

MOODY EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
November 22, 2019

Present: Ms. Massey (Presiding), Ms. Kinnear, Ms. Brown, Dr. Prochaska, Ms. Doherty, Ms. Templer, Ms. Adams (Video conference), Ms. Miller (Executive Director), Mr. Antonio Ford (Deputy Director), Ms. Garcia (Your Part-Time Controller)

Absent: none

Ms. Massey called the meeting to order at 1:08pm.

There was a motion to approve minutes from last month's meeting by Ms. Kinnear, seconded by Ms. Doherty. Motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Ken Jencks was present for public comment. He offered his support for the efforts MECC was engaged in towards improving early childhood education in Galveston and for the partnership we have with GISD.

Ms. Miller and Ms. Garcia presented the monthly finance report. Ms. Garcia reviewed project updates as outlined in her memorandum to the Board. Ms. Garcia reviewed each account with the board. Ms. Kinnear moved that MECC will open a money market account at Moody Bank and to transfer funds not immediately needed into this higher interest-bearing account. Motion was seconded by Dr. Prochaska. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Doherty moved that MECC self-restrict funds from the Moody Foundation's grant to payroll expenses only. Motion was seconded by Ms. Brown. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Brown moved to formally request that the Moody Foundation release the last \$400,000 draw on our initial grant award in early December (not later than December 9th). Ms. Kinnear seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed potential avenues for disseminating MECC success to congressional representatives and their representatives. Along with these dissemination efforts, we could include requests for letters of support on our behalf. This would help us in our efforts towards securing additional philanthropic funding. Outreach to these stakeholders also provides concrete examples of how federal dollars paired with philanthropic, state, and other sources of financial support can be leveraged to impact early childhood development. Ms. Adams informed the Board about recent Moody Foundation awards across the state. She then discussed HB3 activities currently underway at the Commit Partnership.

Ms. Massey updated the Board on current and outstanding grant requests. These included a request to the Mary Moody Northen Foundation specifically for pillows, a container for storage, and vacuum cleaners; requests to the Bromberg and Ippilitto foundations that are currently under consideration; as well as the Early Head Start proposal, which we anticipate hearing a decision on or about May of 2020 (with the program beginning in June).

Dr. Prochaska informed the Board that Dr. Sapna Kaul, a health economist from UTMB's Department of Preventive Medicine and Population Health, had indicated interest in serving on the MECC Board in the role of a finance expert. He noted that, if we are awarded the Early Head Start grant, we would still need Board expertise in the legal field. Ms. Jennifer Goodman was mentioned as a possible candidate.

Ms. Doherty sought the Board's advice on reducing the Board of Advisors meeting frequency to twice a year. There was consensus to do so. Ms. Massey recommended that Ms. Miller present her latest update to GISD at the next Board of Advisors meeting.

Ms. Doherty suggested adding "Other Business" as a standing agenda item for Board of Director meetings.

Ms. Miller presented her Director's Report. She also discussed her presentation to the GISD Board of Trustees earlier this month highlighting the successes documented at MECC. She reported that Teen Health is seeing between 10 and 15 patients each day at the new MECC clinic. She provided an update on enrollment and on upcoming family events, and gave the Board an overview of upcoming staff training sessions. She provided an update on active partnerships MECC engages in.

Ms. Miller noted that the professional development grant will continue operating through April. She then reviewed the Early Head Start proposal and associated budget.

Ms. Massey updated the Board on an opportunity to partner with UTMB on brain development research, speech therapy and other potential opportunities. She also reported on her group's recent trip to Pittsburg. She and Mr. Ford discussed a program that could be adapted for Galveston where early childhood education is not offered in centers, but rather at home. MECC could serve as a resource and educational hub for such an initiative.

Ms. Miller reported that the evaluator for our 1882 grant was approved by the GISD Board of Trustees at their last meeting. This evaluator will have 6 months to complete their evaluation of the grant. There was discussion about the process, charge, scope and other topics related to the evaluation. Ms. Brown moved to approve a contract with West Stat, seconded by Ms. Kinnear. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Massey announced that the next meeting of the MECC Board of Directors will be on Friday, January 17th at 1:00 pm at MECC.

Ms. Kinnear moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:59pm, seconded by Ms. Massey. The motion carried unanimously.