

Minutes
FMC Community Empowerment Board
August 16, 2007 – 6:30 p.m. Charles City Public Library

Board Members and Collaborators made self-introductions.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Virgil Pickar, Jr. at 6:30 p.m. with the following board members answering roll call: Virgil Pickar, Jr., Kathy Herrick, Bob Mareel, Mark Knudsen, Anne Windolf, Bonnie Blake, Shannon Paulus, Leo Staudt, Lori Yost, Elayne Werges and Amy Sauke (after 6:40 p.m.) Board Members absent were Kae Courtney and Deb Freeman. It was determined that there was a quorum.

The agenda was reviewed. It was suggested that the third item, the Preschool Scholarship Committee report, be placed after the presentation of the FMC Community Empowerment Plan. It was moved by Bob Mareel and seconded by Leo Staudt that the amended agenda be approved. Vote taken: All ayes

The minutes of July 16, 2007 Annual Meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Shannon Paulus and seconded by Bonnie Blake that the minutes be approved as presented. Vote taken: All ayes

The proposed amendments to the FMC Community Empowerment Bylaws were presented for approval. Kathy Herrick reviewed the proposed changes. The current Bylaws have been extensively reviewed by the State Technical Assistance Team. These changes were recommended by the State to update and clean up the language and bring the bylaws in compliance with State Empowerment guidelines. After discussion, it was moved by Leo Staudt and seconded by Shannon Paulus to approve the Amended Bylaws as presented. Vote taken: All ayes.

Don Chaplain, from the University of Northern Iowa, presented the final draft of the FMC 3-year Community Plan. He reviewed the plan with the Board and the Partners and Collaborators present. A lengthy discussion was held concerning Part 4 of the Plan, reviewing each proposed objective, strategy and evaluation technique. After including input from the partners and collaborators involved, it was moved by Amy Sauke and seconded by Bonnie Blake that the 2007-2010 FMC Community Empowerment Area Community Plan be approved as drafted and presented to the State Empowerment Board for review and approval. Vote taken: All ayes

The FMC Community Empowerment Re-designation Self Evaluation Report was presented for Board review. After discussion, it was moved by Mark Knudsen and seconded by Anne Windolf that the Re-designation Self-Evaluation Report be approved as presented. Vote taken: All ayes.

The Preschool Scholarship Committee Report was presented. The members of this committee (Lori Yost, Mark Knudsen, Rachel Connerly, Director of Central Preschool and Sara Hoffman, Director of St. Johns Christian Preschool) have recommended two tiers of scholarships, with Tier 1 income requirements being at or below 130% poverty guidelines and Tier 2 being up to 200% poverty guidelines. They are proposing the following scholarship rates: Tier 1 - \$47 for 2-day program, \$67 for 3-day program and \$117 for 5-day program, and Tier 2 - \$36 for 2-day program, \$52 for 3-day program and \$88 for 5-day program. After discussion, it was moved by Amy Sauke and seconded by Shannon Paulus to approve the recommendations of the Preschool Scholarship Committee concerning income guidelines and scholarship amounts. Vote taken: All ayes

The Preschool Scholarship Committee is also proposing to use the 2007 carry-over funds of \$19,107 for 24 scholarships specifically for children who are 5 years of age on or before September 15, 2007. Any family who qualifies under the 200% poverty income guidelines will receive a Tier 1 scholarship and other families will automatically be eligible for a Tier 2 scholarship. These scholarships will be on a first-come, first serve basis and are intended to help families who, in making the right choice for their child, choose to make the financial sacrifice of sending their child to another year of tuition-based preschool rather than “no cost” kindergarten. After discussion, it was moved by Bonnie Blake and seconded by Lori Yost to approve the Committee’s proposal for the use of \$19, 107 in carry-over funds for 24 scholarships for children who are five years of age on or before September 15 2007. Vote taken: All ayes.

The next meeting of the Board will be September 24, 2007. The Board was reminded of the State Empowerment Review for the FMC Empowerment Area on October 10, 2007 from 1:30 to 3:00 at the Charles City Public Library.

There being no further business, it was moved by Bonnie Blake and seconded by Mark Knudsen that the meeting be adjourned. Vote taken: All ayes Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Herrick
Secretary

