

**Cincinnati Preschool Promise
Executive Committee Meeting**
Held via Remote Video Conferencing by Zoom
Minutes of April 20, 2021, at 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Executive Committee Members Present:

Cheryl Rose, Bishop Ennis Tait, O'dell Owens, M.D., Deborah Mariner Allsop, Micah Kamrass, and Gary Lindgren

Executive Committee Members Absent: Gary Lindgren

Observers Present: None

Cincinnati Preschool Promise (CPP) Staff Present:

Chara Fisher Jackson, Executive Director
Héctor Polanco, Finance Director
Tanya Del Valle, Senior Administrative Assistant

Guests:

Jacob Purcell, Manley Burke

1. Welcome, Call to Order

O'dell Owens M.D. welcomed the members of the Executive Committee to the meeting, which was held via Zoom video conferencing. A roll call was completed, and the meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM.

The following was read out to the committee members and members of the public by Micah Kamrass before proceeding to the agenda approval.

Please note that in conjunction with Ohio State's revised Sunshine Laws and H.B. 404 signed into law in November of 2020, CPP has decided to convene the meeting via video conference. In accordance with Ohio's Sunshine Laws and H.B. 404, CPP has advertised the meeting on it's website in advance, and has provided a link for members of the public to listen and view the meeting. This meeting will be video recorded and a copy of the meeting minutes, including any documentation, will be made available on the CPP website, under the area Who We Are, Our Impact, Meeting Schedule, Approved Meeting Minutes as soon as possible after the meeting.

ACTION: Deborah Allsop made a motion to approve the agenda seconded by Micah Kamrass. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was requested to approve the minutes of March 2, 2021.

ACTION: Deborah Allsop made a motion to approve the minutes of March 2, 2021, seconded by Cheryl Rose. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. Executive Director's Report

Request for Proposal Process for External Evaluator Year 5

Chara Fisher Jackson said we are currently in Year 4 with Innovations. After surveying the Data and Evaluation Workgroup involved in the initial RFP process, they said that they recommend that we extend the current contract with Innovations for Year 5 and then do an RFP for Year 6. They also suggested that the term for future contracts be for 3-5 years. Any prospective vendor would need experience with urban early childhood environments and a good working relationship with Cincinnati Public Schools. Chara Fisher Jackson asked the committee what the next step should be so that CPP can be ready to go for August.

Deborah Allsop said that she fully supports extending the contract for Year 5. She said that continuity is very important and that Innovations has worked well for us even during a pandemic year. She said that we should extend this contract for one year and then go through the RFP process for year 6.

Cheryl Rose says the pushback about the RFP had nothing to do with the performance of Innovations. It related to the benefits of running an RFP process like price checking and that there may be some pushback from the Finance and Audit Committee, but that she has no objection.

Deborah Allsop said the committee should recommend the Board of Managers to take a vote on extending the contract for a year instead of doing an RFP.

Bishop Tait asked what the total value of the extension would cost. Chara Fisher Jackson said that the current cost was \$392,000, but we do not yet have a scope of work for year 5.

Bishop Tait said he supports Deborah Allsop's recommendation of taking it to the Board of Managers.

Deborah Allsop said that we need to inform Innovations that we will not increase the contract cost for year 5.

Chara Fisher Jackson said that if we need the exact scope of work, then the work should cost the same, but if we want different things, that would be outside the current scope of work and would cost more. Chara Fisher Jackson said that Innovations has been measuring our COVID-19 impact and how we are driving our outcomes.

Dr. Owens asked if the committee had consensus support recommending that the Board of Managers extend the contract for one year. The committee agreed.

Both Deborah Allsop and Bishop Tait said they do not want it to cost more than Year 4. Chara Fisher Jackson noted that the additional area enhancements were related to direct requests from the Board of Managers.

Research Recommendation on Quality Improvement (QI) by Auditor

Clark Schaefer Hackett and Metrix are estimating the cost of adding additional data tracking for the QI program. The costs range for the expansion of QI data tracking is \$65,000 - \$95,000.

External Learning Session (ELS)

Chara Fisher Jackson confirmed that providers prefer an ELS model based on enrollment and not attendance, which has been implemented for the FY21 session as suggested by the board.

Advocacy & Legislative

Chara Fisher Jackson said that we are following Ohio HB110 & HB145, expanding eligibility for publicly funded childcare from 130% FPL (\$28,000 income) to 138% or 200% FPL (\$43,000 income).

Ohio will receive 499+ million dollars in Childcare Development funds and 799+ million dollars in childcare stabilization funding. State plans for the use of the funds are forthcoming.

Community Provider Closures

- Permanent closures - 4 TA sites & 2 QI sites
- Temporary closures – 3 TA sites & 3 QI sites

Dashboard Update

Chara Fisher Jackson said that there is only one yellow area, expanding community engagement. All items are on track to succeed, and all the other areas are green.

Pitch Night

Six finalists were chosen for the Pitch Night scheduled for April 21st. The final decision will include votes from the public on Facebook Live, the Pitch Night panel, and the screening panel.

Dr. Owens said that it is normal for programs to have more students each year. He asked Chara Fisher Jackson, “How do you think COVID-19 will affect those numbers for us?” Chara Fisher Jackson said that we would continue to see limited enrollments as parents are not ready to send their children back to school. We don’t think we will get back to a thousand, but we expect to increase. We predict that we will not get below that 30% dip that has been seen nationwide in preschool enrollment from pre-COVID-19 numbers.

3. Committee Reports

Finance & Audit Committee

Cheryl Rose said that the committee had a good conversation and agreement about the FY22 draft budget. The only question was around the QI work and perhaps if the forecast might be overestimated. The question presented was whether the QI budget was estimated by a set percentage or built from the ground up. He explained that the budget is created by getting feedback from each program manager as well as data from Metrix reports.

Cheryl Rose said that the next steps are to present at the upcoming Board of Managers meeting and then back to the Finance & Audit Committee. Hector Polanco added that it would also be part of the Cincinnati Public Schools budget hearing.

Community Engagement

Bishop Tait said that the Community Engagement meeting had an informative session but did not have a quorum. They discussed the Pitch Night plans. They also discussed the challenges that providers are having engaging their families and providers that are struggling not to lose their stars and maintain their status. Extended Learning Session was also a topic of discussion and why returning students were the only ones chosen.

Dr. Owens commented that even without quorum that the committee had good discussions.

4. Adjourn

ACTION: Cheryl Rose made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Gary Lindgren. The motion was unanimously approved.

Future 2021 Meetings:

May 4 at 3:00 PM

June 1 at 3:00 PM

August 3 at 3:00 PM

September 7 at 3:00 PM

October 19 at 3:00 PM

November 2 at 3:00 PM

Submitted by Tanya Del Valle, Senior Administrative Assistant

Cincinnati Preschool Promise