NHECC Meeting Notes for April 3, 2019

Dr. Michele Kelly Baker was introduced as the new NHECC Director. She will be part-time. A Thank You card was passed around for signatures for the outgoing Director Randi McCray. Card and a gift will be sent to Randi.

All those present introduced themselves.

NHECC and SRC Orientation

Dr. Killins provided a powerpoint orientation to the NHECC and the SRC (handout of the PowerPoint was included in the folders given to those present, along with the Council’s by-laws)

The orientation touched on the purpose of the NHECC, its alignment with the City Transformation Plan, and the 3 major goals of the Council.

Committees: committees aligned with the goals will decide on short and long term strategies to accomplish our goals. Those present were asked to sign up for a committee. It will be up to the members of the committees to determine when and how often they meet, and if more information is needed, to ask Dr. Baker to help them get the data/information. Anyone interested in chairing a committee should contact Dr. Killins or Dr. Baker. Mr. Haruna suggested that a parent be asked to chair the Parent Engagement Committee.

NHECC website: Dr. Killins asked council members to visit the website and offer their suggestions for content, to download the NHECC app and bring their suggestions back to April’s Council meeting.

NHECC budget: a slide of the budget showed the current funding sources for the Council. Dr. Baker will provide a more thorough review of the budget at the next council meeting. The Council will develop a policy about how money decisions are made.

Council votes: ideally, when decisions need to be made there will be an opportunity to discuss at the Council meeting and vote on the issue at the next Council meeting, giving members time to go back to their constituents/organizations to discuss.

To ensure there are no conflicts of interests when funding decisions are made, Dr. Baker will ask all Council members to sign a conflict of interest form at the next Council meeting.

Need to have better relationship with mayor, supt and OEC. Esp need to work with OEc re fees.

School Readiness Council:

All Council meetings will begin with business related to the School Readiness Grant. OEC wants to see that the responsibilities of the SR grant are addressed by the Council. The presentation provided an overview of the SR legislation, including the responsibilities of Councils.

Data:

A map of all the prek programs in New Haven was distributed. Mr. Diaz asked if there was a list of all the School Readiness funded programs in the City and the family demographics for each site.

Denise will bring a list of all the prek’s in New Haven.

Denise will work with Mary Derwin so the demographics for each program-whether Head Start, School Readiness or Magnet.

The need to decide what data we want and whether we can contract with an organization such as DataHaven to put it all together. It was agreed that decisions about where there is need for more prek, infant toddler spaces as well as other info is needed if we are to make smart decisions.

Announcements:

Fair Haven Stroll: Eliza Halsey passed out flyers encouraging people to attend Saturday, May 4th from 10am to 2pm at the Quinnipiac River Park

NHPS Parent University: Danny Diaz announced it will take place Saturday, April 27th, 9am to 1pm at Metropolitan Business Academy. Go to [www.NHECC.net](http://www.NHECC.net) to sign up.

WOYC (Week of the Young Child) is a national event. The Children’s Museum has raised funds to buy and distribute 1,800 books through SR sites as well as community partners. There were an additional 1,000 requests for books for which there is no funding. In the past, the Council supported this effort. Due to the delay in getting the council operational, it will not participate this year but this should be discussed for FY20.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15.