

VT Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance

Steering Committee meeting

May 24, 2022

3:55p

via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Attendance

Steering Committee:

Ann Dillenbeck

Amanda Herzberger

Claire Kendall

Chloe Learey

Faye Mack

Tabitha McGlynn

Janet McLaughlin

Morgan Nichols

Diane Nichols-Fleming

Carrie Stahler

Sarah Wallace-Brodeur

Dan Winslow

Mary Zentara

Not in Attendance: Sandra Cross, Ellen Drolette, Deb Gass, Sarah Kenney, Judy Pransky, Sarah Teel, VT Afterschool

Guests: Keely Agan

Staff: Matt Levin, Dan Brown, Taylor Hughey

1. Welcome, logistics, agenda review

Introductions were made, and there were no changes made to the agenda. New members were welcomed to the Committee.

2. Minutes from 3/30/22 Meeting

Matt presented draft minutes from the March Steering Committee meeting. There were no edits or corrections suggested, and the draft was **accepted by consensus**.

3. Election of Officers

Matt briefly described the process for electing officers, which occurs at the Steering Committee meeting held just after the conclusion of the Annual Membership Meeting. After noting that Keely would be taking over from her as the Hunger Free Vermont representative to the Committee, Faye proposed that the following slate be elected – Chloe Learey (Chair), Diane Nichols-Fleming (Vice Chair), Keely Agan (Treasurer), Tabitha McGlynn (Secretary), and Carrie Stahler (At-Large). The slate was accepted unanimously. Committee members thanked those willing to serve.

4. Executive Committee Report

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 April Executive Committee meeting minutes.

Matt reported on plans to hold a planning retreat for the Executive Committee, with the full Steering Committee invited, in July. This meeting would be a chance to explore long-term questions about the Alliance's work and funding sustainability. A poll to help with scheduling that meeting will be going out in the coming days.

5. SC Member contact info/stipend form

Dan noted that the form was now available electronically, and the link was shared with Committee members. He encouraged anyone with questions to get in touch with him directly.

6. Legislative Agenda '23 planning

Matt reviewed the draft schedule for activities to take place during the summer and fall related to the development of the 2023 Legislative Agenda. He noted that the Executive Committee and the Agenda Setting Subcommittee would review the schedule in the coming weeks and make adjustments as needed. Faye noted that it will be important in the coming year for applicants to be given flexibility in finalizing proposals given the many unknowns for the '23 session, most notably turnover on key legislative committees.

Volunteers were then requested for the Agenda Setting Subcommittee. Subcommittee members this year will be Amanda, Carrie, Keely, Diane, and possibly Claire (depending on availability), with Matt staffing. Matt noted that he would extend an invitation to serve to Steering Committee members who were not able to attend today's meeting.

7. Equity Subcommittee membership

Dan reviewed the work and membership of the Subcommittee, which he described as floating and variable from meeting to meeting. All Steering Committee members are notified of all meetings, and are welcomed to attend.

He and Matt described the ongoing discussion regarding the DEI question on the Legislative Agenda application, which will be the first topic for the Subcommittee to consider in the coming weeks. This discussion will take place in a joint meeting with the Agenda Setting Subcommittee.

8. Announcements

Faye noted that Hunger Free Vermont's Steering Committee seat would be filled by Keely in future meetings, as Keely's work has focused more and more on early childhood issues in recent months. Ann and Mary announced their resignations from the Steering Committee, citing work/job changes that made it impossible for them to continue serving. The Committee thanked all for their service and commitment to the issues.

9. Scheduling next meeting

Matt noted he would send a poll in a few weeks to determine the timing for the next full Steering Committee meeting, likely to be held in mid-October. He summarized the meeting schedule for the rest of the year.

After thanks were offered all around, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.