO the authority to use expected under expenditures and allocate up to \$1.7 million of those funds to the summer camp scholarships program without having to revise all contracts to remove under expenditures was approved by unanimous vote.

8. Chief Executive Officer's Report

- Follow-up from Council meeting: EveryParent Question Follow-Up, Drowning Prevention Coalition Question Follow-Up
- TMW Project RFP
- Great Ideas Initiative Success Story
- Great Ideas Initiative Request for Proposals – available in May
- Events: 2019 First South Florida Regional Robotics Competition; Youth Summit had over 550 young adults attend, Future Leaders United for Change from Birth to 22 lead several sessions.
- Communications Update: Outreach (Universities, Safe Kids Day, 2019 Spring Book Distribution). A video addressing the Spring Book Distribution was shared.
- Media Expenditures Report
- Birth to 22 Business Breakfast was sold out this year and had over 300 attendees, including many businesses.
- Youth Summit update
- Comments from Board members on the Groundwater analysis

9. Legal Reports

- Annual Financial Statement Filing due July 1st.
- There was a meeting among the Inspector General, Deputy Inspector General/General Counsel, Lisa Williams-Taylor and Tom Sheehan to explain what the Council wants. We will be bringing the OIG contract renewal back in May.

10. Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items – N/A

11. Council Comments – N/A

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 pm.



Vincent Goodman, Secretary



Lisa Williams-Taylor, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer