Minutes of the Advisory Council Meeting
April 17, 2020, 11 am – 11:30 am

Present: Beth Oppenheimer as Chair, Karen Quist, Jane Zink, Martin Balben, Hailey Michalk, Cindy Brock, Claudia Washakie, Ericka Rupp, Evelyn Johnson, Greg Wilson, Jennifer Snow, Katherine Himes, Katherine Humphrey, Kurt Liebich, Mary Gauthier, Melissa Crist, Omair Shamim, Patricia Kempthorne, Rep. Lance Clow, Roger Sherman, Ron Pisaneschi, Shannon Dunstan, Staci Shaw, Sue Smith, Teresa Wood-Adams and Laurie Demko, as minute taker.

The meeting started at 11 am with Greg Wilson from the Governor’s office making a brief statement about the grant and its purpose. He also noted that all appointments to the Council were official and thanked the members for serving.

Beth noted that all work that is occurring with the PDG grant and this Council will be posted on the Idaho AEYC website and can be used as a resource for Council members.

The purpose of today’s meeting was to review, discuss and approve the draft Bylaws as presented by the ad hoc Governance Committee. It was noted that the bylaws were prepared based upon the Governor’s Executive Order.

A question was raised about Article III, Purpose, letter (g), which referred to the early learning childhood guidelines and the Council’s purpose with regards to those guidelines. It was noted that this was also addressed at the ad hoc committee meeting. Shannon noted that if the Council has suggestions, additions or modifications they would be taken into consideration by the State Department of Education and Department of Health and Welfare who were currently working on updating the e-guidelines.

Shannon also provided a brief summary of what the guidelines are, how they were developed and how they are used as standards across programs in the state. They are standards for early childhood special ed, for the infant toddler program, and in the school districts around the state. They are used as the guidelines for Head Start programs as well as child care that is supported through IdahoSTARS. The guidelines contain caregiver strategies that teachers use and provide to parents. The guidelines address children ages birth through third grade, are updated every 5 to 6 years with the last update being in 2012. The current revisions will add executive functions to the guidelines.

Beth then noted that the bylaws as drafted provided that should the Governor order, the Council would have the ability to continue past the grant period if deemed necessary.

The Chair called for a vote to approve the bylaws and there being no further questions or discussion, the Council members voted their unanimous approval to adopt the bylaws as presented.

Karen provided an update on what work has occurred since the last meeting. The packages for the local collaboratives are almost completed and will allow the collaboratives to conduct their own local needs assessment enabling them to create a strategic action plan. Idaho AEYC is working closely with the McClure Center on the stakeholders’ survey and with the WSU Research Group in creating a survey to find out where children (B-5) are when their parents are working. Potential questions for the WSU survey will be reviewed at the Advisory Council May 1st meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Demko
Executive Assistant, Idaho AEYC