



SC Early Childhood Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 17, 2025

SC ETV, 1041 George Rogers Blvd. Columbia, SC 29201

Council Members Present (17): David Morley (Chairman), Rep. Terry Alexander, Dr. Robert Bank, Tony Catone, Jacque Curtin, Mary Lynne Diggs, Sen. Jason Elliott, Dr. Matthew Ferguson, Sen. Greg Hembree, David Lisk, Jack McBride, Eunice Medina, Dorothy Priester, Roger Pryor, Dr. Ed Simmer, Wes Wooten, Sue Williams

Council Members Absent (7): Rep. Shannon Erickson, John Hayes, Constance Holloway, Jesica Mackey, Janie Neeley, Mary Anne Scott, Dr. Amy Williams (Vice Chair)

Others Present (67): Ann Vandervliet, Caroline Goins, Ivory Mitchell, Avian Jones, Heather Googe, Mikayla Moore, Beth Moore, Tammy Graham, Kristen Motte, Derek Cromwell, Alisha Green, David O'Kelly, Chelsea Richard, Stacy Greenwalt, Janet Parenti, Kaitlyn Richards, Naya Hall, Shayla Pettigrew, Karen Oliver, Rachal Hatton-Moore, Alexis D. Pipkins, Sr, Mark Barnes, Kenna Hoover, Pauletta Plowden, Martha Strickland, Amira Hulwe, Roger Pryor, ARJ, Samantha Ingram, Cindy Riley, Laura Baker, Kristine Jenkins, Kate Roach, Lisa C. Bess, Lexi Jones, LaMyra Sanders, Jaiden Branch, Rosaland Kenner, Cheryl Scales, John Browne, Beth Kienzlen, Anna Strickland, Caleb Buford, Janice Kilburn, Kate Strickland, Beth Cherry, Tamatha Kohler, Kim Trudell, Kerry Cordan, Kradles2Krayons CDC, Molly Tuck, Annette Davis, Margarita, Keely Wikstrom, Sarah Eargle, Kristen Martocchio, K Wilbur, Maria Earl, Emma Matzko, Jennifer Williams, Kathy Fitzgerald, Jenny May, Jennifer Williams, Cindy Galloway, Joy Mazur, Dana Yow, Betty Gardiner, Sally McClellan, Dana Yow

The meeting was called to order at 3:20 p.m.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. McBride provided the motion, seconded by Ms. Williams. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Morley asked for a motion to approve the February 20, 2025, minutes. Mr. Lisk provided the motion, seconded by Mr. Wooten. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Vandervliet provided an update on key measures from the SC Birth Through Five Plan.

Updates were shared from ECAC agencies:

Ms. Wingo, Department of Public Health Bureau of Maternal Health Director, shared information on access to vaccines and the agency is renewing its focus on maternal and infant oral health literacy.

Ms. Green, Department of Education Early Learning and Literacy Director, shared that the department is training teachers in CERDEP classrooms in LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling) professional learning course and plans to coach teachers on using the training tools.

Ms. Gillum, Department of Social Services Deputy Director, shared a progress update on measures in the SC Birth Through Five Plan and that licensing goal is on track but asked the Council to consider rewording the child care access goal.

Ms. Vandervliet recommended that the Interagency Collaboration Committee bring suggestions to the ECAC on new ways to make the most of the SC First Steps board and ECAC meetings.

Ms. Vandervliet reported on the activities of the ECAC.

Ms. Priester expressed that the local partnership representatives would like to find ways to better serve on the ECAC. Mr. Lisk shared a series of questions to consider: how can we cast a wider net to reach more children, and how do we inform parents of other options? Ms. Vandervliet suggested that either a Local Perspective item or a topic for deeper discussion be added to future agendas.

Mr. McBride asked about mobile access First Five SC. Ms. Wingo confirmed that parents are saying that First Five SC was useful for WIC clients. Ms. Williams suggested SC Parents as a parent resource.

Mr. Lisk made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Wooten. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.