



**Best Start Network
Meeting Minutes
September 4, 2014
10:30am until 11:30am.
Contact Brant – Park Road North**

Present: Kim Romano, Melodie Spencer, Maria Timpener, Rita Stratford, Jane Angus, Sarah Robertson for Marg Barr, Adele Gawley, Barb Mitchell, Anca Gaston, Brenda Blancher, Christina Rajsic, Karen Calligan, Connie McCallister, Sharon Brooks, Cathy Medway (recorder)

Regrets: Kathy Dickens, Deanna Searle, Sherry Lewis, Paula Thomlison

	Agenda Item	Discussion/Decision	Action
1.0	Success story –	<p>Sharon Brooks shared success of the Post Partum Depression Initiative with the group.</p> <p>Many thanks to Kim for additional funds presented to support PPD.</p> <p>Sharon reports the phone line is set up and has gone live in April. The phone line is a support line not a crisis line and is supported by peer mentors. All calls are screened by Dr. Tracy Woodford and then matched with a peer mentor.</p> <p>The program is moving to TB Costain and there is a second program held at the library which focuses on teens. The teen program is supported by Jane Flinders, Kids Can Fly and Sue Olroyd, the Child and Youth Worker at the library. The program includes taxi voucher, music, lunch and discussions. Many of the teens have little or no family support. Sharon shared a story of a teen mom participant with three young children who has recently started college. This shows how the collaboration of many community agencies including organizers, volunteers, teachers and principals can lead to the success of programs and individuals.</p>	

<p>2.0</p> <p>3.0</p> <p>4.0</p>	<p>Welcome/Declaration of Conflict of Interest / Review of Meeting Notes</p> <p>Call to Order, Additions to the Agenda</p> <p>Approve Minutes of June 5, 2014</p> <p>Business arising from Previous Minutes</p> <p>3.1 <u>Receive Information:</u> Planning Day for Operators in September 26, 2014</p> <p>Best Start Updates</p> <p>4.1 <u>Service Update: Receive Report:</u></p>	<p>Melodie welcomed the group to the meeting. Introductions were made around the table</p> <p>There were no additions to the agenda.</p> <p>Invitations have gone out this will be a full day event with lunch provided. Karen Calligan and Rod Peturson will be facilitating dialogue about “How does learning Happen? Ontario’s Pedagogy for the Early Years, OEYC will present “Listen with your Heart – Reflect, Review, Revive”, Lansdowne Children’s Centre will present “A Sense of Belonging and Child Care Services will be giving a Child Care Overview and introducing new purchase of service agreements.</p> <p>Kim reports that this summer all families requiring summer camp/child care were serviced. There were 113 children each month placed in recreation programs Special needs resources has received increase funding for the Resource Program to support pressures such as before and after school. This is being monitored and Lansdowne is implementing new procedures. Purchase of Service contracts are done and will be presented to owners/operators on September 26th. New contracts include requesting a representative from each</p>	<p>THE MINUTES OF THE June 5, 2014 meeting was approved</p> <p>Moved by Jane Angus Seconded by Sharon Brooks Carried</p>
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		<p>child care agency to participate in a network or committee, Centres will receive special needs children with no barriers, and participate in a quality assurance program. This year we will be using "Raising the Bar", next year there may be a new tool.</p> <p>Some updates within the City, Social Services department, Dan has retired and Jo Atanas is the new General Manager, Sherry Haines has resigned, and Aaron Wallace is stepping in for Sherry until someone is hired in her place.</p> <p>We continue to work with Laurier University and have approval to move forward with RFP, city council has requested no increase in operating dollars. Will look at expanding program and areas to be used as future community spaces including board rooms.</p> <p>Best Start Magazine coming out in October. This issue has an online survey where participants can win a \$50.00 Walmart gift certificate for completing survey.</p> <p>Baby expo is September 27th. Anca will be attending the event and has offered to promote the magazine for the Best Start Network. If anyone can help man the tables at various promotional events for Best Start your help would be greatly appreciated. We are always looking for volunteers.</p> <p>Brenda Blancher can provide student volunteers for the Parent Fair as well. Brenda can contact Kim or Melanie Mears at mmears@brantford.ca</p> <p>This year's Parent Fair April 25, 2015 will be on the ice surface at the Civic Centre. This bigger space will allow agencies to have games or activities for children while you</p>	<p>Action Item: Invite Aaron Wallace to October meeting – Ontario Works Hubs and other Initiatives</p> <p><u>Action Item:</u></p> <p>Anca to touch base with Kim for BSN displays and additional magazines. Thanks Anca!</p> <p>Chair of Parent Fair: Melanie Mears mmears@brantford.ca 519-756-3150</p>
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	<p>4.2 Subcommittee Reports: <u>Receive Information:</u> Aboriginal Advisory, SIC Committee, Best Start Magazine, Best Start Parent Fair, Child Care Advisory Committee, Recruitment and Retention Committee</p>	<p>engage parents.</p> <p>Karen Calligan suggested that the new Purchase of Service Agreement be posted on line to show highlights of contracts. Kim will speak to Kevin Dekok to determine if we already have something on line that highlights this idea.</p> <p>Kim will also highlight the new contracts in our child care newsletter due out this fall.</p> <p>Patrice Kean, Manager of Child Health at BCHU is the new SIC Committee chair. Thank you Patrice</p> <p>Child Care Advisory Committee will be co-chaired by Tara McPhee from A Child's Paradise Too and Luisa Pappert from Wee Watch.</p> <p>It was suggested that Child Care Advisory group could meet after the Supervisory Network meeting.</p> <p>A report was circulated to membership from Parent Fair committee and was reviewed by members prior to this meeting and is attached to minutes.</p> <p>Aboriginal committee has met. They are looking at creating videos for the various kits that Sarah created.</p> <p>Also looking at creating online learning with Aboriginal content. Brenda Blancher feels there may be resources in Haldimand that could be shared. She shared that a Pow Wow was held for staff and children and it was very powerful.</p> <p>There were no new reports from any committees</p>	
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<p>5.0</p>	<p>New Business</p> <p>5.1 <u>Review</u>: Strategic Plan and update/set new goals for completion</p> <p>5.2 <u>Review</u>: Membership and Renew/Commitments Review Terms of Reference, Mission, Vision</p>	<p>Deferred to October meeting.</p> <p>We need to consider where we are headed and what we have accomplished. Look at impact of children and families, look at success stories, real life experiences.</p> <p>May look at hosting another planning day in 2015</p> <p>New Child Care Plan to included Child Care Modernization Act – Bill 10. It is expected that this bill to go for its second reading in October.</p> <p>New information about the Child Care Plan and Ontario Early Years Framework may be coming from Ministry of Education in the near future after the elections. Then we will look at what the next steps will be.</p> <p>Melodie reviewed the BSN commitment letters with the members. The Best Start Network agency commitment for members is a three year term but requires annual re commitment.</p> <p>Just a reminder if you are unable to attend a meeting please send a replacement so we can continue to meet quorum.</p> <p>Melodie reviewed Mission and Vision statements</p> <p>Adele Gawley mentioned there is a new survey coming from Laurier University called “Brant Child Health Study” The network would like to get more information on their research and data collection.</p>	<p>Action Plan:</p> <p>Cathy to send out Strategic Plan to members to review for October BSN Meeting</p> <p>Members are to make notes for our October meeting regarding accomplishments of the plan and next steps as well as specific stories that support our work.</p> <p>Action: More discussion regarding survey in October BSN Meeting, invite James LeClair</p>
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