



Commission on Child Care
Full Commission Meeting-Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2021-Approved
Virtual Meeting Held Via Microsoft Teams

Members Present: Barbara Andrews, L’Ornya Bowie, Tracy Clay, Yvonne Iscandari, Tara Phillips, and Verna Washington

Members Absent: Lindsey Allard-Agnamba, Laurie Moran, Will Hegwood and Bill Polman

Guests Present: Jennifer Penrose, Dr. Gearline Bryan and Nagwa Rizk

Staff Present: Erin Stillwell (DHHS)

Meeting Called to Order: L’Ornya Bowie, rotating chair, called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm

Roll Call and Introduction of Guests

Review and Vote of May 19, 2021 meeting minutes

Action: Motion to accept the minutes from the May 19, 2021 meeting

Motion: Tracey Clay

2nd: L’Ornya Bowie

Full vote taken via roll call: all in favor

Brief Update on Membership and Appointment/Confirmation of New Members (Erin Stillwell, staff to the CCC)

Updates on Early Childhood Education Initiative (ECEI) Action Plan (Dr. Barbara Andrews)

- Creating an RFP for Supply and Demand Study and Market Analysis Study
- Working to create a pilot for subsidy “seats” in child care programs; providers would be paid directly for the seat based on enrollment and not attendance
- Working on pilot to create “seats” for three-year-old children who are aging out of early head start; contract with child care providers to designate subsidy “seats” in programs for these children
- Currently \$500,000/year available for scholarship program at Montgomery College; trying to build the same scholarship opportunities at four-year colleges
- Working on how to build and finance the Kirwan Blueprint

Discussion about “Rotating Chair” for reminder of commission year

- In the absence of an elected chair and vice chair, commission members will be asked to serve as a “rotating chair” or meeting facilitator until the instillation of a new chair/vice chair

- **Discussion and Brainstorming for 2021-22 CCC Policy Priorities**
 - Fair compensation of the child care workforce
 - Retention of the current child care workforce
 - Concerns about keeping child care staff trained while still maintain staff to child ratio
 - A draft of the priorities statement will be created and circulated to the full CCC prior to October meeting

- **Updates/Report Out**
 - Yvonne Iscandari, Administrator OESS
 - In November 2021, WPA will increase the income level to 425% of the Federal Poverty Level (from 350% previously)
 - WPA portal is in the Beta testing phase; portal will be in multiple languages and will assist families applying for WPA
 - In future, it is hoped that there will be an “app” for WPA that can link to the local LOCATE

Next Steps/Action Items:

- Circulate draft of 2021-22-year top policy priorities for feedback from the CCC (Erin)

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm