



Board of Trustees Meeting
April 20, 2023 2:00PM
SC First Steps
636 Rosewood Drive Columbia, SC 29201
Minutes

Trustees Present (16):

Rep. Terry Alexander	Jessica Mackey
Dr. Shelley Canright, Vice Chair	Dave Morley, Chairman
Jacque Curtin	Roger Pryor
Mary Lynne Diggs	Edward Simmer
Matthew Ferguson	Wes Wooten
John Hayes	Sue Williams
Sen. Greg Hembree	Dr. Amy Williams
Tim Holt	
Michael Leach	

Trustees Absent (6)

Rep. Shannon Erickson
Constance Holloway
Robert Kerr
Sen. Gerald Malloy
Janie Neeley
Alexia Newman

Attendees (64)

Georgia Mjartan	James Calhoun	Nur Tanyel
Avian Jones	Jennifer Williams	Glennis McElveen
Cindy Riley	Joy Mazur	Jade Wright
Tangela Green	Kathy Fitzgerald	Jon Artz
Derek Cromwell	Kenna Hoover	Elizabeth Dudek
Sarah Crawford	Kerry Cordan	Sam Ingram
Sheila Cornwell	Kristine Jenkins	Gina Beebe
Chelsea Richard	LaMyra Sanders	Mark Barnes
Leeza Steward	Lexi Jones	Martha Strickland
Santasha Highley	Mary Baddela	Betty Gardiner
Loretta Parker	Myrelo King	Beth Moore
Kaitlyn Richards	Olandor Lewis	Rashawn Aaron
Jackson Wilkens	Pauline Whiting	Cory Wilson
Laura Baker	Sharon Bruton	Justin Myers
Rachal Hatton	Shayla Pettigrew	
Lis Guimaraes	Sherri Evans	
Angela Pasquino	Tamatha Kohler	
Berry Kelly	Whitney White-Anderson	
Brandie Maness	Vanessa Harrell	
Carletta Isreal	Shirleen Lewis	
Cindy Dixon	Jabari Clyburn	
Cindy Galloway	Deborah Mitchell	
Dorian Young	Quinn Baker	
Faith McCaul	Rochelle Elliott	
Hannah Hayes	Birley Wright	



Mr. Morley called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. Mr. Morley requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Dr. Canright provided the motion. Mr. Holt provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the February 16, 2023 minutes. Mr. Holt provided the motion. Dr. Canright provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley provided a report on the Executive Committee where he provided updates on board transitions. Jennifer McConnell fulfilled her commitment to the board by serving two terms. New appointments to the board are Wes Wooten, Rep. Terry Alexander, and the Superintendent of Education's designee Matthew Ferguson. Mr. Wooten will serve on the Local Partnerships Programs and Grants Committee. Rep. Alexander will serve on the Legislative Committee. Mr. Ferguson will serve on the Early Childhood Advisory Council's Interagency Collaboration Committee.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the following consent agenda. Dr. Williams provided the motion. Dr. Canright provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda: Motions Recommended by Committees (Dave Morley)

- a. **Motion:** To approve the Evidenced Based Program Go NAPP SACC to be added to the SC First Steps Evidenced Based Program list for Program Year 24 beginning July 1, 2023. (Local Partnerships Programs and Grants Committee recommends)
- b. **Motion:** To approve the program guidelines for the Evidenced Based Program Go NAP SACC to be added to the SC First Steps Evidenced Based Program guidelines for Program Year 24 beginning July 1, 2023. (Local Partnerships Program and Grants Committee recommends)
- c. **Motion:** To approve the award of Resources for Early Acceleration and Development in Youth (READY) Child Care Technical Assistance Expansion or Establishment Grants to five (5) Local Partnerships (see the award chart Attached) as selected by the SCFS State Office External Review Committee: Berkeley, Dillon, Dorchester, Spartanburg, and York County Local Partnerships. (Local Partnerships Programs and Grants Committee recommends)
- d. **Motion:** To approve the award of Resources for Early Acceleration and Development in Youth (READY) Infrastructure and Capacity Building round 2 Grants to Lee County First Steps per the partnership's grant application (see the award chart attached) for its non-capital request as recommended by the SCFS State Office Review Committee. (Local Partnerships Programs and Grants Committee recommends)
- e. **Motion:** To approve the 2021 Form 990. (Finance and Administration Committee recommends)
- f. **Motion:** To approve the capital improvement request for Lee County First Steps. (Finance and Administration Committee recommends)

Dr. Williams reported on the Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee. Dr. Williams announced that Lexi Jones will be designated as the staff liaison for the committee while Dr. Richard is on leave.



Mr. Hayes reported on the Local Partnerships Programs and Grants Committee.

Mr. Holt reported on the Finance and Administration Committee. He presented the 2021 Form 990 to the board for approval where a motion was requested on behalf of the committee. The 2021 Form 990 was approved unanimously. He discussed the committee's approval of the Lee County First Steps capital improvement request.

Mr. Cromwell shared information on Nurturing Parenting. He introduced Rashawn Aaron and Cory Wilson, Parent Educators from Dillon County First Steps, and Justin Myers, parent participant. Mr. Aaron and Mr. Wilson discussed how the program is implemented in their community. Mr. Myers shared his experience as a participant of the program.

Sen. Hembree provided a legislative report where he commended Ms. Mjartan and staff on educating the General Assembly about First Steps. He shared information on the budget and the legislation proposals regarding the reauthorization of First Steps and the restructuring of First Steps local partnerships.

Ms. Mjartan provided the Executive Director's report where she acknowledged the retirement of Virginia Newman, Calhoun County First Steps Executive Director and Barbara Manoski, Spartanburg County First Steps Executive Director. She shared information about the success of the ReadIn SC event that was held and the fundraiser being held that evening. She provided information and statistics on First Steps 4K. Ms. Mjartan provided an update on the Your Voice Matters First Steps 4K Spring Family Survey and an update on the agency's grantmaking status and process. She introduced new staff and highlighted the agency's Infants in the Workplace policy.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Williams provided the motion. Mr. Pryor seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m. by Mr. Morley.