

Torrington Early Childhood Collaborative (TECC) Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting held on June 16, 2014.

Called to Order at 9:15a.m. by Cheryl Petersen, TECC Co-Chair. Minutes from our last meeting were reviewed and approved as printed.

In Attendance: Michelle Anderson/Education Connection& Family Resource Center, Elaine Hanscom/TECC, Mary Cecchinato/Torrington Child Care Center, Donna Labbe/TECC & Torrington Public Schools (TPS), Cheryl Kloczko/TPS, Cheryl Petersen/TECC, Jan Lyon/TECC-LICC Child Growth & Development Co-Chair, Yankeira Palanco/Even Start Parent

Items Discussed:

Coordinator Position- Education Connection is offering a 3% cost of living increase to all employees. A motion was made to extend that increase to Donna Labbe for the 2014-2015 fiscal year (currently five hours per week budgeted). After discussion, motion carried. It was noted that TECC staff may not vote on TECC motions and representatives from those organizations receiving school readiness funds from TECC may not vote on school readiness motions.

Group Schedule- Confirmed October 9th date for an All-TECC meeting and topics for future TECC Steering Team Meetings. A motion was made to approve the proposed schedule of meetings and motion passed. The Steering Team and Education Workgroup will continue to meet on the second Monday of every month during the school year and the Child Growth & Development Workgroup will meet on the third Thursday of every month during the school year. The Sustainability Workgroup will meet quarterly.

Programs- TECC is applying for a grant to fund a People Empowering People (PEP) class in the evening in the fall months for interested parents. TECC is also looking at grants to fund an early childhood center/alternative learning center in town. Classrooms could be phased in as needed and as funding comes in. The city does own a building that can be renovated for our needs.

Budget- The IRS application for non-profit 501(c)3 status was reviewed and questions were brought up regarding the application process. At a minimum we would need an accountant and an attorney on board to help with this process. Pros and cons of receiving this non-profit designation were discussed and group consensus was at this time we do not need to apply. TECC can continue to build on our existing standing in the community and pursue other funding streams using existing fiscal sponsors.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Elaine Hanscom, TECC Secretary.