

**Wake County SmartStart
Executive Committee Meeting
July 25, 2007**

A regular meeting of the Wake County SmartStart Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, July 25, 2007 in the conference room of the Wake County SmartStart offices located at 1121 Situs Court, Suite 250 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Executive Committee members in attendance were Hannah Poteat, Donna Rutowski, Mary Urzi and Michael Weisel.

Executive Committee members absent and excused were Dale Cousins and David Zonderman.

Executive Committee member absent and unexcused was Michele Miller.

Staff members present were Pam Dowdy, WCSS Executive Director, Elizabeth Santana, Anna Troutman and Pat Whelan.

Chair, Michael Weisel called the meeting to order at 8:51 am and a quorum was recognized.

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Michael Weisel, Hannah Poteat seconded the motion. All voted approved unanimously. (07-07-01)

A motion to approve the consent agenda which included minutes of the May 23, 2007 Executive Committee meeting was made by Donna Rutowski, Mary Urzi seconded the motion. All voted and approved unanimously. (07-07-02)

The meeting began with Executive Director Pam Dowdy sharing with the committee the funding allocations chart from NCPC and conversation ensued around how local partnership rates are calculated and it was stated that WCSS is still funded below the state wide average.

Committee and Board Chair Michael Weisel provided the committee with a legislative update then announced his decision to run for North Carolina State Treasurer. He assured the committee that he did not feel this would conflict with his duties as Board Chair and asked the committee to voice their opinions should they have concerns. A conversation evolved regarding how the race and/or election may impact the board. After the discussion, the committee uniformly announced their support. Hannah raised the issue on term limits and the possibility of amending the by laws to extend terms or create an "emeritus" category which would allow board leaders whose terms are ending to continue their leadership roles. Pam offered to bring language for the committee to review at the next meeting.

Executive Director Pam Dowdy moved the meeting along to update the committee on the NCPC Competitive Grant program outlining the timeframe for activity submission and noted that the activity models have identified by NCPC. A lengthy discussion evolved as to whether it would be advantageous for WCSS to pursue this grant using the model that addressed Childhood Overweight.

Next Ms. Dowdy provided the committee with a DSP monitoring update. Two issues are under review by staff and include serving children who are no longer age eligible. This is particularly relevant in activities where services aren't "over" just because the child enters school. Program income and Medicaid revenue is the other issue identified. Ms. Dowdy explained that "program income" needs to be spent within a two year timeframe and "Medicaid income" needs to be spent in the same fiscal year it is earned which can be difficult as these funds are at times not received until the end of the year. This poses issues on how best to spend these funds. Staff will be working on procedures for how to better track, report and expend this revenue over the next year.

_____ Initial

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The More at Four update included Governor Easley's signing an executive order expanding the MAF program and the pressure on local partnerships to expand slots. The MAF office is working to get authorization to use any funds not allocated for slot expansion into slot enhancement i.e. higher reimbursement rates. WCSS has requested 200 additional slots provided that higher reimbursements are available.

The last item on the agenda was an update on the Board Strategic Planning Retreat. Ms. Dowdy explained that Maggie McGlynn would be the retreat facilitator and she would present an overview of the retreat at the next BOD meeting on August 22nd. The committee was reminded that the retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, August 29th and would be held at the Cameron Village Library.

Being no other new business, Chair Michael Weisel requested a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Hannah Poteat, Donna Rutowski seconded, all voted and the motion to adjourn at 10:26am passed unanimously. (07-07-03)

Board Secretary Signature

Date