

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
SOUTH CAROLINA FIRST STEPS TO SCHOOL READINESS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
A SOUTH CAROLINA NONPROFIT CORPORATION**

December 10, 2009

MINUTES

- Voting Directors Present: Ms. Lisa Van Riper, Acting Chair
Sen. Mike Fair
Ms. Julia-Ellen Davis
Ms. Judith Aughtry
Mr. Floyd Creech
Mr. Henry Parr Jr.
Ms. Nicky Wallace
Rev. Reece Yandle
Ms. Kristin Hook
Ms. Pam Wills (designee for Superintendent Jim Rex, SC Dept. of Ed.)
- Voting Directors Absent: Governor Mark Sanford
Senator John Matthews
Mr. Lewis Smoak, Vice Chair, excused
Rep. Rita Allison, excused
Ms. Marileen Chapman
Ms. Linda O'Quinn, excused
Ms. Katherine Davis
- Non-Voting Directors Present: Ms. Susan Jones (designee, SC DOT)
Dr. David Goble, Director, SC State Library
Ms. Cindy Sweigart (designee for Mr. C. Earl Hunter, SC DHEC)
Ms. Lachelle Frederick (designee for Mr. Lee Catoe, Director, DAODAS)
Ms. Jennifer Buster (designee for Mr. Andy Laurent, SC DDSN)
Ms. Debra Sessions (designee for Ms. Kathleen Hayes, Director, SC DSS)
Ms. Mary Payson, (designee for Mr. Bobby Bowers, SC B&CB/ORS)
Mr. Tim Ervolina, President/CEO, United Way of SC
- Non- Voting Directors Absent: Ms. Melissa Craft (designee, for Mr. John McGill, SC DMH)
Ms. Emma Forkner, Director, SC DHHS
Mr. Jim Griffith, Director, Transportation Assn. of SC
Ms. Stephanie Frazier (designee for Mr. Barry Russell, SC Tech Colleges)
Ms. Lane Goodwin (designee for Dr. Garrison Walters, SC Commission on Higher Education)
Mr. Tim Ervolina, President/CEO, United Way of SC, excused
Dr. Nancy Freeman, Regulatory Advisory Committee
Dr. Paul Krohne, President, SC School Board Association
- Others Present: Ms. Brenda Martin, DHEC
Dr. Rich Lewis, MidSouth Regional Resource Center
Dr. Sharon Ringwalt, National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center

Mr. David Lisk, York County First Steps
Mr. Jim Riddle, Lexington County First Steps
Ms. James Ella Collins, Charleston County First Steps
Ms. Carol Daly, Georgetown County First Steps
Ms. Susan DeVenny, SC First Steps
Dr. Dan Wuori, SC First Steps
Ms. Debbie Robertson, SC First Steps
Ms. Betty Gardiner, SC First Steps
Mr. Joyce Johnson, SC First Steps
Ms. Rogers Hewitt, SC First Steps
Mr. Russell Brown, SC First Steps
Ms. Tamala Toney, SC First Steps
Ms. Betsy Marshall, SC First Steps
Ms. Kristie Musick, SC First Steps
Ms. Lenora Burke, SC First Steps
Ms. Sheila White, SC First Steps
Ms. Gail Shelley, SC First Steps

Call to Order

Ms. Lisa Van Riper called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

A motion by Ms. Nicky Wallace and a second by Ms. Judith Aughtry was made to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, held November 10, 2009. The motion was approved unanimously.

Finance and Administration Committee

Ms. Judith Aughtry stated that the Finance and Administration committee was continuing to work with Executive Directors and on the Exemplary Performance Criteria and hope to have final recommendations to share with the board at the January 21, 2010 meeting. Ms. Aughtry stated that the county partnership Executive Directors on the ad hoc team are adding great leadership in finalizing criteria.

Ms. Judith Aughtry informed the board that she did not have a finance report to share because the new SDE finance system, SCEIS, was down through December 31, 2010.

Program and Grants Committee

Dr. Floyd Creech briefed the board on the upcoming PITC (Program for Infant/Toddler Care) distance learning, sponsored by SC DSS and USC, and encouraged participation by the County Partnerships. Ms. Debbie Robertson offered herself as the First Steps contact for more information or assistance.

Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee

Ms. Lisa Van Riper briefed the board on the history of VISION 2013, the First Steps state strategic plan. Ms. Van Riper proceeded to then explain several changes that were included in the final VISION 2013 document and also highlight the main areas of the plan.

Dr. Dan Wuori reviewed final amendments, no content edits were made apart from re-ordering and grouping of objectives into theme areas for ease of comprehension. Ms. Van Riper thanked the staff and committee for their hard work, and stated that the themes make the plan easier to read and present.

Ms. Lisa Van Riper recommended that the VISION 2013 be approved by the board.

The VISION 2013 document was approved unanimously.

Director's Report

Ms. Susan DeVenny thanked the entire agency for the hard work during the VISION process. Ms. DeVenny then turned over the meeting to Ms. Susan Jones, who gave a brief presentation on the BabyNet transition.

Dr. Dan Wuori briefed the group on the current set-up of BabyNet and then introduced Dr. Rich Lewis and Dr. Sharon Ringwalt.

Dr. Rich Lewis and Dr. Sharon Ringwalt presented I.D.E.A. Part C background such as who is served, types of services provided and the meaning of "lead agency" designation.

Dr. Dan Wuori gave an update on the transition process and introduced Dr. Richard Ferrante with the USC Center for Disability Resources, Brenda Martin with DHEC, Kristie Musick with SC First Steps and all current BabyNet staff.

Ms. Lisa Van Riper asked for any questions from the group.

Mr. Henry Parr asked for a description of the program's current budget. Ms. Lisa Van Riper stated that a finance report would be included at the January 21, 2010 meeting.

Ms. Kristie Musick stated that the BabyNet team is currently taking the work of the six technical teams and have begun expanding on their recommendations.

Ms. Susan DeVenny then referred the group to the DSS/First Steps joint memo, the 2010 Board of Trustees calendar and briefed the group on the one year anniversary of the S.C. Nurse-Family Partnership.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.