



**Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council (BBF SAC)  
Meeting Minutes  
March 25, 2019**

Present: Julie Cadwallader Staub, David Young, Cheryle Wilcox, Renee Swain, Amy Johnson, Reeva Murphy, Kim Keiser, Auburn Watersong, Sue Ceglowski, Chloe Leary, Emily Merrill, Janet McLaughlin, Breena Holmes

On the phone: Kate Rogers

Absent: Stacy Weinberger, Sara Barry, Aly Richards, Mike Mrowicki, Richard Westman, Nicole Grenier, Katie Watts

Community Partners/Guests: Matt Levin, Eddie Gale, Wendy Hubbard, Lee Lauber (phone) , Dana Robson, Marianna Donnelly, Beverly Boget, Becky Millard

Staff present: Katie Mobbs, Julia Andrews, Amanda Biggs, Beth Truzansky, Liz Hamel, Darla Senecal  
phone: Steve Ames, Ellen Taetzsch,

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**1. Welcome, Introductions & Other Business**

Reeva Murphy called the meeting to order at 12:07pm

**a. Welcome all in attendance, review agenda**

**b. Consent Agenda**

The board passed the minutes from the February 25, 2019 State Council Meeting. Kim Keiser made a motion to accept, with a second by Chloe Leary. Cheryle Wilcox asked for an amendment to the minutes; please add names in section about Designate Agencies. All members voted in favor of approving.

**c. Vote on re-appointed members**

The Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council moves to recommend that the Governor re-appoint the following at-large members for a second three-year term on the council, beginning April 1, 2019 and ending March 31, 2022:

- Julie Cadwallader Staub, Stern Center for Language and Learning
- Chloe Leary, Winston Prouty Center
- Aly Richards, Let's Grow Kids

Sue Ceglowski made a nomination motion in support, with a second by David Young. All members voted in favor of approving.

**d. Vote on Executive Committee Officers**

The Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council, at the recommendation of the Executive Committee, moves to elect the following slate of officers for the Executive Committee for a term of two years, beginning April 1, 2019 and ending March 31, 2021:

- Cheryle Wilcox, Interagency Planning Director at the Vermont Department of Health, as Public Co-Chair
- Kim Keiser, Vermont Director of the Turrell Fund, as Treasurer
- Renee Swain, VT Head Start Collaboration Office Director, as Secretary

In addition, David Young continues his first term as Private Co-Chair and the Co-Chairs have selected Chloe Leary as the At-Large member of the Executive Committee (as Aly Richards has declined to continue on the Executive Committee)

Julie Cadwallader Staub made a nomination motion in support, with a second by Chloe Leary. All members voted in favor of approving.

**e. Vote on BBF Executive Director**

Reeva Murphy on behalf of the Executive Committee made a motion to nominate Morgan Crossman as the Executive Director of BBF. Morgan rose to the top of applicants, offers were made to her from other organizations in Vermont but in speaking with Morgan it was apparent, BBF was where she really wanted to be. With a second by Kim Keiser, all members voted in favor of approving.

**f. Review draft FY20 Budget for May approval**

Kim Keiser, Treasurer gave a copy of the draft budget to members for review and questions. Please remember this is not final nor ready to public dissemination. Final budget vote will occur on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Chloe asked if all revenue is in hand or if sponsorship specifically was an idea.

Julie Cadwallader Staub had questions about PDG planning vs implementation stages and if \$378,000 was part of implementation (second grant stage). All questions raised will be forwarded to Jay Austin, Finance Manager to address prior to the May budget vote.

**2. CDD Child Care Financial Assistance Proposed Redesign- 5 Year Plan**

- a. Reeva Murphy took the group on a tour of the changes, with an emphasis on critical strategies in the 5-year plan. Based on the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Affordable Child Care and the Building Vermont's Future from the Child Up Think Tank, the changes are designed to eliminate the benefits cliff for families, to better support families at low and middle income ranges, and to better invest in the child care workforce. To support these changes, CDD is recommending some investments in the CCFAP Program by the Legislature.

- b. Questions/Discussion

**3. Update on Early Childhood Issues in the VT Legislature**

Matt Levin gave an update on the 2019 Legislative Agenda which can be found here:

<https://vecaa.org/>

**4. SAC 2019 Policy Priority- Early Childhood and Family Mental Health**

Objective: Identify possible strategies for how the council can support this policy priority in the coming year. Members and partners broke into small group discussions of possible strategies

- What gaps and opportunities did your group identify for Vermont to fulfill this vision? Consider a programmatic level and a systems level.
- What strategies did you identify for people to take based on their individual sector/organizational role?
- What role/strategies did you identify the Council can take in the coming year?

Small group share out was recorded, here are some of the highlights:

Gaps/Opportunities:

- There is a need for shared language and vision
- Address capacity and acuity issue as an underlining gap
- Align medical and social services provide services where children and families are (in home, at childcare, schools etc.) This also removes the stigma associated with accessing services.
- Limited workforce influences current capacity challenges
- It is important to bring family voice to decision-makers to help inform changes to funding models
- Consider the connection of mental health to suspension/expulsions at all ages
- Creative a positive theme "family well-being" utilizing proactive measures

SAC potential strategies:

- Develop visual and shared language to build a shared vision to move forward
- Convene a taskforce and write a white paper showing analysis of where things are and what the gaps are (like was done with the Substance Use Disorder Task Force in 2017)
- Develop statewide framework for conversations and building capacity in the regions
- Create space for more topic related conversations, ie: Prevention, Trauma, Best Practices, DCF
- Engage families and communities in this process. Often, families and communities are included at the end as people to be informed of the proposed solutions. We need to engage these groups throughout our work.
- Encourage, support and promote all forms of positive mental health frameworks such as Strengthening Families, Early MTSS, etc.
- Represent children's mental health as an issue more strongly in the HAVYC&F report. Data is an issue, but something we'll need to address. Ensure that a discussion of acuity is included.

**5. Adjourn**

3:05pm motion to adjourn by Renee, with a second by Cheryle. All members voted in favor

**Next Meeting- Monday May 20<sup>th</sup> | 12- 3:00pm**  
**Vermont Insurance Agents Association**  
**600 Blair Park, Williston VT 05495**