

Minutes

Committee Members in attendance: Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Philip Belcher, Christy Cheek, Kit Cramer, Jane Hatley, Rich Johnston, Chavaun Letman, Mistie Riesing-Cogbill, Glenda Weinert, Robert Pressley, Susan Mims, Leslie Anderson, Kidada Wynn and Al Whitesides.

County support staff in attendance: Rasheeda McDaniels, Patricia Wallin, Burnett Walz, Christina McEntee, Michael Frue, Rachael Nygaard and Kimberly Fullerton.

Welcome and agenda review by Jasmine Beach-Ferrara. Tech tutorial by Burnett Walz. Teleconference option available for all who would like to join meetings. Public comment at end. Applicants not eligible to address committee re: their application.

Minutes

A motion was made by Philip Belcher and seconded by Jan Hatley to approve minutes from April 7, 2020. The vote to approve the motion, including correction of a spelling error, was unanimous.

New Business

Dashboard/Data Refresh – Burnett Walz reviewed Early Childhood Education Grants dashboard. Reviewed population level data showing # of slots and facilities. Buncombe County childcare work also happening in response to COVID. Rachael stated that they have reached out to grantees to see what affect COVID would have and that information will be provided. Also State data on child care facilities open/closed.

Scoring Model – No large changes in scoring after Committee revised scores based on applicant's responses to follow-up questions. Bunc Co & YWCA changed to reflect one year of multi-year request. Committee discussion on multi-year requests. No formal process established. We can establish a contract for multi-year funding based on performance. Frue stated that pre-audit standards would need to be met for initial and oncoming years, not easy. Finance Director has to sign off that there is enough funds to meet the entire amount the first year. Rachael to follow-up on this with Frue and provide information to committee. Frue checked with Don and he would rely on fund balance for subsequent year's amounts. BOC would have to agree to enter in on continued contract. Committee to move forward with multi-year funding

Scenarios discussed of approving 100% by top rank and also funding all green applicants at a rate of 80%. Discussion of Southwestern Child Development and service they have provided the County historically. Rachael to talk with HHS Director & SW Director about their reliance on SW. Also reaffirm Southwestern's competitive bid with current administration.

Committee discussed taking equity into account in funding decisions.

Christine Avery center discussion. Formal motion, Jane Hatley, to get more information on Christine Avery Center & Southwestern. Also what bottom line would be for all centers before proceeding. 2nd, Al. Voted to approve.

Target to send information back to Committee by the 30th.

Upcoming Schedule:

- May
 - 5/5 1:00-2:30pm: Committee meeting
 - 5/12: Grant recommendations due to County Budget Office

Announcements

- All meetings will be virtual going forward using Teams as the online meeting platform.

Public Comment – Marsha Whitney – Word of thanks for all the work the Committee is doing.

Next meeting – May 5, 2020, 12:00-2:30 pm, Virtual