

Arkansas Early Childhood Commission (AECC) Meeting

January 17, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Deborah (Debbie) Mays (Chair), Elizabeth Waldrum, Tiffany Sharp, Tyra Greenwood,

Members Absent: Senator David Wallace; Mark Taylor

I. Call to Order

Debbie Mays called the AECC Commissioner's Meeting to order January 17, 2023, at 10:13 a.m.

Debbie Mays read the AECC's mission statement.

II. Approval of Minutes

A quorum was not present to approve the October 18, 2022 meeting minutes.

III. Old Business

- DCCECE Commission Report: Tonya Williams provided highlights from the Commission Report. (See Commission Report)
- HSSCO/AHSA Updates: Barbie Baxter provided the following update:
 - 2023 AHSA Training Institute is scheduled for June 5-9, 2023
 - HSSCO and ACAA Collaborative Planning meetings are taking place on a monthly basis at this time in order to share resources and partner on future projects.
 - Powerful Conversations with Fathers-Meetings head quarterly, flyers emailed to agencies.
 - New Racial Equity Website to launch this year
 - The Office of Head Start Final Rule removes universal masking for all individuals 2 years of age and older. Also includes a new OHS requirement to submit evidence-based Covid-19 Mitigation Policy developed in consultation with Health Services Advisory Committees (HSAC) must be in place by March 7, 2023 and will be monitored in the same way as other HSPPS. Formal monitoring will begin in 2023-2024 program year.
- ARPA Updates/Stabilization Grant: Tom Shepperd provided highlights from the Commission Report. (See Commission Report)
- TEACH Scholarship Program Update: Paul Lazenby provided updates from the TEACH Quarterly Report, October-December 2022. (See TEACH Quarterly Report)

IV. New Business

- A quorum was not present to select new chair.

V. Summary/Announcements/Public Comments

- Better Beginnings now has six levels.

VI. Action Items

- Action Item: Schedule a called meeting on Zoom to vote on new Committee Chair.

VII. Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held April 18, 2023. Location to be determined.

VIII. Adjournment

Tiffany Sharp motioned to adjourn. Tyra Greenwood seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.