



Spark NH Vision: All New Hampshire children and their families are healthy, learning, and thriving now and in the future.

Spark NH Mission: Provide leadership that promotes a comprehensive, coordinated, sustainable early childhood system that achieves positive outcomes for young children and families, investing in a solid future for the Granite State.

Spark NH Focus: Expectant parents as well as children from birth through grade 3 and their families.

Spark NH Executive Committee Meeting

2 Delta Drive, Concord

October 13, 2015 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Meeting Summary

Attendance: Erika Argersinger, Katie Brissette, Jackie Cowell, Laura Milliken, Debra Nelson, and Deirdre Dunn Tierney.

Minutes Recorder: Katie Brissette

1. September Executive Committee Meeting Summary

Debra Nelson had a few edits to the meeting summary. The committee came to consensus to approve the meeting summary with the changes.

2. Spark NH Budget

No update on the budget at this time.

3. Spark NH Council Officers/Nominating

The Committee reviewed the by-laws and recommended process for nominating/selecting Council Chair and Vice-chair, which include: 1) Ensuring a balance of leadership from the public and private sectors such that one representative from each sector serves as either Chair or Vice-chair; and 2) After one or two years as Vice-chair, this person is asked to step in as Chair, with Council consensus. Ruth Littlefield, representing the NH Department of Education (public sector), has graciously agreed to remain Vice-Chair of the Council. Therefore, the Nominating Committee will identify and reach out to possible candidates from the private sector to serve as Chair. A final slate of officers will be presented at the October Council meeting. Debra and Jackie will also continue to work to increase the Nominating Committee membership.

Dee informed the committee that the language from her grant suggests the Council have a representative from the medical field but does not require it. The plan is to recruit a medical representative to the Policy Committee and revisit the request to the Governor's Office at a later date.

4. October Spark NH Council Agenda – Media event – Bedrock training for Council

The committee finalized the agenda for the October 22nd Council meeting. It will be held at the Governor's Council Chambers. The Governor has been invited to welcome the group but has not confirmed yet. Erika will open the meeting and welcome the Governor (if present), the Council, any members of the public and press. Lynn Davey and Stefany Shaheen will be asked to help draft talking points. If the Governor attends she will speak from the podium with the Council positioned behind her. This meeting will also serve as the launch for the Pledge campaign. The Pledge video

will be shown and the leaders from the video will be invited to attend. Jackie and Laura will reach out to Mark Vallone about his role with the Bedrock presentation. Stefany is working on getting the media to attend.

5. Discussion of data indicators

Peter Antal joined the meeting to discuss his work around data indicators. The data will be collected using the WISDOM system which is an online dashboard of the Dept. of Public Health. The Data Committee has been working on this and is now reaching out to Executive Committee for an additional perspective. This work will also be shared with the Policy Committee. The group reviewed the potential indicators and Peter noted the committee's suggested changes. Data points for all of these indicators currently exist.

6. Spark NH Work Plan Update

All committee chairs have been asked to update the timelines in their work plans.

7. Council meeting for December

The December Council meeting is currently scheduled for Christmas Eve. It will be rescheduled for the 2nd Thursday, December 10th.

8. Other

- a. NH as a CSEFEL Pyramid state – There is interest in NH becoming the 27th Pyramid state. A webinar explaining what it means to be a Pyramid state and to determine next steps is scheduled for Wednesday, October 28 from 2:00 – 3:00. Debra Nelson and Ruth Littlefield are taking the lead on this effort.
- b. Early Learning Nation – The committee discussed the October 5 event and Debra updated the group about regional and national interest in continuing the work with Head Start programs, particularly in making Vroom available to every family
- c. Poverty Competencies – Donna Beegle's book will be passed out at the next Council meeting. Determining how to integrate this information into the work of Spark NH is important and will be a future Executive Committee agenda item
- d. NHAIMH – The board of NHAIMH is interested in having someone talk about Vroom and its importance at their annual meeting in January. They want to work with Spark NH and Early Learning NH to further this work.
- e. Dee Dunn's application to be a member of the Equity Leaders Action Network BUILD Initiative conference was accepted. She will be traveling to Seattle in December for the opening conference.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.