CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL

MINUTES

April 10, 2025

In attendance for the meeting were Melisa Jahner – Chair, Pat McCoy, Frank DeCarlo, Bob McPartland, Dylan Tedders, Jessica Lea, Debbie Gillis, William Wallace, Michael Hazellief and Toni Wiersma- Executive Director

Audience: Heidi Dove, Andrea High, Johnny Estrada, James Sims, Kenady Hopkins, Lilly Tumoszoicz, Cooper Wherrell, Olivia Wherrell, Tucker Vuleta, Melinda Wherrell, and Jovanny Torres

1) **Meeting called to order by Mrs. Jahner at 5:35 pm.**
2) **Additions or Deletions to Agenda – Approval of Agenda**
   a) Toni Wiersma made the following additions and corrections
   b) Additions or corrections to the agenda
      i) Mrs. Wiersma added:
         (1) 4c – Change from approval to discussion
         (2) 6b – Florida Rebels - $10,000.00
         (3) 6c – Hand of God Ministries - $20,000.00
         (4) 8a – Heather Hancock's resignation and replacement on RFP committee
         (5) 8b – Mid-Year evaluations due April 15, 2025
      ii) Frank DeCarlo made a motion to accept additions and corrections. Bob McPartlan seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.
3) **Approval of Minutes: March 13, 2025**
   a) William Wallace made a motion to approve the minutes, Pat McCoy seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.
4) **Approval of Financial Statements:**
   a) Financial Statement– October 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025
      i) Mrs. Wiersma presented the financial statement:
         (1) INCOME
            - Total Income - $1,218,811.05
         (2) GROSS PROFIT - $1,218,811.05
         (3) EXPENSES
            - Administration - $55,145.96
            - Program Services – Agencies – RFP - $208,545.21
            - Community Scholarships - $68,500.00
            - Summer Projects - $128,402,00
            - Special Projects - $200,209.21
            - **TOTAL EXPENSES - $660,802.38**
         (4) NET INCOME - $558,008.67
         (5) CURRENT ASSETS
            - SouthState Checking - $1,128,391.17
            - CD –$938,026,92
            - **Total Bank Accounts - $2,066,418.09**

(6) FIXED ASSETS

- Equipment - $1,926.00
- Accumulated depreciation - $(1,177.63)
- TOTAL FIXED ASSETS - $748.37

(7) TOTAL ASSETS - $2,066,870.57

(8) LIABILITIES

- Total Current Liabilities - $2,841.11
- Total Equity - $2,064,029.46

(9) TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY - $2,066,870.57

ii) Toni Wiersma also presented the Profit-Loss for the Fiscal Year October 2024 – March 2025.

b) Toni Wiersma discussed a conversation with Wicks, Brown, & Williams, our auditors. Originally, they had a managerial finding because the Board spent in the 23-24 years $13,000.00 more than budgeted. We would be required to submit a new resolution and amended budget. After several conversations, the way our was presented, we were not required to amend the budget or make a new resolution.

5) Logo Presentation – Prosper Noggin Students

a) Six students from Prosper Noggin presented their designs for our new logo. They presented five different designs. All the designs created were excellent. The students asked us to choose our two favorite designs. The Board each stated their two favorite designs. After much discussion, the two designs chosen were the tree and the arch designs. The students will go back and work on the logo text, add some color and bring back the two designs for us to choose at the next meeting.

6) Special Project Requests

a) Chobee United Cheer, Inc. - $15,700.00

i) Heidi Dove, sponsor, appeared before the Board to request additional funding for the competitive cheerleading club. Previously, the club was granted $24,966.11 last year to start the club. They carried over $9,792,67 to this fiscal year. During their first season, they participated in several competitions and did very well as a young club. The additional funding request this year will help the students to attend more competitions. The high school cheerleaders come and give support to these young students. Currently there is a 6u and an 8u team, but they plan to increase the number of teams. Pat McCoy made a motion to grant Chobee United Cheer, Inc $15,700.00. Bob McPartlan seconded the motion. The motion carried; all in favor.

b) Florida Rebels, Inc. - $10,000

i) Jovanny Torres, sponsor, appeared before the Board to request funding for a summer basketball program. He previously had a Special Project for $14,670.00. He used that money to take teams to tournaments and they took first place and second place in different tournaments. The purchase of the Huddle system has been very valuable to the team, and he contributed part of their success to their ability to watch and review the games to learn and improve their skills. They hope to have a beginner camp and an advanced camp this year and will be held on June 3rd – 5th and on June 10th – 12th. Pat McCoy made a motion to grant Florida Rebels, Inc. $10,000 for the summer camp. Frank DeCarlo seconded the motion. The motion carried; all in favor. Florida Rebels, Inc., will initially receive 1/3 payment until invoices are provided.

c) Hand of God Ministries - $20,000.

i) Johnny Estrada appeared before the Board to request funding for the children's church ministry at his church. He has seen the need for kids to participate in group work due to the tremendous need for mental health. He plans to conduct groups, have tutoring sessions and work on reading skills. This is a Hispanic speaking population and many of the students need tutoring and help learning English. Pat McCoy made a motion to fund $10,000.00 to the Hand of God Ministries. Dylan Tedders seconded the motion. The motion carried; all in favor.

7) Discussion on Publicity

a) Michael Hazellief and Jessica Lea discussed the possibility of outsourcing some of our media presence. This is to let the community know all the many different programs that the Children's Services Council supports. Jessica has contacted two possible sources and is waiting for one more person to respond. The discussion was to possibly look at our website and the cost and what it would cost for some video presentations. Healthy Start and the Okeechobee Education Foundation do outsource some of their publicity. We will discuss this more at our next meeting. One proposal came from Enfluence Marketing Studio and one from J. Public Relations proposal.

8) Open Discussion

a) Heather Hancock sent in a letter of resignation effective immediately. The Board thanked her for her many years of service to the Board.
b) Heather Hancock was to serve on the RFP committee, and we needed a replacement. Debbie Gillis agreed to serve on the committee.
c) Toni Wiersma reminded the Board that Mid-Year evaluations were due and that the agencies should be contacting them to review their Mid-Year reports.
d) Bill Wallace mentioned that we might need to review our bylaws and have in place what is expected with public comments and where we should add this to our agenda. Toni Wiersma will review some other Children's Services Council's bylaws and report back at the next meeting. We want to be in ADA compliance.

Next meeting date: May 1, 2025

Upcoming Events:

RFP's due April 24, 2025, at 3:00 PM

Scholarship Night – May 8, 2025

There being no further business, Frank DeCarlo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dylan Tedders seconded the motion. The motion carried; all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Wiersma

Toni Wiersma

Executive Director