

Barons-Eureka-Warner Family & Community Support Services Minutes of Board Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Attendance

Cathy Needham, Bill Chapman, Henry de Kok, John Willms, Merrill Harris, Don Heggie, Tom Butler and staff B. Drewry, M. Iwaasa and Linda Hashizume.

Observers

Ian Donovan, MLA
Kim Cawley, Town of Vauxhall

Absent

Laura Ross-Giroux, Sel Golding

Call to Order

C. Needham called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

T. Butler moved the Board approve the agenda as amended.

8 d) Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA)
South Region meeting

Carried Unanimously

Welcome and Introductions

C. Needham welcomed Ian Donovan, MLA and Counsellor Kim Cawley, Town of Vauxhall.

MLA – Ian Donovan

C. Needham invited Ian Donovan to address the Board.

Ian Donovan thanked the Board for inviting him to the meeting. He would like to know what is going right, what is going wrong and if there is anything the Board requests him to advocate for on their behalf.

T. Butler stated FCSS has not received a funding increase since 2009.

I. Donovan indicated he has met with other FCSS programs that have expressed the same concern.

T. Butler stated that we are lucky to have the staff we have. If we were dealing with a union we would have had to fold.

I. Donovan indicated that it is not just a job for FCSS staff; their hearts are in it. He appreciates all the work FCSS does and will bring the funding concern forward in deliberations.

J. Willms commented it is not a ideal situation for funding. FCSS focuses on prevention and it is cheaper to prevent than to deal with corrective measures. Outcomes are subjective, but we do know it works. Tax payers have saved a lot of money in investing in prevention.

I. Donovan indicated if the work FCSS does helps one person it is effective. It is always hard to tag a price to it. Most MLA's are aware of what FCSS does. He thanked J. Willms for his comment as it will aid him with his representation of FCSS.

B. Chapman reported he met with Bridget Pastoor. They discussed the issues with the FCSS budget, provincial budget and the overall economy. FCSS could see some sort of change, which raises a concern for him. The model we have is working. FCSS is the best kept secret in Alberta. Our Success stories show the positive relationship we have between FCSS and families. FCSS philosophy is sound and he encourages the Premier to support FCSS as is.

C. Needham reported the Parent Link Centre funded staff have received a mandatory 5% increase over the last three years. We were able to decline the 5% for the 2014-2015 year. It is a sad that we have to decline funding due to the fact we are not able to match the PLC increases for FCSS funded staff who do the exact same work.

C. Needham stated that the FCSS definition of prevention differs from how the government has been using the term.

C. Needham asked I. Donovan what would be his suggestion on how to get the message across to the government about what prevention is.

I. Donovan suggested we need to find out how they perceive prevention versus how we see prevention.

J. Willms commented when the Board negotiates with our staff they are very understanding of the financial position of FCSS. They deserve a real pat on the back for their commitment to the organization.

C. Needham indicated that the FCSS funded staff accepted the 1% increase with gratitude over the previous offer of a one-time lump sum payment of \$750, even though their counterparts in Parent Link have received more.

I. Donovan indicated staff hearts are in it. He recognizes it is harder to do when co-workers are getting more compensation. He appreciates all that the staff does for FCSS. The staff is there for the good of the people.

C. Needham thanked I. Donovan for coming to the meeting.

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Minutes

D. Heggie moved the minutes of the December 10, 2014 regular FCSS Board meeting be approved as amended.

Carried Unanimously

Business Arising From Minutes

Board Supper

The Board discussed having supper during the Board meeting.

The Board agreed to have a light meal during the Board meetings.

T. Butler moved the Board rescind discontinuing the supper for the Board prior to the regular Board meeting and that the regular scheduled time for the Board meeting be moved to 5:00 pm.

Carried

T. Butler moved the Board have supper at 5:00 pm and convene the Board meeting at 5:00 pm.

Carried Unanimously

Strategic Philosophy Summary

B. Drewry noted in the Strategic Philosophy Summary he compiled some research on the science of prevention that he hoped would be helpful to I. Donovan in his representation of FCSS.

The Board would like more time to review the Strategic Philosophy Summary and requested the document be reviewed at the February meeting.

M. Harris moved the Board table the Strategic Philosophy Summary discussion until the February 2015 Board meeting.

Carried Unanimously

Correspondence

Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) Board 2015

An e-mail was received announcing the 2015 FCSSAA Board members.

M. Harris moved the Board receive the correspondence as presented for information.

Carried Unanimously

Reports

Director

Mastercard Statement

The Bank of Montreal Mastercard statement for December 8, 2014 was presented for information and approval.

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T. Butler moved the Board approve payment of the Bank of Montreal December 8, 2014 Mastercard statements.

Carried Unanimously

The Alberta Treasury Branch Mastercard statement for December 10, 2014 was presented for information and approval.

H. de Kok moved the Board approve payment of the Alberta Treasury Branch December 10, 2014 Mastercard statement.

Carried Unanimously

Professional Development Report

A professional development report was received from Bryan Bullock, Counsellor, regarding the “Bringing Alberta Together – Building Resilient Communities” workshop he attended.

“This workshop was put on by the Alberta Community Crime Prevention Association and was mainly focused on bringing communities and community supports together for the purpose of reducing crime.”

C. Needham pointed out a number of our staff pay for a portion of their training.

Board Operating Guidelines - Review

B. Drewry reported there was previously a Board motion regarding reviewing the “Board Operating Guidelines” each year. The Board Operating Guidelines were attached to the agenda

The Board reviewed the Board Operating Guidelines document.

No changes were made to the Board Operating Guidelines.

J. Willms moved the Board approve the Board Operating Guidelines document.

Carried Unanimously

Staff Update

B. Drewry reported bereavement gifts were sent on behalf of the Board to two staff members who lost loved ones.

New Years Party – January 24, 2015

B. Drewry reported the annual Board and staff New Years Party is scheduled for January 24, 2015 at the Gem of the West Museum in Coaldale. Please let Linda Hashizume know if you will be attending.

MLA – G. Bickman

B. Drewry reported Gary Bickman, MLA, will be attending the Board meeting on February 11, 2015 as per the Board’s invitation.

B. Chapman moved the Board approve the Director’s Report.

Carried Unanimously

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Accounts

A list of expenditures for the period of November 26 – December 25, 2014 were distributed with the agenda.

M. Harris asked about the payment to Alberta Health Services.

B. Drewry reported we rent space from Alberta Health Services in Taber, Raymond and Milk River. Expenses include rent, phone, computer support, and photocopy expenses.

B. Chapman moved the Board approve the accounts for November 26 – December 25, 2014.

Carried Unanimously

Financial

B. Drewry reviewed the financial statement.

B. Drewry reported 85% of the budget has been spent for 92% of the year as shown on the financial report.

B. Drewry reported 59% of the Parent Link budget has been spent for 67% of the year as shown on the financial report.

I. Donovan asked how many donations we receive.

B. Drewry indicated we have not received many donations as we are unable to provide a tax receipt.

T. Butler suggested that donations could be made at the Town of Coaldale office and the Town of Coaldale could issue a receipt.

M. Harris asked why the Revenue Other was so high.

B. Drewry responded there was a fee to attend the Neufeld Intensive I training we held in June which offset the expenses of offering the course.

B. Chapman asked why the Interest Income was at 148% for the year.

B. Drewry responded we received better interest on our savings than anticipated during the budgeting process.

T. Butler moved the Board approve the financial report for November 2014.

Carried Unanimously

New Business

All-Councils Meeting

B. Drewry reported annually we provide an evening with supper and information regarding Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS. It is commonly held in March or April in Taber.



The Board discussed possible dates for the All-Councils meeting.

J. Willms asked if we invite the MLA's to the All-Councils meeting.

B. Drewry responded that an invitation is sent each year to the MLA's.

I. Donovan requested an invitation be sent to him.

The Board requested Administration check into venues for April 1 and April 8, 2015, with the possibility of having the Board meeting prior to the All-Councils meeting.

Municipal Requisitions/Levy

B. Drewry reported traditionally, the municipality portion of funding for Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS is set following the announcement of the provincial budget in March or April. This is to accommodate possible increases to match increased funding from the province.

At this time of year, municipalities are establishing their budgets for the coming year and will often ask what increases, if any, will be requested from us.

In recent years, our requests for increases have been minimal, ie: typically 1% or 2%. As the municipalities usually are working on their budgets, prior to the budget announcement, when asked by municipal administrators, we commonly respond that the new year requisition has yet to be set but is commonly in the 1 or 2% range.

B. Drewry reported with these minimal increases each year, if the province were to provide extra funding for FCSS there would not be such a big burden on the municipalities for the matching funds as our area is currently at a 76%/24% split rather than the 80%/20% split. This is an average split for Southern Alberta.

Auditors 2014

B. Drewry reported we would like to have Board approval to engage KPMG as the Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS auditor for the fiscal year 2014, to include the Parent Link Centre audit and the Local Authorities Pension Plan audit.

H. de Kok asked if we price out different auditors each year.

B. Drewry indicated we have. We currently use YPM for help with our T4's yearly.

H. de Kok moved the Board approved KPMG as the Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS auditors for the fiscal year 2014.

Carried Unanimously

B. Chapman asked if the Parent Link Centre funding requires an audit.

B. Drewry indicated the Parent Link Centre grant funding is imbedded with FCSS funds and is included in the January – December 2014 FCSS audit.

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Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) –
South Regional Meeting

B. Drewry reported the FCSSAA South Region meeting is held two times per year. One of the meetings is held in conjunction with the FCSSAA Conference in November. The next scheduled meeting is for May 13, 2015, which is the same day as the FCSS Board meeting.

B. Drewry asked the Board if they would like to attend the South Region meeting during the day and then have the Board meeting directly after.

H. de Kok asked if the MLA's could be invited to the South Region meeting.

I. Donovan indicated to send an invitation to him.

D. Heggie moved the Board move the May 13, 2015 Board meeting to follow the FCSSAA South Region meeting.

Carried Unanimously

Round Table

T. Butler reported the Between Friends Program in Milk River is starting again. Currently they have 16 students and 14 seniors.

T. Butler left the meeting at 6:00 pm.

B. Drewry reported we will not be posting the Parent and Family Coach position vacated by Valerie Miller in Milk River. Instead we will be extending the FTE of Cynthia Chisholm who will cover the core programs in the Warner/Coutts/Milk River area.

Closed Session

B. Chapman moved the Board move in-camera at 6:10 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

J. Willms moved the Board move to regular session at 6:48 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

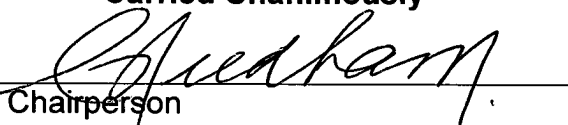
Date of Next Meeting

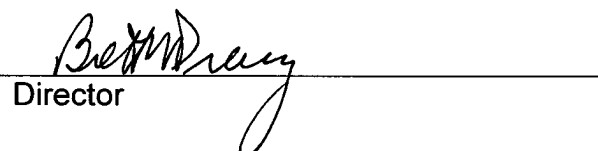
The date of the next regular Board meeting will be February 11, 2015 at 5:00 pm.

Adjournment

H. de Kok moved the meeting adjourn at 6:49 p.m.

Carried Unanimously


Chairperson


Director