

## MINUTES

**Committee Members in attendance:** Al Whitesides, Brandy Bowman, Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Kit Cramer, Leslie Anderson, Linda McDaniel, Mark Taft, Mistie Reising-Cogbill, Rich Johnston, Robert Pressley, Susan Mims, Wendy Wieber  
Absent: Philip Belcher

**County staff in attendance:** Rachael Nygaard, Angelyn Johnson

**Others in attendance:** Carolina Rodier, Kaitlyn Guyer

**Welcome** and agenda review by Jasmine Beach-Ferrara.

### Minutes

Rich Johnston made a motion to approve the minutes from April 19. Al Whitesides seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

### Old Business

- FY2022 final reports:
  - The reports are posted online at [www.buncombecounty.org/grants](http://www.buncombecounty.org/grants). The committee would like staff to develop an executive summary of the overall performance, including common challenges and what worked well.
- FY2023 Grant Funding Process Review:
  - Staff reviewed the grant review process via the presentation that is included in the meeting documents. The committee discussed what worked well, improvement/enhancements needed and additional ideas.
    - What worked well:
      - Diversity of projects
      - Outreach and support of applicants
      - Flexible funding
      - Simplified application which helped organizations more effectively articulate their needs
      - Feedback provided to those not funded (upon request)
    - Enhancement/Improvements needed:
      - The committee would like to develop a communication plan that highlights the process and includes success stories. This could be used for advocacy.
      - The committee would like to see the overall impact (i.e. how many slots have we increased year over year). They would like to see our data compared to other NC counties if that data is available.
    - Ideas:
      - Kit has been approached by some local businesses who need childcare for their employees. They do not have the capacity to run a childcare facility, but would like to be able to provide this option for their staff. If any committee members would like to participate in an ad hoc group for this, they will reach out to Kit.

### **New Business**

- Committee presentation to Board of Commissioners on 9/6
  - Leslie Anderson and Kit Cramer volunteered to be on the ad hoc group for this presentation.
- Annual roadmap
  - The committee reviewed the draft roadmap and requested these changes:
    - For September – add an agenda item for Previewing the Board of Commissioner presentation
    - Add Multi-year funding discussion to September
    - The PreK expansion reports from Buncombe Partnership for Children will be shared with the committee each month
- Committee Vacancies
  - The committee currently has two vacancies. We received applications from several strong candidates. Kit, Leslie, Linda, Mark and Rich are serving on an ad-hoc group to conduct interviews and make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners. These interviews are scheduled for Friday, 8/5 and Monday, 8/8. It is anticipated that the recommendations will go before the Board at their meeting on 8/16 and the new members should be onboard for the September meeting.
- Committee Officers
  - During next month's meeting, the Committee will elect the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for the year. Jasmine reviewed the responsibilities of each position and encouraged members to come to the next meeting ready to nominate themselves or others for these positions.

### **Announcements**

- The LETRS Literacy kickoff for teachers is August 24. This will include kindergarten, Pre-K and Special Education teachers.
- The next PBS/UNCTV Impact Summit will be in Asheville next year. This is a free one-day training will be open to all.

### **Public Comment**

- Caroline Rodier participated in public comment to remind the committee about the upcoming Pre-K Expansion celebration event on August 18.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is September 6 at 1:00 pm.