



All New Haven children, birth through 8 are healthy, safe, thriving in nurturing families and prepared to be successful lifelong learners.

NHEC Council Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting

September 01, 2021

Time: 300-4:30 pm

Welcome / Meeting Called to Order – J. Heath

Moment of Silence Observed in Honor of Sandy Malmquist

Note: Service to be held September 18, 2021 at East Rock Park; fund established at CFGNH in honor of Sandy. Lastly, anyone with additional ideas that would ‘honor Sandy’ should contact Denise and Kelly; they will update the council response and selection.

Agenda Review – R. McCray

Community Agreements – R. McCray

- Zoom Netiquette and Norms of participatory engagement during meetings
- Condensed PPT version of “Zoom Netiquette” and “Norms...” will be displayed upon entering future Council meetings
- Welcome/Orientation packet will resume, Community Agreements will be included

Share the Good News – R. McCray et al.

- Poll sent to group – ‘Reflection and Future Focus’ of NHECC. Discussion followed.

Updates and Announcements – All

- Robin – childcare center at Wilbur Cross H.S. is open, student parenting is up and running
- Openings in Early Head Start

Highlights of Past Year – J. Heath

- The Executive Committee met with Kia Levey Burden, President of Launch Consulting twice. Discussions looked at the committee's past focus, current standing and desired direction. Council Members received an invitation to participate in upcoming conversations on these topics. Please contact R. McCray or J. Heath for further information.

- Other topics discussed included: Strategy and structure, Re-Imagining NHECC, and the possibilities of virtual retreat.

The Year Ahead – D. Duclos, and J. Heath

- School Readiness Legislature, D. Duclos – As of July 1, 2021 OEC has indicated that there will be changes to Early Childhood Councils. Some of the changes include representation of council members i.e. racial, ethnic, social composition, local business owners etc.
- School Readiness updates, D. Duclos – OEC will continue to add funding, will provide supplemental funds, and expand how school readiness is used i.e. help daycare providers.
- Next Steps, J. Heath – Strategic Planning, and Opportunities:
 - Identify people who want to be part of the NHECC process i.e. the Committees, work, advocacy etc.
 - Clarity needed on the following:
 - ‘What are we and how do we operate?’ – Purpose/Outcomes
 - How do we view the Council
 - How do we view School Readiness
 - Retreat Expectations – What should the ‘Council’ focus on?
 - **Question “What is the one thing the Council can focus on this year that is actionable and achievable?”** *Responses will be used for the retreat.*

Meeting Adjourned at 4:34 P.M...

Respectfully Submitted, Cynthia Watson