

Minutes
Children and Families Advisory Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 12, 2019
Volusia County Historic Courthouse
2nd Floor Training Room
125 W. New York Ave., DeLand

Board Members

Dr. Mary Bruno, Chair
Dr. Kadie Hayward Mullins, Vice-Chair
Karen Bagley
Maria Mills-Benat
Georgann Carnicella
Alicia Gordon
Marjorie Johnson
Richard F. Lohmann

Staff Present

Corry Brown, Special Projects Coordinator
Jill Marcum, Grants Coordinator

Dr. Mary Bruno called the meeting to order at 1:30 and Corry Brown called the roll. Members Richard Lohmann, Maria Mills-Benat, Georgann Carnicella and Eddie Molina were absent. There was a quorum.

Dr. Bruno called for a moment of silence to remember Dennis Burns, President of the United Way.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Item 1 – Minutes

Dr. Kadie Hayward Mullins made a motion to approve the minutes of December 11, 2018. The motion was seconded by Marjorie Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Item – Evaluation of Summer Camp Provider Applications

Dr. Bruno explained that the purpose of the meeting was to approve summer camp provider applications. She went on to explain that the board needed to determine a baseline score requirement for approval.

Dr. Bruno reviewed the staff scoring procedures making it clear that staff's scores were based on demonstrable statistics from applications and the prior year's performance. She stated that the information was worth a total of 25 points. Dr. Bruno expressed concern regarding how to calculate staff scores so that they don't eliminate new providers.

Ms. Brown reminded the board that the scoring had been completely revamped the previous year to have the staff scoring be very objective and allowing the board to be subjective. She said that due to the change the staff scores were very low and five applicants were not approved last year. She said that the Volusia County Council had reviewed the history of the five providers not recommended for funding and approved them on a probation status the previous year. She noted that they had successfully implemented the program and no problems were encountered with those probationary providers. Ms. Brown said that this year the

board had simplified staff scoring and changed the weight of staff scoring lowering it from 50 points to 25 points, but the calculated scores were still low.

Dr. Bruno described the detailed categories of scoring by staff stating that the smaller agencies' scores were still quite low despite the change. She stated that the board could change the method of staff scores by eliminating them for special needs providers, eliminating them for new agencies and special needs camps or use them for all applicants.

Ms. Brown noted that the board could decide whether or not to accept the late application submitted by the City of Ormond Beach.

Ms. Bruno asked the representative from the city, Lori Koplin, to explain why they missed the workshop and the submittal deadline. Ms. Koplin stated that it was simply an oversight by the city. Ms. Bruno asked for a board consensus regarding the application status, reminding them that the City of Ormond Beach is one of the few camps in that area.

Ms. Brown noted that Ormond Beach also applied for a special needs camp, T-Rec in the same application.

Ms. Johnson made a motion that the City of Ormond Beach be allowed to participate on the condition that they attend and submit on time from now on. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mullins. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Bruno stated that the next step was to determine the passing score for the providers and decide whether or not to include the staff scores.

Dr. Mullins made a motion to eliminate the staff scores for the two new camps and the three special needs camps and have a proportional minimum for those camps. The motion was seconded by Ms. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Brown asked for clarification on the score for the five camps. Dr. Mullins stated that, for example, if they used 70 out of 105 as the regular minimum score, the proportional minimum score for the five camps without staff scoring would be 53.

Karen Bagley said that she would like to keep the passing score for the rest of the applicants at 70, however she had concerns due to some of the providers not adequately addressing the questions in the application. Dr. Bruno suggested passing the score and then asking for clarification from the applicants regarding her concerns.

Ms. Bagley made a motion to make the minimum score for funding recommendation 70 out of 105 points. The motion was seconded by Ms. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Liz Kammer, Volusia/Flagler Family YMCA requested to speak to the board about scoring provider applications. She explained that the staff scores penalized organizations because they couldn't compete with what the county charged for summer camp. Ms. Kammer stated that the board had already addressed the issue. She thanked the board for their service.

Ms. Bagley asked that Ormond Beach explain the different training described in the application, saying that it was a bit confusing as to what was offered to Community Connections employees versus what was offered to the T-Rec employees. Ms. Koplin, City of Ormond Beach, described the trainings offered and explained that there were different requirements for those dealing with special needs. Ms. Bagley stated that the city's application said that they did not supply meals in one section, but said that they participated in the Summer Food Program in a different section. Ms. Koplin said that they meant that the food was not provided by the city, rather they used food supplied by Volusia County as a part of the Summer Food Program. Ms. Bagley asked Ms. Koplin to describe some of the field trips provided last summer. Ms. Koplin described some of the trips made by each camp. Ms. Bagley requested that the city fill out two separate applications next year.

Ms. Brown agreed that since the two camps were on a totally different fee schedule that filling out two applications would be helpful to staff as well as the board.

Ms. Bagley asked what was done with the children who did not wish to participate in the field trips. Ms. Koplin stated that there would be a counselor to work with the children not participating. Ms. Bagley requested that Ms. Koplin explain the procedures for accidents, stating that the application did not do a good job explaining the process. Ms. Koplin stated that if the accident was minor they took care of it and informed the parent at pick up and that if the accident was more serious they would fill out an incident report.

Dr. Mullins stated that it wasn't just Ormond Beach that didn't thoroughly complete the applications, many of the applicants did a poor job of answering questions. She said that she understood that time was short, but that the board must know their practices when evaluating camps.

Ms. Brown said that as staff implements the program they see camps filling up and the parents having a hard time finding a place for their child to go. She said that staff was willing to provide technical assistance to providers that were having trouble, as the goal of the board is to help as many children as possible. Ms. Brown expressed concern that many of the applicants may not be recommended for funding, similar to what occurred in the previous year.

Ms. Bagley asked that the City of South Daytona explain how the children are fed, stating that the question was not filled out. Ivy Andrews, City of South Daytona, explained that the children bring their own lunch. She explained that the city provides a refrigerator and microwave for the children to use for their lunches. She also explained that if a child came to camp with no food the city would provide one for them and seek reimbursement from the parent, depending on the situation.

Ms. Bagley had questions for Blue Jay and Chase Academy but neither applicant had representatives at the meeting.

Ms. Bagley advised the applicants to do a better job filling out the applications in the future.

Dr. Mullins suggested distributing a sample application next year so that the applicants can see what the board is looking for.

The CFAB submitted their score sheets and the scores were entered into the matrix to determine the average scores for each applicant and approvals.

All applicants were approved for recommendation to Volusia County Council.

Discussion from board members

Dr. Bruno reminded the board that the Volusia County Council would likely be making appointments to the board for the next two-year term at the March 5th meeting. She stated that the board would need to vote for a new Chair and Vice-Chair at the April 9th meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.