

**VT Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance Steering Committee meeting
December 16, 2019 1:00p Montpelier**

MEETING MINUTES

Attendance

Steering Committee:

Faye Mack (Chair)	Morgan Nichols
Judy Pransky (Vice Chair)	Pam McCarthy
Barbara Petrie (Treasurer)	Sarah Kenney
Ann Dillenbeck	Sarah Teel
Deb Gass	Tabitha McGlynn
Jessie Carpenter	

Not in Attendance: Ilene Dickinson, Amanda Cochrane, Diane Nichols-Fleming, Ellen Drolette, Faye Longo, Floyd Nease, Holly Morehouse, Margaret Atkinson, Sonja Raymond, Steve Ames

Staff: Matt Levin, Charlie Gliserman, Amy Russo-Perler

Guest: Morgan Crossman

1. Welcome, logistics, agenda review

Introductions were made, and there were no changes to the agenda. New members were welcomed to the Committee, including Deb and Morgan. Matt noted that Deb was also filling in for Floyd Nease in representing the PCC Network at this meeting.

Matt introduced Amy, the Alliance's new Outreach Manager and explained that her responsibilities would cover membership, communications, and event management. Amy gave a summary of her previous work, and said she looked forward to getting to know Committee members in the coming weeks.

2. Minutes from 10/17/19 and 11/12/19 Meetings

Matt presented draft minutes from the October Steering Committee meeting and November conference call. There were no edits or corrections suggested, and the drafts were **accepted by consensus**.

3. Executive Committee Reports

Matt noted that the minutes from Executive Committee meetings held between Steering Committee meetings are always included in the meeting packet. There were no questions about the November Executive Committee meeting minutes.

Matt then reviewed the structure and purpose of the Policy/Advocacy Committee (P/AC), noting that the Executive Committee had approved Issue Working Group leaders for each item on the Legislative Agenda and that those leaders made up the P/AC. Faye Mack announced that she was appointing Tabitha to the At-Large position on the P/AC. Tabitha is serving on the SC representing health issues as an individual member, and was nominated by Ann Dillenbeck.

Matt then reviewed the proposed 2020 dues structure, as recommended by staff and the Executive Committee. The proposal is to continue with the current structure, charging individuals \$20, organizations \$75, and nothing for Strategic Partners. The proposal was **accepted by consensus**.

4. ECDL Planning Update

Amy provided a brief update on planning for Early Childhood Day at the Legislature '20, noting that she is working to complete the transition of coordination from Sarah Galbraith, whose contract with the Alliance is ending. A discussion followed. In response to questions about changes in sponsorships, Matt and Charlie noted that leadership changes at some organizations (including CDD) and the transition of Kelly off staff has meant some past sponsors are not going to be supporting ECDL '20. Other organizations, including the Turrell Fund, were stepping in to make up any lost revenue. Matt also noted that it's possible that staff will recommend changes to ECDL in '21, but for now the plan was to structure the event very similarly to past ECDLs.

5. BBF Update from Morgan Crossman

Morgan Crossman, BBF Executive Director, provided the Committee with an overview of the organization's current staff, structure, and priority projects. In the discussion that followed, topics included BBF's use of data, community involvement, communications, and other projects of interest.

6. Administrative Report

Matt provided an update on the evolving Alliance staff structure, as Amy settles in to her role and Charlie and Matt begin to make plans for staff coverage during the legislative session. Amy gave a report on membership recruitment, noting that Charlie has developed a plan laying out goals and strategies for the coming months.

Amy then directed Committee members to the Communications evaluation memo written by Sarah G. that was included in the meeting packet, noting that she will be doing similar evaluations in the future. A brief discussion followed, during which Committee members asked about the frequency of Alliance email newsletters during the session and off-session. Amy indicated that she would be working to evaluate these and other issues in the coming months.

Charlie then gave a presentation on the new website design, and asked Committee members for feedback. A discussion followed, with feedback being offered both verbally and through written comments.

7. '20 Legislative Agenda review

Matt directed Committee members to the draft graphic presentation of the Leg Agenda, and a discussion followed about various aspects to revise. Matt gathered the feedback and will work with the Alliance designer to finalize the graphic version of the Agenda, for release in January.

Several members of the Committee offered updates on their Agenda issues.

8. Equity exercise

Charlie led the Committee through an exercise exploring gender identity, diversity, and inclusion.

9. Announcements

There were several announcements about job searches and events being planned.

10. Scheduling next meeting

Matt noted the next meetings of the Committee would be in March/April and then at the Annual Membership Meeting, and that he would send out a poll in early January for the next meeting.

After thanks offered all around, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.