

**ECCC Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 10, 2016**  
**9:00-12:00**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Barbara Andrews  
Jennifer Arnaiz  
JoAnn Barnes  
Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta  
Stephanie Brant  
Jody Burghardt  
Deann Collins  
Amy Cropp  
Patsy Evans  
Joan Glick  
Michelle Green  
April Kaplan  
Carol Legarreta  
Dede Marshall  
Meredith Myers  
Bernadine Occhiuzzo  
Linda Owen  
Tobi Printz-Platnick  
Hilda Richards  
Claudia Simmons  
Becky Smith  
Vivian Yao

**Staff Present:**

Sarah Wilch-Spamer

**Guests:**

Vickie DiSanto  
Rolf Grafwallner  
Paula Sayag  
Tokeitha Wilson

**Convene:**

- Introductions

**November Meeting Minutes:**

- Motion from Linda Owen to accept the minutes from the November 12, 2015 meeting
- Second motion: Stephanie Brant
- Vote: 18 in favor
- Resolved: Motion Carried; Accept the minutes from the 11/12/15 meeting

## Updates:

- Membership:
  - Two new members—Joan Glick and Becky Smith.
  - Barbara checking with Executive's office to finalize ex officio members.
  - Membership vacancies remain for parent, pediatrician, and faith-based, and business.
  - The Strategic Planner is almost through procurement. The membership will be notified when the official announcement is made.
  - The Public Policy Officer position is in recruitment and interviews will occur soon.
  - Nominations for Executive Committee: Lauren Moskowitz has stepped down and Patsy Evans has retired. Current Executive Committee consists of Linda Owen, Michelle Green, Dede Marshall, Deann Collins, and Barbara Andrews. Full ECCC membership will need to vote on a new Executive Committee to begin in June. Please send nominations to Sarah. Members may self nominate. A slate will be prepared for a vote in April. The Executive Committee will continue to have a Chair and Vice Chair and needs to have public members. The committee should consist of four to five people—5 members, plus 2 chairs.
  - Hilda, Portia, and Jody are now in ECCC advisory roles, as their positions were not part of the law that created the ECCC. All three have agreed to stay on and Jody will continue to lead the Parent and Family Engagement committee.
- Barbara is reworking bylaws to reflect what is in the child care bill. The bylaws will include the Executive Committee. Draft bylaws will be sent to the membership for review and edits, with a final draft to be voted on at the April meeting.
- Child Care Bill: The section of the bill related to reaching out to family providers has yet to be funded. If that part is funded, it will create additional positions at the Montgomery County Resource and Referral Center.
- Early Childhood Services will be moving to 1401 Rockville Pike at a date still to be determined. Future ECCC meeting will take place at the new building.
- The Children's Opportunity Fund Governing Board is made up of County Executive, President of the County Council, President of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Schools, and the interim Director of the fund, Shirley Brandman. The first meeting of the Governing Board took place in November 2015. The focus right now is on children being ready to learn and able to read by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

## JoAnn Barnes, DHHS Budget Overview and ECE with Q&A

- DHHS Budget to be released with the County Executive's budget on March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- There are two clusters that receive special focus each year—one is Seniors and the other is Positive Youth Development.
- DHHS is working on a new project focusing on teen pregnancy—one idea being considered in the areas with higher rates of teen pregnancy is soliciting support from the child care programs in those areas to build a relationship with parents trying to continue school and have child care. Goal is to have state and local funds available for wrap around supports to those families.
- DHHS is bringing grand readers into five DHHS offices where parents are applying for benefits.

**Deann Collins, MCPS Budget Overview and ECE with Q&A**

- Focus on closing the achievement gap, collaboration and partnerships.
- MCPS Budget Book is available in hard copy and online.
- Smaller reorganization than last year—budget page on MCPS website has additional information.

**Committee Meetings:**

- Committees met to discuss work already underway, consider next steps, and the future of the committees.
- Committee meeting minutes should be submitted to Barbara Andrews.

**Priorities Discussion:**

- Members split into two groups and were asked to discuss Early Childhood priorities and consider what steps can be taken with the priorities, and budget implications. The groups were also asked to consider if the ECCC should submit a letter to the County Executive and County Council in terms of Early Childhood budget priorities.
- The groups reported out on the results of the priorities discussions. The notes will go out to the full membership via email.

**Letter to Council:**

- Motion from Tobi Printz-Platnick to have Barbara Andrews and Executive Committee draft Early Childhood budget priorities letter to the County Executive and County Council. The letter will go to full ECCC membership for comment prior to its submission.
- Second motion: Claudia Simmons
- Vote: 17 in favor
- Resolved: Motion Carried; Barbara and Executive Committee will draft letter and submit to full ECCC membership for comment prior to sending the letter to County Executive and County Council.

**Rolf Grafwallner, Assistant State Superintendent, Early Childhood Development, MSDE: State Budget, MSDE ECE Initiative, End of RTT, Priorities for ECE with Q&A**

- FY17 budget looks better than expected.
- Resource and Referral Centers and Early Childhood Mental Health funding to stay the same.
- Pre-K Expansion funding (state funds) put in place last year is still available and was enhanced with federal dollars.
- Preschool Development Block Grant gave \$15 million to expand mixed delivery model and is funded through the next year.
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) has been codified as a program and now has a strong early childhood component. Webinars are available online through Build Institute to learn more about how the ECCC can collaborate with the local school system.
- Supplemental Head Start—no change
- Hoyer funds-no change
- Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP) is critically underfunded and a plan must be put plan in place for the next three years for the use of Child Care Development Funds and quality improvement with child care dollars.
- CCSP was reauthorized in 2013 and has new rules:

- Twelve month rule: Families receiving Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) will now receive vouchers for twelve months to make sure children are not subjected to interruptions and changes in child care settings as a result of their vouchers ending. The twelve month rule lines CCSP up with Head Start rules and guidelines. The new rule goes into effect in October 2016.
- The gap between the actual cost of care and the rate in place to reimburse programs is getting wider and the reimbursement rate is not catching up.
- Budget hearing for the division is scheduled for March 2 and 3 in Annapolis. CCSP will be a focus of the hearing.
- The transition from the local offices to the state did not work very well. When the transfer to CCS Central happened, it was discovered additional information was needed from customers, which caused delays. As of 12/18/15, the local departments will handle all TCA cases. Non-TCA clients are handled by CCS Central.
- Race to the Top (RTT): There are still a number of programs that are finishing out in June, which will be the end for programs for direct service delivery. MSDE had to find funding to maintain Maryland Excels, the comprehensive assessment, and online management systems, i.e. Early Childhood Mental Health and SEFEL—funding has been identified to continue.
- Maryland Excels validation study results will come out in summer 2016.
- There are currently 5,000 programs participating in Maryland Excels. The state will continue to rely on the Resource and Referral Centers to provide technical assistance to programs working toward become published in Maryland Excels.

**Adjournment:**

**12:03 p.m.**