



**The North Carolina Partnership for Children
Executive Committee Meeting
April 15, 2024
2-3 p.m.**

Members present: Charles Bowman - Chair, Madison Shook Downing, Page Lemel, Elizabeth Star, and Dr. Laurie Stradley
Members absent: Cassandra Brooks and Dr. Anthony Jackson
Others present: Amy Cubbage, Joseph Brownlee, Safiyah Jackson, and Maura Pherson – recording secretary

The Executive Committee (Committee) of The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. (NCPC) Board of Directors (Board) met on April 15, 2024 via Zoom video conference. Chair Bowman called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. The presence of a quorum was established.

Action Items

Agenda, Minutes, and Officer of the Corporation

A motion was made by Page Lemel and seconded to approve the April 15, 2024 agenda, the minutes of the February 19, 2024 Executive Committee meeting, and to elect Joseph Brownlee, CFO, as assistant treasurer of the corporation. The bylaws provide the Executive Committee with the authority to elect corporate officers. **Motion carried.**

Board Annual Meeting and Retreat

At its April 8, 2024 meeting, the Board Development Committee began planning the annual in-person Board retreat. Chair Bowman has a conflict Monday, September 16, 2024 and asked this Committee and the Board Development Committee to run the retreat from noon to 7 p.m. Chair Bowman will be at the annual meeting the next day, Tuesday, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The Committee discussed topics from the Board Development Committee. Additional ideas include:

- Fiduciary responsibility of the Board
 - 15-minute financial report overview and follow-up
 - Offer financial training annually
 - Stewardship of funds for NCPC and the 75 local partnerships
- Structure of the Board – importance of interacting with the president, while not interfering with running the business
- Facilitated/lunch panel discussion
 - Early childhood leaders on a panel discussion
 - Consider including Yvonne Copeland, Ariel Ford from DHHS and/or external partners (not on our Board) such as NC Early Childhood Foundation (new ED coming on board soon), or Sharon Hirsch of Positive Childhood Alliance
 - Or topics such as the business case and business involvement w/ child care, such as Tri-Share, or how to align policy agendas across organizations for early childhood education
- Review sustainable and impactful survey responses, align with strategic roadmap, expand preliminary data review from June Board meeting
- Cocktails with leaders

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President’s Annual Performance Review Process

Since June 2016, the Executive Committee has been reviewing the president’s annual evaluation with input from the full Board. At the most recent review in October 2023, Chair Bowman requested input from this Committee on developing objective goals for the president to use as progress measurements in future evaluations. This year, to remain consistent with quarterly staff review, Amy Cabbage and Chair Bowman will meet quarterly to review progress and this Committee will continue with an annual review in October 2024.

Amy Cabbage reviewed her areas of focus with the Committee as they align with the strategic roadmap: 1) information technology modernization; 2) NCPC Board and local partnership board relations and development; 3) organizational culture across the Smart Start network, including racial equity support; 4) capacity-building for finance operations and network support; and 5) continued growth of public policy leadership and support.

Board Member Reception

Engaging with past Board members is well-aligned with NCPC’s strategic roadmap strategy of sustainable and impactful local partnerships. To expand upon the 2023 Board reception held at the Smart Start Conference, this year the focus will be on increasing overall board engagement. The NCPC Board and local partnership board members are invited to the 2024 Smart Start Board Members’ Reception on May 9 from 10:30 to noon at the Smart Start Conference. This will include current NCPC Board members, local partnership board members, some NCPC staff, and executive directors of local partnerships.

At its April 8, 2024 meeting, the Board Development Committee began discussing other board member receptions around the state later this year and into 2025. As the Board Development Committee continues aligning its work with Fund Development, Julie Fogg will also be involved. Additional ideas for these receptions include:

- Regionalize some of these interactions and include past board members
- Ask East and West local partnerships to host receptions in their regions
- Provide funding for these events

Other

Board members requested meetings/trainings calendar holds be sent as early as possible to enable Board members to set priorities.

Meeting Recap

- Elected Joseph Brownlee as assistant treasurer
- Planning for Board Retreat
- Review president’s quarterly evaluation review process
- Discussed options for board member receptions

Adjourn

Having no further items, the Committee adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

DocuSigned by:


Amy Cabbage, Committee Liaison

5/20/2024 | 2:55 PM EDT

DocuSigned by:


Maura Pherson, Recording Secretary

Date
5/20/2024 | 2:52 PM EDT
Date

