

**Branford School Readiness Council  
Minutes**

April 3, 2020

**Present:** The following were present via Zoom due to COVID-19:  
Dale Izzo, Carole Weisberg, Robin Comey, James Cosgrove, Michele Krumenacker,  
Anne Adinolfi, Alison Tyliczszak, Diane Pappacoda, and Carly Lemire

Meeting was called to order by Dale Izzo at 9:35.

**Motion:** A motion was made to approve the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting minutes, with two corrections; Carly Lemire and Diane Pappacoda were both present. A motion to approve was made

1<sup>st</sup>: Robin Comey

2<sup>nd</sup>: Michele Krumenacker

Motion passed

**School Readiness Liaison Report:**

- **SR Grant Update:** Carole gave a detailed report from ZOOM Meetings that she has been attending that the State has been conducting. As of now the grant is due May 15<sup>th</sup>, she and Dale continue to work on it. We are still waiting on some direction about the QE grant portion, our work for this grant cycle was completed on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Carole stated that she is available to help with resources.
- **Waitlist:** We have a total of 23 on the list; 11, who are eligible and 12 who are not eligible due to age.

**New Business:**

- **COVID-19:** Both our centers gave a detailed report about how they have been handling staying connected with families during this time and how they are utilizing different ideas for distance learning. FRC employees are working and conducting Live Zoom circle times, gross motor skills activities, Nap Time bed stories, Cooking/Stem activities to name a few. They are also being recorded so parents can view them at any time. They also put together craft bags and delivered them to the children. BELC is also doing ZOOM calls, reading to the children and doing simple science projects. All her staff are currently unemployed and collecting. They have given out books to the children and art project bags. Diane is checking with families on a weekly basis and as needed. She also supplies meals to 12 families. Both sites have been reaching out to families/students and have done extra time with those families that they have concerns regarding resources for basic needs. The Blackstone Library is working remotely and they are available for digital help, ie: how to download e-books, they are conducting distance storytime on Saturdays and they have created social distancing challenge activities, ie: share a photo of nature. You can also apply for library cards on line and begin using their resources and services. The Parks and Recreation Department has their toddler instructor who is creating videos which include reading, science/STEM projects, yoga, stretching and more. These are being sent to families that have participated in the past and are being posted to their Facebook page.

- Carole and Robin reported hearing Beth Bye mention on a Zoom meeting that Education Commissioner Miguel Cardona would be sending a memo to CT School Superintendents requesting that cleaning and other supplies be provided to Child Care programs in their districts that are open and serving essential workers. Two such programs in Branford are ABC Learn and See Us Grow.
- Robin reported that they are working on WOYC activities and trying to see what they can do, since all previous plans have to be changed because of COVID-19. BECC is hosting weekly lunchtime roundtable Zoom meetings on Fridays at noon.

**Public Comment:** None

A big THANK YOU to Robin and BECC for hosting the ZOOM meeting this morning.

A motion was made to adjourn: 1<sup>st</sup>: Dale Izzo  
The next meeting will be May 8, 2020

2<sup>nd</sup>: James Cosgrove

Meeting Adjourned at 10:35 am

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Izzo  
Carole Weisberg