

Children's Services Council
January 13, 2022
Minutes

The Children's Services Council's meeting of January 13, 2022 was called to order at 5:12 p.m., with the following members present: Ken Kenworthy, Amanda Riedel, Melisa Jahner, Cathleen Blair, Executive Director and Kelly Owens, Pat McCoy, Bob Partlan, via ZOOM. Heather Tinajero of OCRA Football and Denise Whitehead of Okeechobee Educational Foundation were also present.

Kelly Owens made a motion to approve the Minutes from September 8, 202, Melisa Jahner seconded, all approved

Kelly Owens made a motion to approve the Minutes from November 18, 2021, Pat McCoy seconded all approved.

Cathleen Blair presented the Financial Statement. She presented the following Financial Statements for approval:

November 2021 – Melisa Jahner made a motion to approve as presented, Kelly Owens seconded, all approved.

December, 2021 – Kelly Owens made a motion to approve as presented, Pat McCoy seconded, all approved

Cathleen Blair discussed allow the Executive Director having approval of Special Projects up to a certain amount if there is a request and there is no meeting before funds are needed by an agency. Kelly Owens stated that this would need to be in the Children's Services By-Laws. She will take our by-laws to the county attorney to review. Melisa Jahner made a motion to table this item until our meeting in February.

Cathleen Blair informed the Council that it is time to elect officers for 2022-2023 fiscal year. Pat McCoy made a motion to reelect Ken Kenworthy as Chairperson, Kelly Owens seconded, all approved. Pat McCoy made a motion to reelect Melisa Jahner as Vice Chairperson, Amanda Riedel seconded, all approved. Pat McCoy made a motion to reelect Wendy Coker as Secretary/Treasurer, Kelly Owens seconded, all approved.

Cathleen Blair informed the Council that Helping People Succeed, Infant Massage requested a Special Project in the amount of \$4,000.00. Melisa Jahner felt there was not enough information, Amanda Riedel agreed. Cathleen Blair to request the agency come to the February meeting to address the Council.

Cathleen Blair presented the Special Project request in the amount of \$489.00 from Defy LaCross, Inc., for three students to attend a one day goalie camp. Melisa Jahner made a motion to approve the above amount, Amanda Riedel seconded, all approved.

Cathleen Blair presented the Special Project request in the amount of \$54,314.00 per year, \$36,880.00 for the fiscal year from Guardians for New Futures Children Advocacy Center for a Family Advocate position in Okeechobee. Bob McPartlan discussed that person would handle most egregious acts against children in one place. Questions regarding is this person totally in Okeechobee, what is their funding source. Need to ask our judge, Bill Wallace, about Victim Advocate, does this double up? Amanda Riedel made a motion to have the agency at our meeting in February, Melisa Jahner seconded. Council tabled until February.

Cathleen Blair presented the Special Project request in the amount of \$10,000.00 from OCRA. Heather Tinajero gave a background regarding the travel teams not having equipment as OCRA had the helmets. The money will be used for new helmets. Kelly Owens made a motion to approve for the above amount, Pat McCoy seconded, all approved.

Cathleen Blair presented a Special Project request from Children's Home Society in the amount of \$16,080.75 for a full time CINS/FINS person. Melisa Jahner requested that the agency attend our next meeting in February to discuss services, Kelly Owens seconded. Council tabled until February.

Cathleen Blair presented a Special Project request for additional funds in the amount of \$14,610.00 for a full time position of Executive Director. Council had already approve \$39,390.00 in a previous meeting. This will bring the total salary to \$54,000.00 Denise Whitehead, from the Okeechobee Educational Foundation was in attendance to discuss any issues. Pat McCoy made a motion to approve the additional funds, Melisa Jahner seconded, all approved, with Ken Kenworthy abstaining.

Cathleen Blair presented a Special Project request in the amount of \$13,500.00 for Summer Camp. Denise Whitehead indicated it would be used for stipends for the students attending the camp. Denise Whitehead was in attendance to discuss any issues. Pat McCoy made a motion to approve the above amount, Melisa Jahner seconded, all approved, with Ken Kenworthy abstaining.

Cathleen Blair presented a Special Project request in the amount of \$15,000.00 for Student Pencil Depot for student supplies - \$40.00 per classroom. Pat McCoy made a motion to approve the amount, Melisa Jahner seconded, all approved, with Ken Kenworthy abstaining.

Cathleen Blair presented a Special Project request in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the BUDDY Program. Denise Whitehead stated it would be used for supplies Melisa Jahner made a motion to approve the above amount, Amanda Riedel seconded, all approved, with Ken Kenworthy abstaining.

Cathleen Blair presented a request from the Okeechobee Extension Office requesting an exemption from providing an audit. A motion was made by Amanda Riedel to request someone from the agency attend our next meeting in February, Ken Kenworthy seconded, all approved, with Kelly Owens and Pat McCoy abstaining.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.