



**Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING & QUALITY  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**The Landings  
Monday, January 11, 2010  
10:00**

**MINUTES**

| <b>ATTENDEES</b>  |                 |                    |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Kathleen Sullivan | Mary Wolf       | Claudia Malecki    |
| Dianne Lawrence   | Candy Exline    | Missy Eckenrod     |
| Valerie Walton    | Jackie Fontaine | Susan Slack        |
| Jill Jacoby       | Eva Balcar      | Marjorie Fondacaro |

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m. by Mary Wolf and she welcomed everyone. Susan Slack introduced herself to the committee and gave a brief description of her background with young children and early childhood development. Everyone reviewed the minutes from the last meeting and no changes were noted.

**2. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

Conference Planning:

The committee reviewed the proposal from Nan Colton for the opening session of the conference. Mary stated that Nan comes highly recommended from the Arts Council. The committee had the general consensus that the proposal was very good.

The committee reviewed the Schedule-At-A-Glance with highlighted sessions not confirmed. Mary reported that Musicians out of the Box are happy to present but is not sure what they would be able to offer in a break out sessions.

We currently have 400 registered and Mary voiced concerns over the logistics of the drum circle and the need to move things around in the Student Union after lunch as well as moving 400 people out of the Student Union to the Auditorium then back to the Student Union. Jackie stated that since this is the first year at a new location that the committee may need to see how things run and can be organized and possibly look at the drum circle for next year. Kathleen asked about just having for breakout sessions but Mary reported that his cost is over \$1000 and at this point there may not be another large room available for the sessions. Mary said Kate Alexander has been highly recommended for a closing session by the Arts Council and that she had done a

presentation for principles that was reported to be reaffirming and very dynamic. Susan suggested that she could offer bonding/closing songs and dance in concentric circles for the closing. Discussion ensued about possible closing scenarios. The committee decided to use Susan for a Snake Dance to transition from Lunch into the Auditorium for the closing.

Lesson plans will be included in the attendee binder for each session. If the presenters do not have early learning experience then ELC staff will be developing. Mary is still looking for resources to go along with all breakout topics. If anyone has resources, please send to Mary.

Door prizes will be displayed in the Student Union. Names will be drawn after lunch and announced during the closing session but will not be distributed at that time. Winners will be able to pick up their prizes after the conference concludes.

Kathleen will be talking with Beth Baranowski this afternoon to answer all questions about the logistics of Pine View. Jill and Eva volunteered to be in charge of putting the binders together on Friday. We will be paying someone for the use of the kitchen for the conference that will arrange the breakfast food on platters, prepare beverages, and assist with lunch. Sandwiches from Cork Screw Deli are being ordered. Jill will look into finding signs that have been thrown away that could be reused for all the directional signage needed. Kathleen is investigating possible musicians that could play as background music during lunch. Committee support will be needed to help put together the binders on Friday afternoon, and assist with conference set up early Saturday morning and serve as session monitors during the conference.

Information on retention bonus survey:

Mary reported that a survey was sent out to all participating Look for the Star centers. Bonuses will be based on the number of years teachers have been employed at the same center as decided at the 12/2/09 meeting with directors. The years were broken down into 3-5 years; 5-10 years; and 10+ years. Results will be shared with the committee. The amount of the bonuses will be decided based on the number of teachers eligible.

#### **4. OTHER DISCUSSION**

An ERS highlights training will be offered by the ELC Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at the directors connection and again that evening at the Human Services complex on 17<sup>th</sup> Street office. South County training will be at Lakeside Lutheran on Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. The training will cover areas for which no extra materials are needed to meet the ERS expectations and that all providers should be able to achieve.

#### **5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

#### **6. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 11:55. Next meeting set for February 22nd.

Submitted by Valerie Walton