

CAC Executive Committee Meeting - Minutes 3/22/12

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Chairperson Moira Allbritton.

CAC Executive Committee members Mina Kern, Bill Cary, Mary Conroy, Teresa Michel were present.

CAC members Susan Fanno and Caroline Kelner also present.

One member of the public attended.

M. Conroy moved, with M. Kern seconding, to approve the February Executive Committee minutes as proposed; motion carried, 4-0-1.

There was no public input.

Various concerns with the Local Plan were discussed by those present. There is frustration with the lack of community input afforded during the development of Annual Service Plan and Annual Budget Plan; we need to try to encourage a better job in communicating and coordinating in future. Although a special education program manager attended the prior meeting, the bulk of questions were not answered and the requested document was not provided to the CAC on a reasonable timeline.* The lack of access of prior plans hinders our ability to judge progress and is thought to limit the utility of the process. The format of the ASP and ABP are found lacking. First, it is impossible to determine whether a service is not required at a given site or whether it is not available; therefore, those responsible for advising the Board are not able to identify service delivery concerns. (Conversely, the plan cannot be used to demonstrate success!) Second, the document itself is coded in such a way so as to limit comprehension by the majority of the public. Lastly, there is a general sense that this is simply a paperwork compliance -- and possibly even retrospective plan (oxymoron intended).

The Chair clarified that the Executive Committee's options were to oppose or approve. While tedious, this is an obligation of this committee. If we truly believe that we cannot advise on the approval of the plan, then we should so state. M. Conroy moved, with B. Cary seconding, to approve with concern and comment. Further discussion transpired where we discussed many of the administrative/communication issues, although systemic/chronic across Central Office functions, seemed exacerbated by budget cuts and signify bare-bones clerical and compliance functions. Chair expressed that she would represent the will of the group but asked the group to think strategically about the ramification of opposing a document (referring to the ASP, not the Local Plan) that was unlikely to interest Trustees and that really doesn't drive policy. M. Kern proposed an amendment to the motion to approve with no comment with T. Michel seconding. M. Conroy accepted the amendment. Motion carried, 3-0-2.

Debrief of the March general membership meeting. Generally, the CFO presentation was well-received and considered accessible although that was not a unanimous sentiment. The Deputy Superintendent's personal remarks were likewise appreciated. CAC members were very pleased to be afforded input into a working document and saw Mr. Stover as receptive and willing to incorporate feedback. The Executive Committee is concerned, however, about the source of funding of the RFP and, again, questions the

motivation for the audit.

Above & Beyond Update: M. Conroy reports that Raylene Dickinson intends to chair the Awards Committee.

New Member Binders: M. Conroy has prepared 6 binders. Needs M. Allbritton to update the roster.
[Thank you for doing this, Mary!]

LEA Plans/DAIT: The impression from participants is that the process feels distant from reality. Another comment was that it was another variation of A to G. Yet another comment was that it felt like being on a "staff Tiger Team". Chair will agendaize this issue for the April general membership meeting.

Preview of April general membership meeting: We will have a Transition presentation. We are also supposed to have a presentation from the Office of Due Process and Mediation. The Executive Committee requested information on the impact of "pink slips" on special education as well as nursing, vocational rehab, and counselors.

Membership applications were reviewed:

M. Conroy moved, with B. Cary seconding, to recommend Belquis Ander for re-appointment to the CAC; motion carried, 5-0.

B. Cary moved, with M. Conroy seconding, to recommend Terrence Ozaki for appointment to the CAC; motion carried, 5-0.

M. Conroy moved, with M. Kern seconding, to recommend Kristin Gohlke for appointment to the CAC; motion carried, 5-0. Chair noted that Maria Conral still needs to sign her application for us to vote.

Chair report primarily dealt with the issue of moving UDL forward.

S. Fanno brought the issue of "clustering" of students with disabilities to the Exec Committee, which was supportive of her position and encouraged her to continue to bring it forward.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Moirá Allbritton
April 25, 2012

* CAC Chair requested electronic copy NLT March 1 for promulgation. The copy received continued to lack all budgetary data. Only after repeated requests was a complete version provided just before the March 10th general meeting. It turned out that the budget data had been available prior to the March 1 deadline.