



## **Spark NH Executive Committee Meeting**

2 Delta Drive, Concord

March 11, 2015 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Meeting Summary

**Attendance:** Erika Argersinger, Katie Brissette, Jackie Cowell, Laura Milliken, and Ruth Littlefield

**Minutes Recorder:** Katie Brissette

### **1. February Executive Committee Meeting Summary**

There were no changes to the February meeting summary. There was consensus to approve them.

### **2. Debrief last Council Meeting**

The committee felt the meeting went well. It was well attended. The equity discussion was facilitated well. The update on the policy priorities was well received by the Council.

### **3. Spark NH Budget**

There is a process in place for when the budget is ready for approval. It will soon be completed by Jackie and shared with Carmel Duval, our accountant and Laura. The Executive Committee will approve it and then it will be shared with the Council. Jackie and Laura will meet with Impact Monadnock about the grant.

### **4. Committee Guidelines**

Debra and Laura updated the committee guidelines. It will be sent around to the committee again. When it is shared with the Council we will highlight where the changes were made.

### **5. Equity Discussion at Council**

The group reviewed the backstory of these equity discussions. Amy, from the Office of Minority Health, recommended that this work continue with the Council. The Executive Committee agrees that the topic of equity should be permeated throughout all the work of Spark and concretely included in the work of the committees. Tools will be needed to show committee members how to address these issues. The committee discussed what a task force would be charged with doing including fleshing out this work and incorporating it into Spark NH and then bring ideas back to the Council. Amy will be asked to review Spark's materials, strategic plan, needs assessment, etc. through her lens and offer suggestions. Spark NH has a formal connection to the Health Equity Partnership through Project LAUNCH.

**6. Set April Spark NH Council Agenda**

The April Council agenda will include a follow up to the equity discussion. Laura will ask JoAnn Cobb to do a member presentation on the Association for Infant Mental Health. If JoAnn is unavailable Marti Ilg will be asked to present on the Belknap Early Childhood Council. Peggy Kieschnick will be asked to attend and discuss the white paper for the policy framework. Ellen Wheatley will be asked to do an update on the Workforce and Professional Development Committee Blueprint and the Communications and Public Awareness Committee will show the video.

**7. NGA RFP**

Language about an opportunity to apply to the National Governor's Association for a TA grant was shared. It was agreed that we are not ready for this opportunity but there will be another one at the end of the year. At an upcoming meeting with the Governor's office Laura will discuss this opportunity and share her ideas for how it could support Spark's policy framework.

**8. Filling Open Council Positions – Higher Education**

Jackie has been in touch with Ross Gittell about the Higher Ed position on the council. She will also ask Kathy Bogle Shields, vice chair of the Community College System for her recommendations.

**9. Sustainability**

The Endowment for Health grant to fund a public awareness consultant was submitted. The NH Charitable Foundation will be announcing their four priority areas in June; we hope early childhood is one of them. Other opportunities have been seized as they come up. Committee chairs will be notified of the amount of project funds available. They can then submit requests for those funds to Laura. A long term plan, including how Spark NH could grow, was discussed. Being clear with the Council on organizational goals and opportunities for change is important. When the Council is evaluated, a question around how aware they are of the processes will be included.

**10. Spark NH Work Plan – no update at this time**

**11. Institute on Disability** – Laura was invited to do a Bedrock presentation at their May conference about Project LAUNCH. The primary audience is clinicians which we haven't reached on a large scale yet.

**12. Summer Summit**

The committee used the DOE problems of practice to come up with the following theme for the early childhood strand, "Using evidence-based practices to improving socio-emotional outcomes." Early Learning Standards will be used to help guide the strand. The group discussed potential keynotes such as Joan Lombardi and Ellen Galinsky, and came to consensus around asking Kathy Hirsch-Pasek. There will also be 18 individual mini-sessions. More discussion will take place as necessary.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 8, 2015, 1:00 – 3:00 pm