Mayor's Commission for Children Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 14, 2017 8 am

Springfield Chamber of Commerce

Bill Foster South Conference Room

Members Present: Gerry Lee, Dr. Doug McNeal, Dr. Elizabeth Andrews, Linda Ramey-Greiwe, Kimberly Shinn-Brown, Dr. Jennifer Baker, Alexis Brown, Christy Davis, Dr. Laurie Edmondson, Susan Henderson,

Dr. Kayce Morton, Jan Fisk. Members absent: Paul Satterwhite, Bria Coale, Shara Cash and John Chastain Staff: Brigitte Marrs

Gerry Lee, Chairman of the Mayor's Commission for Children brought the meeting to order at 8:08. He welcomed new members that will be joining the commission. Amy Chenowith, Jennifer McClure, Pat Gartland, Missy Riley. Existing members introduced themselves to the new members. Also, Tina Haberberger-intern who has been working with the Mayor's Commission introduced herself and spoke of the projects she initiated for the Commission. Her last day was November 8.

Brigitte reported a new logo for the MCC was being developed by the City. Press-release will be going out on new members once approved by council. Draft of advisory council roles and responsibilities will be in place once the restructure is approved my council. MMC is having more visibility at City events.

Commission will move forward with same format and same sample size for kindergarten readiness study. Efforts begin in coordinate in the spring w implementation in the fall of 2018. Study to be released in spring 2019.

Gerry asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last commission meeting. Dr. Kayce Morton made a motion to approve. Susie Henderson seconded. Members voted to approve minutes.

Gerry Lee asked Linda Ramey-Greiwe to share with the members the Missouri Budget project projection of the loss of state revenues that will begin in January from the corporate tax rate reduction going into effect. Gerry shared a similar projection from the Missouri School Boards presentation. Electronic copies will be sent to the members to familiarize themselves on the issue.

Gerry discussed the implications of funding the foundation formula with no withholds before Jul1, 2018-ADA money would be available for early childhood children served should there be no withholding. SPS continues to plan on serving 200 additional children (10 classes) for the next three years. Goal of 600 in the three year period. Planning is taking place in case that is the scenario from a fully funded formula.

Gerry introduced State Senator Bob Dixon who has been a champion for Early Childhood Programming within our state. Bob Has offered enabling legislation for greene co/city to be able to ask the voters for a tax(1/4 of 1 percent) to fund early childhood programs locally. Bob spoke to the history of this initiative and that he would be pursuing this again on the senate side. Rep. Quade will handle the bill on

the House side. Bob said to continue to tie Early Childhood Development as a workforce development issue locally. Jennifer McClure agreed. He suggested continue to market the need in our community. Bullet points-organized around a multifaceted groups of community entities. Develop strategies to neutralize opposition for Springfield to have this opportunity. Build coalition across the state. Missouri Leaders Children's Advocacy Council is a strong resource.

Laurie Edmondson did a brief announcement that the Darr grant was awarded last week. Kimberly, Christy, Missy all worked on the grant. Monies will be available over a five year period to improve literacy with young children in the community. Universities, agencies, CPO,SPS, are just a few of the entities involved. Congrats to all who made this happen.

Meeting concluded at 9:10. Next meeting January 9th at 8 am at the Chamber of Commerce. Speaker/Presenter will be Amy St. John sharing Student Success Report from Springfield Public Schools.