



Board of Directors Meeting

December 8, 2011

Minutes – November 10, 2011

Item II.A.

PRESENT: Elise Minkoff, Vice Chair; Maria Edmonds, Secretary; Brian Aungst, Jr.; Honorable Bob Dillinger; Judge Raymond Gross; Honorable Bernie McCabe; Raymond Neri; Angela Rouson, Commissioner Karen Seel; Dr. James Sewell; Colleen Flynn, Attorney

ABSENT: Dr. John Stewart

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Minkoff called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Dillinger.

New Governor Appointed Board Members were introduced: Mr. Brian Aungst, Jr., Mr. Raymond Neri, Mrs. Angela Rouson, and returning Appointee, Dr. James Sewell.

II. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Approve Minutes for October 13, 2011
- B. Accept Financial Report for October 2011

ACTION: Mr. McCabe moved to accept the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Seel; no discussion; motion carried.

III. ACTION

- A. Elect Board Chair and Executive Committee for 2011-13

ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved approval of the following slate for a two year term through September 30, 2013; seconded by Mr. McCabe; no discussion; motion carried.

Officers of the Board are as follows:

Chair	Elise Minkoff
Vice Chair	Maria Edmonds
Secretary	James Sewell
At Large	Bob Dillinger

- B. Health and Human Services Coordinating Council (HHSCC) Board Appointments

The by-laws of the HHSCC call for the formation of a Policy Board whose function is to “...provide policy direction, support and resources to guide and facilitate the work of the HHSCC; to set policy and determine local discretionary funding in the context of overall community priorities, needs and direction...”. The Board is comprised of eight members: three from the

Juvenile Welfare Board, four members of the Board of County Commissioners, one of whom is also a JWB Board member, and the Pinellas County Sheriff.

There are four Public Management Networks where interested policy makers and operational managers address issues related to specific outcomes in: 1) Health and Behavioral Health, 2) Homelessness, 3) Affordable Housing, and 4) Disaster Recovery. The Pinellas County Homeless Leadership is the leadership group for the Homeless Network.

ACTION: Mr. Neri moved to appoint Dr. Sewell and Mr. Dillinger to the HHSCC Policy Board; seconded by Mrs. Edmonds; no discussion; motion carried.

ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved to appoint Mrs. Minkoff to the HHSCC Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board; seconded by Dr. Sewell; no discussion; motion carried.

C. Accept IRS/VITA Grant Award

JWB received a grant of \$93,150 from the IRS to enhance the Wealth Building Coalition of Pinellas County's 2012 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. JWB is prepared to meet the 1:1 match requirement with a combination of contributions from private and public partners including Bank of America, Pinellas County Transit Authority (PSTA), United Way of Tampa Bay, and Wells Fargo Bank. The Wealth Building Coalition's Coordinator position, funded by JWB, is also part of the match.

The VITA program is an IRS initiative designed to promote and support free tax preparation services for the underserved, low income population, including the elderly, disabled, limited English-speaking, non-urban, and Native American taxpayers.

Discussion:

Mr. Dillinger: What is the amount of JWB's cash match.

Ms. Prewitt: JWB is providing the salary and benefits for the Wealth Building Coordinator (approximately \$59,000).

Mr. McCabe: Is there data that indicates this is a good investment.

Mrs. Lancaster: Last year Pinellas County received between \$3M and \$4M as a result of the Wealth Building Coalition initiative, via Neighborhood Family Centers' tax filers (County total: \$5.9M).

ACTION: Mr. Neri moved to accept the grant in the amount of \$93,150, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the Department of Treasury – Internal Revenue Service Grant Agreement and other documents necessary to receive the grant; seconded by Mrs. Edmonds, no further discussion; motion carried.

IV. PRESENTATION

A. Child Care and Out of School Time Request For Proposal (RFP)

Karen Sierra, JWB's Program Development & Support Department, presented the draft Quality Child Care and Out-of-School Programs RFP (available on JWB's Website: www.jwbpinellas.org). Highlights of the presentation included:

- ▶ In FY 12-12 up to \$6.1m will serve an estimated 1273 children and youth ages 0-14 years of age
- ▶ The RFP includes the Board's approved mandatory high quality standards at centers, family homes, school-age and OST programs
- ▶ The RFP includes the Board's approved market rates of an average of \$5,400 annually for children ages 0-5, and an average of \$4,480 annually for children ages 6-14
- ▶ Returns to a Unit Dollar Invested - Outcomes
- ▶ Scope of Services

Discussion:

Mr. Dillinger: Ratios: If a caregiver were able to increase the ratio, they might be able to charge less per child, therefore making childcare more affordable. Are Hillsborough and Pinellas counties' rates consistent? Suggested a Board member be involved in the discussion, and an open discussion among JWB and the providers before a decision is made on who will be awarded the dollars.

Mrs. Edmonds agreed to represent the Board in the RFP process.

Mr. McCabe: The Board has had the discussion that quality is more important than quantity. His concern is that the providers won't be able to perform at the level JWB is asking for the dollars JWB is willing to pay, and they may come back to the Board at a later date and request more funding. There should be an opportunity for the providers to offer their input.

Judge Gross: The Board should rely on social science that states children need the proper ratios. He isn't in favor of increasing the ratio for children 0-3 years.

Commissioner Seel: Has staff researched the market to determine average costs prior to the issuance of the RFP, and whether an increase in the market rate is needed, and would it come back to the Board for a vote?

Mrs. Lancaster: The RFP indicates last year's rate which was provided by the Pinellas Early Learning Coalition (ELC), and probably increase this fiscal year, at which time the Board will have the opportunity to approve or deny the rate increase.

Mr. Neri: How many hours are children in Out of School Time and is parent involvement included in the RFP?

Mrs. Lancaster: Children are in OST from 3 to 6 hours a day and parent involvement is a requirement of the RFP.

Mrs. Edmonds: The one to three ratio for children 0-3 is vitally important. As a grandmother of triplets she is well aware of the demands of taking care and nurturing three infants at the same time.

Mr. Aungst: Has concern regarding the amount of the RFP; might the agency return to the Board at a later date requesting additional dollars? Is the time table presented feasible given the added step of provider participation?

Mrs. Lancaster: The timeframe will be adjusted to meet the needs of the process.

Additional Comments:

Patsy Buker, Executive Director of Pinellas County Licensing Board (PCLB): Safety and quality are the main goals for the PCLB. PCLB's requirements do exceed the State's and believes the one

to three ratio is extremely important to the development of infants. PCLB would be happy to work with JWB to provided additional data.

Art O'Hara, Executive Director of R'Club: The bottom line is you can't charge enough to cover the cost of infant care; cost is recovered in subsequent years. The success of a program depends on the provider's dedication and commitment to quality. Remains concerned with the amount of the RFP and would like to have more discussion on cost and educational requirements for OST staff. Hillsborough County's ratio for infant care is one to four and there have been no incidents reported.

Mrs. Lancaster: The children being served with JWB dollars are the most vulnerable children in Pinellas County. Many of them are in homeless shelters and are in great need of quality care and nurturing. If JWB needs to step up to the plate and pay more for the services needed to get the job done, then JWB will request the Board to approve an increase. If we don't invest in these children up front, we will be paying an even higher amount later because they will be getting into trouble and dropping out of school.

B. Evidence-Based Programs

Marcia Marcionette, JWB's Lead Researcher, presented a report on JWB's investment in evidence-based practices (power point is available on the JWB Website: www.jwbpinellas.org.) Highlights of the presentation included:

- ▶ Why Use Evidence Based Programs
- ▶ Criteria for Evidence-Based Certification
- ▶ Program Rankings
- ▶ JWB Investment Distribution: Evidence-Based
- ▶ Child Care and Out-of-School Time

Discussion:

Mr. Dillinger: Why aren't Neighborhood Family Centers required to utilize evidence-based programs?

Mrs. Lancaster: That is a future goal.

Mr. McCabe: What is the total budget for the Pinellas County Licensing Board? \$1.2M (JWB funds \$609,614).

Mr. Neri: Evidence-based programs are a good idea but not all services can be measured. JWB needs to make sure they are recognized.

C. Eckerd Community Alternatives

Lorita Shirley, Executive Director for Eckerd Youth Alternatives (EYA): They are applying for the Circuit 13 (Hillsborough) Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) for Community-Based Care. Pinellas County would not be impacted by this action because they would operate independently with a local governing board. If EYA is awarded the contract, they would be able to save on administrative costs and would be able to put the dollars saved back into services in Pinellas.

Mr. McCabe: If the bid is successful, would it be accurate to say JWB will no longer be asked to provide funding for their Emergency Response Team?

Ms. Shirley: That is correct.

The Circuit 13 selection is expected to be announced January 2012.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Legislative Report
- B. ECA Community Based Care Report
- C. Initiative Updates, Site Visit Schedule and Summaries
- D. Calendar of Events
- E. Personnel Report
- F. Media Items

VI. OPEN AGENDA

Veatrice Farrell, Pinellas County resident: There is an overlap in services between JWB and the Pinellas County School system and she would like to see them integrated.

Carrie Hepburn, Chair of the North County Community Council: Thanks JWB for their commitment to the children and families of Pinellas County.

Paul Runyon, Program Director with Coordinated Child Care: The recent Request for Proposal for Out of School Time is in no way a reflection on Coordinated Child Care's (CCC) ability to provide the services. CCC has already implemented many of the quality standards called for in the RFP. They look forward to working with JWB in the future.

Mrs. Edmonds: Reminded everyone of the Poverty Experience being held on November 12, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at the First Baptist Church (1900 Gandy Boulevard, St. Petersburg).

Mrs. Minkoff: Announced the JWB Board Orientation scheduled for November 18, 2011 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at JWB in Conference Room 191.

Mr. Neri: His mission to increase parental involvement countywide. JWB needs to make a concentrated effort to create community partnerships.

VII. ADJOURN

Judge Gross moved adjournment at 10:52 a.m.; seconded by Dr. Sewell; no discussion; motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by:

Dr. James Sewell
Board Secretary

12/2/11