

Child Care Center at Norwich
Board Meeting January 6, 2009
Minutes

In Attendance: Marlene McDonald, Neil O'Dell, Julie Stevenson, Allison Colburn, Jennifer Letendre, Bristol Rayno, Jodi Wenger, Laura Scott.

Absent: Sarah Stewart Taylor, Katie Willard, Rick Canning

Quorum present? Yes

Consent Agenda approved including minutes of December meeting, and Directors Report.

Norwich Petition Status

We currently have about 25 signatures for our proposal to the town to fund one child's scholarship and need 130 more. Strategies for gathering more signatures include: following up with Lizann Peyton, ask Deanna if she would get folks at her school, ask Sarah if she will get her neighborhood, Ann Day, go to the next selectboard meeting, Dan & Whits, ask all Norwich board members to hit up their neighbors for signatures.

Tikes on Trikes

Julie has secured Hanover High gym for 8 am to 1 pm on March 14th. There is another group coming in at 2 pm so clean up will have to be quick. Need to decide who (or what group of people) will head up this effort. Meanwhile, Neil will e-mail out info to full board for soliciting auction donations. We need to secure donations soon in order to make sure we have items and for marketing purposes.

SubCommittee Reports

By-laws:

° Revisions are in process – albeit slowly due to holidays.

Communication:

A summary of the board minutes is being included in the Staff Notes following each board meeting as of December 2008.

There is a new feature on the website that will give parents the ability to sign up for text messaging in the event of a delay or closing (due to weather).

The March board meeting will be held after center hours in order to give staff the opportunity to attend a board meeting. **March 2nd 5:45 to 7:15.**

Finance:

° Fall Appeal – donations to date are about 75% of the total for 2007 and 90% of the total for 2008.

° Overall financial health of the center is good. We have been doing well with enrollment, the income mix is relatively strong, and we have just recently hired for

our last open staff position.

° Benefits package survey results indicate that staff appreciate the fullness of the health insurance plan but underestimate the cost. There are several key issues for the center and staff. 1) The board feels strongly that the health insurance plan be accessible and affordable for staff in order to encourage being and staying healthy. 2) Each 10% increase in health insurance costs is equivalent to a 2% in staff salaries. The center needs to better inform and involve staff on the decisions that affect total compensation.

A small group will meet with NEEBCo on 1/9 to go over the details of possible plans and decide which one(s) to offer. It is likely the center will decide to offer two plans allowing staff to choose the plan that makes the most sense for them individually. Once the plan(s) are identified, NEEBCo will come to a centerwide staff meeting to introduce the options. NEEBCo will come back a second time to provide staff an opportunity to meet with them individually if desired.