

TAMA COUNTY EMPOWERMENT AREA

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Tama County Empowerment Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 2, 2008 – 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.
ISU Extension Meeting Room

Voting Members Present:

Richard Arp, North Tama School District
Larry Vest, Board of Supervisors/Citizen
Joyce Legg, Tama County Public Health
Cindy Skopec, proxy for Rick Vesely
Darla Thiessen, Kid's Corner

Earlene Bacon, Citizen
Mandy Lekin, Consumer/Citizen
Angie Knowles, STC School District/Citizen
Jill Herink, Meskwaki Settlement School/ Education

Others Present:

Stephanie Sparks, DECAT
Deb Schlichting, Pied Piper
Jana Enfield, Child Abuse Prevention
Pat Shank, Mid-Iowa Community Action
Niki Arends, Mid-Iowa Community Action

Lori Johnson, Empowerment Coordinator
Royce Hickie, Mid-Iowa Community Action
Frank Albertsen, ISU Extension
Laura Kopsa, Tama County Auditor

Apologies:

Michelle Gethmann	Marisue Hartung	Annette Dunn	DawnaHeil
Angela Dreesman	Lindi Roelofse	Greg Tingley	Jerri Leighton

Larry Vest, Chair, called meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Due to time constraints recommendation to revise the agenda moving the Provider Reports to the end of the business portion of the meeting. No objections were received.

Minutes of Previous Meeting –Empowerment Board meeting minutes for June 24, 2008; Funding Sub-committee Meetings (7/25/08, 7/29/08) and Empowerment Board Meetings held via e-mail (7/29/08, 7/30/08); were reviewed. Mandy Lekin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Richard Arp seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Financial Report – Ms. Johnson disbursed the financial report. We should be at 83% of the budget left and we are at 90%. Joyce Legg made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Angie Knowles seconded the motion. Motion passed

Public Input – none noted.

Old Business – none

New Business – *Funding Committee Recommendations* – Meeting minutes from the (via e-mail August 20 – 3rd Re-allocation Request) were disbursed. After review, Richard Arp made a motion to approve the Funding Sub-committees recommendations. Angie Knowles seconded the motion. Joyce Legg and Larry Vest abstained from voting. Motion passed.

Sign Conflict of Interest Statements – Conflict of Interest Statements were disbursed for voting members to sign and turn in.

Approve FY 08 Annual Report – copies were disbursed and reviewed. Mandy Lekin made a motion to approve the FY 08 Annual Report as presented. Angie Knowles seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approve FY 08 Financial Reports – copies were disbursed and reviewed. Richard Arp made a motion to approve the FY 08 Financial Reports as presented. Joyce Legg seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approve FY 08 Showcase Report - copies were disbursed and reviewed. Jill Herink made a motion to approve the FY 08 Showcase Report as presented. Darla Thiessen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approve and Authorize Chairman and Fiscal Agent to sign Annual Report – July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 – Joyce Legg made a motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Fiscal Agent to sign the Annual Report. Jill Herink seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approve and Authorize the Fiscal Agent to Sign Early Childhood and School Ready Financial Statements for FY 08 – Earlene Bacon made a motion to approve and authorize the Fiscal Agent to sign the Early Childhood and School Ready Financial Statements for FY 08. Joyce Legg seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Updates from the State –Ms. Johnson shared copies of the State Technical Assistance Team Policy for 2009 – 2011 Re-designation Reviews.

Iowa Community Empowerment Newsletter, Grantee Update newsletter were available for review.

Correspondence – Thank you's from Robin Lacina, Karla Weber, Sandra Svacina, and JoEllen Cecak were read and shared.

Further Updates from the State – Board members were invited to join Richard Arp, Joyce Legg, and Lori to Friday's Early Childhood System Development Regional Meeting for the Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholder Group, in Ames. The National Governor's Association Pre-assessment was reviewed. Point values were assigned and comments were shared. Ms. Johnson will compile this information and submit it to Gretchen Hageman for Friday's Meeting.

Provider Reports – *Child Consultant* – no report given.

Nurse Consultant – no report given.

Stork's Nest, Public Health Home Visitation, etc. – Ms. Legg shared that they are seeing a lot of attendees, with standing room only at their educational classes. They may be implementing limits on point earnings and spending each night. All other programs are going well. They have collaborated with Marshall County for a lead grant that will assist with remediation.

Coordinator – Ms. Johnson shared copies of the Home Provider Meeting held. There are 35 children that have been awarded preschool scholarships. Last fiscal year there were 60 children eligible.

Care for Kids –Jana Enfield shared they are getting ready for this year's presentations. North Tama has requested them to come and present this fiscal year. They are prioritizing school districts first, and then offering their program to the preschool facilities. Correction was noted to Dawna's last name, Heil.

Infant Toddler Specialist, Dental Hygienist, and Transportation – Ms. Hickie shared a handout with information regarding services provided in June and July. They provided 41 visits in July; hosted socialization at the Tama Public Library; and attended a Summit to Improve Maternal and Infant Mental Health.

Family Nutrition Specialist – Mr. Albertsen shared that Sheryl has been very busy providing 8 visits per each family that she works with. She has had 3 success stories with the families that she has worked with.

Respite Scholarships – Ms. Skopec shared that they are seeing a lot more Maternal Health depression with the families she is working with. They are working on new guidelines for the families to be able to utilize respite scholarships.

Tobacco Funds – Mr. Albertsen shared the year end reports have been submitted and new grant application approved. They are advertising for the coordinator position.

Board Appreciation – along with the refreshments served, Ms. Johnson recognized the present Voting Board Members for their efforts this last fiscal year and making a difference to the children in Tama County. Each voting member was given a certificate of appreciation and each attendee was given a Hershey's candy bar with wrapper noting "Thank you for making a difference in the life of a child".

Other Announcements – Ms. Shank shared flier regarding upcoming Candidate Forum on the Conditions of Poverty in Tama County and Ms. Johnson shared information regarding meeting “The Compensation Crisis in Iowa’s Child Care Workforce.

Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Johnson, Tama County Empowerment Coordinator

Reminder: Next meeting will be November 25th at the Traer City Council Chambers at 12:00 Noon