

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2013, 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Offices – Room A & B
775 Ball Avenue, NE

Members/Alternates Present: Wayman Britt, Candace Cowling, Lynne Ferrell, Kirsten Gietzen, Judge Patti Gardner, Jack Greenfield, Lynn Heemstra, Sylvia Hopson, Paul Ippel, Gary Lemke, Nancy Marshall, Maureen Noe, Savator Selden-Johnson, Diana Sieger, Matthew VanZetten, Patti Warmington.

Members Absent: William Forsyth, Sandra Ghosten-Jones, Cynthia Gladyness, Ron Koehler, Kevin Konarska, Sharon Loughridge, Cathy Raevsky, Vicki Seidl, Christopher Smith, Justin Swan.

Guests: Rosalynn Bliss, Veneese Chandler, Judy Freeman, Christine Gilman, JoAnne Hoganson, Jacob Maas, Rich Liberatore, Jim Talen, Randy Zylstra.

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Lynne Ferrell opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions were done. The agenda was reviewed and was accepted as is.

Lynn Heemstra made a motion to accept the minutes from the November meeting as submitted, supported by Gary Lemke – UNANIMOUS

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Collective Impact Update

Lynne Ferrell gave a brief overview of the Collective Impact process and the current status. She reported that the work is about 90% complete. A backbone organization has to be chosen to complete this phase of the planning. There is a funder's meeting scheduled along with a final meeting of the Steering Committee in early February.

Work Group Information -- Matthew began with a PowerPoint presentation. He pointed out that the work groups are the driving force charged with aligning efforts and implementing the common agenda. Matthew provided the parameters used for the populating work groups, including consumers, new voices and business groups.

Indicator Development -- Matthew continued, reporting that a subcommittee has been created to

discuss common indicators. Areas of focus include Home and Family Stability, Early Childhood, K-12 Academic Success, Post-Secondary Enrollment and Completion, and Career Success. He said the Committee feels there is a need to create a Home and Family Stability Composite, which would help to establish a baseline measurement in this area. The indicators with an asterisk in the PowerPoint presentation were those included on the Governor's dashboard.

The data has been identified, but the design of the indicator dashboard has not been done. Matthew said he will be working with the Community Research Institute (CRI) in developing the Home and Family Stability Composite index. Data-sharing agreements need to be negotiated with the various entities to bring the data together into one place at CRI. Also, the testing process will need to be done so the workgroups can use the data as they develop their recommendations.

Backbone Discussion – In December, the Steering Committee reviewed a backbone's role and the governance of this effort. They also reviewed the proposals that were received. Matthew noted the backbone is the facilitator of the workgroups, and provides information to the work groups, does background research so the workgroups can make decisions and recommendations to the governance entity. The governing body actually leads the Collective Impact effort and provides accountability to the community. The six key functions of the backbone are:

- Guide Vision and Strategy
- Support and Align Activities
- Establish Shared Practices
- Build Public Will
- Advance Policy
- Mobilize Funding

A backbone's work is essentially to stay in the background but assist in moving the effort forward.

Matthew explained the function of the Governance group and noted that the governance structure that is selected will influence how the backbone is constructed.

Next Steps – Matthew said the Johnson Center withdrew their proposal to serve as the backbone organization. He said there's confusion on the role of governance (leadership) vs. staff (facilitator) and whether they could be embedded in the same entity. Another meeting will occur to have a broader conversation on how to move forward. The upcoming funder's conference call will be important in determining how much support is needed.

Lynne Ferrell added there has indeed been some confusion as to the backbone process. One example offered was the use of RFP language. FSG uses the RFP process to uncover interest in the community. The community views RFP processes as far more structured. The next meeting will be designed to bring more definition to the backbone discussion. Also, there will be preliminary conversations on the level of funding that might be available to support this effort.

Lynne added that during the discussions on workgroups, it was determined a gap existed between 4th and 8th grade. Also it was identified these discussions need to occur beyond K-12 into college age.

4. **KCFCCC Nominating Committee Report** – Matthew VanZetten said three members of the nominating committee, Gary Lemke, Patti Warmington and himself met and had a substantive discussion. Executive Committee changes were suggested based on Paul Ippel's impending retirement. The recommended Executive Members are as follows:

Lynne Ferrell (Chair), Maureen Noe (Vice-Chair), Cynthia Gladyness, Teresa Neal, Kevin Konarska, Sharon Loughridge, Judge David Murkowski (alternate for Judge Gardner), Savator Selden-Johnson and Diana Sieger.

The information was presented for review. The KCFCCC is scheduled to vote on this in February 2013.

5. Arbor Circle Update

Jack Greenfield gave an overview and update on the tragedy that recently took place in the parking lot of Arbor Circle. He said network180 provided a tremendous level of crisis support to the staff at Arbor Circle. He added that it was a very emotional situation and he thanked the colleagues around the table for their support during the crisis.

6. Board of Commissioners Transitions

Matthew mentioned that the new Chair of the Board of Commissioners is Dan Koorndyk and the Vice-Chair will be Commissioner Jim Saalfeld. Also, Commissioner Saalfeld will now chair the Legislative Committee of the Board of Commissioners and Commissioner Harold Voorhees will chair the Finance Committee. He added that the Human Services Committee will now be led by Commissioner Koorndyk.

7. Miscellaneous

Jack Greenfield mentioned that April 17 Arbor Circle will host a dinner honoring Lew Chamberlain.

Lynn Heemstra mentioned the State of the City is January 26.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Next Council meeting: Tuesday, February 5, 2013 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Room A & B

