

From Cradle to College Foundation, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
Of
September 29, 2021

The From Cradle to College Foundation, Inc. held a Board of Directors meeting on September 29, 2021, at 10:00 AM through a Zoom Meeting initiated at 600 8th Avenue West, Palmetto, Florida

Board Members Present:

Marc Gilner
Dianne Kopczynski
Diana Dill

Board Members Absent:

Linda Guritz (excused)

Howard Veltz
Rachael Quinn
Andrew Minor (non-voting)
Paul Sharff, Managing Director

ELC Staff Present:

Darrell King

Foundation Staff Present:

Marie O'Connell

These minutes are a summary of the discussion and action items of the From Cradle to College Foundation Board of Directors meeting on September 29, 2021.

Welcome and Roll Call

Marc Gilner called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

Paul Sharff conducted roll call and determined a quorum was present.

Foundation Update

County Funding/Contracts

Mr. Sharff reported to the board that WIT program continues at \$210,000 for the county contract year. Due to the nights and weekends required there have been some staffing issues. The work is performed by ELC staff who provide services to the Foundation for this program. The program has been running successfully and currently has a wait list of clients as the program enters its second year.

CARES

Mr. Sharff noted that all of the CARES funds were spent, but there is now additional funding available. The Foundation will apply again for this funding and hopes to expand its vehicle fleet by adding more buses to serve the community's needs.

PEARLS

Mr. Sharff shared with the board that we are working on great ideas for PEARLS in the future, asking for continuing funding shortly after the new year. Marie O'Connell reported that she has been back out in the field training in person at childcare centers and that interest in the program continues. To be certain that we do not exclude family childcare homes or smaller centers, zoom trainings have been continued. Ms. O'Connell reported that during the contract negotiations, she was able to lower the minimum number of attendees to 10. This change allows the training to be provided to centers who could not previously meet the minimum of 15 and those who are now smaller because of the pandemic and resulting labor shortage. PEARLS continues to receive positive feedback from participants through the evaluation process, showing appreciation of a positive and productive approach to a topic that is difficult.

Golf Tournament 2021

Mr. Sharff reminded the board that the Association of Early Learning Coalitions will be holding its annual meeting here in Manatee County at the time of the Golf Tournament which provides an opportunity for them to participate. Darrell King shared that this is the 10th Anniversary for the tournament which has brought in more sponsorships. He also asked that the board join in with a foursome and enjoy a fun day. Mr. King stated that he anticipates a \$70,000 net from the tournament which will benefit the Foundation and Coalition.

Manatee County government began seven years ago when there was another concerning situation, this time resulting in the death of a child. At that time, the change was not made possible, but this time it seems more likely. The County does have reserve funding that could possibly be used to set up this program. Mr. Sharff has been speaking with the commissioners to encourage the implementation of local licensing similar to Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Sarasota.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

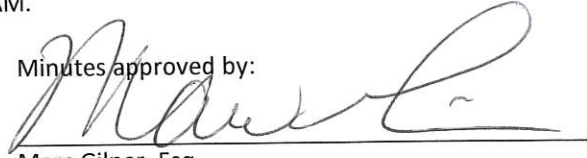
There being no further business to come before the Board, Dianne Kopczynski moved to adjourn, and Diana Dill seconded the motion. The Meeting was adjourned at 10:33AM.

Minutes Prepared by:



Marie O'Connell

Minutes approved by:



Marc Gilner, Esq.