



Board of Trustees Meeting

December 4, 2020

2:00PM

<https://zoom.us/j/99827298279?pwd=TOFQWlhGcmRlWHIMY3pFN20zRVJwQT09>

Members Present (18):

Dave Morley, Chair
Dr. Shelley Canright, Vice Chair
Rep. Rita Allison
Alexia Newman
Dr. Amy Williams
Dr. David Mathis
Sen. Greg Hembree
Jennifer McConnell
Jessica Mackey

John Hayes
Mary Lynne Diggs
Mike Leach
Roger Pryor
Marshall Taylor
Tim Holt
Walter Fleming
Sen. Gerald Malloy
Mary Poole

Members Absent (3):

Josh Baker
Sue Williams
Rep. Jerry Govan

Others Present (44):

Georgia Mjartan
Avian Jones
Zack Catoe
Samantha Ingram
Angela Pruitt
Anna Workman
Beth Moore
Betty Gardiner
Carletta Isreal
Cassie Barber
Chelsea Richard
Cheryl Scales-Chavis
Cindy Ellis
Cindy Galloway
Crystal Campbell
Debbie Robertson
Delores Rock
Dorian Young
Janice Kilburn
Jennifer Williams
J Kimrey
Jon Artz

Joy Mazur
Julie Hussey
Kim Spigner
Kim Trudell
Kristine Jenkins
Laura Baker
Laura McNair
Lis Guimaraes
Lavinia Tejada
Mark Barnes
Martha Strickland
Nancy Ziobro
Rachal Hatton
Rogers Pender
Shayla Pettigrew
Suzanne McGougan
Tierra Thomas
Trimeka Johnson
Valencia Johnson
Carla Brown
Sheila Cornwell
Sarah Crawford

Avian Jones conducted a roll call.

Mr. Dave Morley allowed Tremika Johnson, Chair of Dorchester County First Steps, to speak during the public comment period.



Mr. Dave Morley called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Dr. Canright provided the motion. Dr. Mathis provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the revised October 22, 2020 minutes. Sen. Hembree provided the motion. Ms. McConnell provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley reported on the Executive Committee and provided thanks to Sen. Harvey Peeler for the appointment of 2 new board members and for reappointing Jennifer McConnell. He went on to introduce new board members Jessica Mackey, filling the role of Parent of a Young Child, and John Hayes, filling the role of Early Childhood Educator. Mr. Morley announced the resignation of board member Angel Johnson-Brebner and the completion of Julie Hussey's term on the board.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the 2021 SC First Steps Board of Trustees and Early Childhood Advisory Council meeting dates. Ms. McConnell provided the motion. Dr. Canright provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Consent Agenda: **Motions Recommended by Committees** (David Morley)

- a. Motion for the approval of the Horry County First Steps Partnership Board request to begin a new program, Ready4K!, allocating \$2,910 in state funds towards this program. (Programs and Grants recommends)

Dr. Mathis provided the motion. Dr. Canright provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Fleming reported on the Finance and Administration Committee noting that they have received verbal confirmation that SC First Steps will be reimbursed the \$4.4 million that was spent on COVID-19 efforts. Mr. Fleming acknowledged that \$10.3 million in new money was requested in the state budget request. He also shared that the lease agreement has expired and the agency concluded the solicitation of bids and was currently in the process of securing a new office space.

Ms. McConnell brought forth the recommendation from the Program and Grants Committee to allow Oconee County First Steps to utilize \$2,000 of FY20 state carryforward funds and \$500 in private funds to begin the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program for eligible families in Oconee County.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to accept the recommendation presented by Ms. McConnell. The motion was provided by Dr. Canright, second by Mr. Holt, and was unanimously approved.

Ms. McConnell reported on the Programs and Grants Committee, local partnerships that may not be able to fulfill the 15% match requirements due to COVID-19, the status of competitive grants, and the Racial Equity Institute training that members of the staff and local partnership will be attending.

Ms. McConnell thanked Ms. Hussey for her time and work on the Programs and Grants committee.



Dr. Williams reported on the Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee, the kickoff of the second round of the Build It Back Better survey, the launch of Listen4Good, and continued partnership with the University of South Carolina's Institute for Families and Society.

Sen. Hembree, Rep. Allison, and Sen. Malloy provided a Legislative update.

Ms. Mjartan provided the Executive Director's report and introduced of 5 new team members. She presented the 2019-2020 Annual Report, encouraged members to continue their support of the agency through donating, and reviewed media coverage of SC First Steps for the 2020 year.

Mr. Morley permitted time for Ms. Mackey and Mr. Hayes to make remarks. He thanked Ms. Hussey for her leadership and service. Ms. Hussey expressed her gratitude.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Newman provided the motion. Dr. Mathis provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Morley.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.