

Interagency Council of Brevard

Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2013

Attendance: Kimberly Bane, Donald Blair, Zoe Conover, Darryl Deal, Jennifer Duros, Sherrie Fries, Jack Giordano, Ginny Gleason, Lori Goodwin, Robert Gramolini, LeeAnne Ireland, Kathy Lowe, Heather Mack, Mariann Sampieri, Brandon Scaglione, Lynda Schuchert, Patty Smith, Heather Theobald, Jim Watson, Cindy Wickham, Brandon Scaglione, Janean Knight, Lori Emly, Veronica Dejesus-Bonilla

Remote Participants: N/A

Meeting was held at Economic Development, Rockledge

Minutes were taken by Robert Gramolini

Welcome and Introduction: Lynda Schuchert opened the meeting followed by introductions.

Mission Statement: Heather Thobald read the mission statement

Review of Minutes: Cindy Wickham reviewed the March meeting minutes. Minutes were approved by Jim Watson and seconded by Jennifer Duros, all were in agreement.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy provided the financial report noting a balance of \$2760.29. Kathy discussed spending some of the money to send her and Tricia Frame to the Visions Conference in May.

Discussions

Kathy Lowe discussed having ICB members at student registrations at the beginning of the school year. It was suggested to contact the ESE Contacts at each school and set up tables at each registration. Parents need to attend registration, but some thought it was information overload. A flyer was suggested to hand out at registration with information about the event in October.

The name of ICB was also discussed since most people don't know what it represents. Suggestions were made to make a tag line that would be more definitive as to what the ICB does. Jim Watson suggested "Serving students and adults with disabilities since 1999"

Patty Smith suggested getting a banner or sign that could be taken to events so they would identify ICB.

Other discussions included schools not inviting outside agencies to IEP's- the numbers of invites have gone down drastically in the past couple of years. Zoe Conover mentioned that she felt many parents are not interested in obtaining services until they are most needed. The ICB will look at other ways to get more buy in at younger ages.

It was suggested that at one of the In Services a tour of local agencies is set up in order to let teachers and staff know exactly what is out there.

One of the topics for next year is Mental Health. Janean Knight is going to be putting together a panel for this topic and will be presented on November 13th at a site to be determined. A discussion about opening it to the public and possibly getting the information out to Circles of Care and other agencies to get more people to attend. Janean will check on room availability and let the group know.

Lynda discussed the format of the meeting and Jennifer discussed the positive feedback she has heard about the new format that the ICB has implemented this past year.

Breakout Groups:

Transition

Kathy stated that they are planning for 3 transition fairs again next year. The group is looking at ways to brand the fairs so people will know the events by name and by logo. Ciera from the school board graphics will be working on a logo. The group is hoping to incorporate the tag line: "From Elementary to Employment" along with "When the yellow school bus stops coming." The first fair will be on October 18th at the School Board from 10-12 pm. C.J. Miles is working on getting another Housing Panel to participate.

Kathy Lowe stated that Guardianship was the number one topic that parents were interested in according to the surveys they turned in from the transition fairs. Laura Pichardo will be looking into this topic to be presented at the other fairs which will be held at Titusville High and Bayside High in February. She will get back with the group on her findings. The fairs in February will be held in the late afternoon/early evening.

Employment

Jennifer gave an update on the Employer Forum which will be held May 8th at the Palm Bay Workforce. 3-5 businesses will be part of a panel discussion. Time will be set aside for the ICB members to ask the group questions. Jim Watson will be the M. C.

Jim also mentioned a new system at Workforce that should be in place in July or August. It is called Prove it and will be able to test people in certain areas of interest. It is not just an assessment, it's a way to verify knowledge and give them an actual test score.

Announcements:

- ❖ C.J. is looking for wheelchair users to be part of a study- they must have their own transportation- anyone interested can call his office at 757-3532 for more information.
- ❖ Kimberly Bane is heading to Washington DC for a Disability Forum and is looking for topics you would like to see addressed. Please see her if you have any.
- ❖ Veronica from VR stated that she will be conducting orientations for Spanish speaking individuals on Thursday, April 25th
- ❖ Lynda mentioned Relay for Life is this Saturday from 12 noon to 6 am Sunday in Rockledge at Larry Schultz Park

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Wednesday, May 8th at the Palm Bay Workforce.