



ITCA Board Conference Call Minutes
April 1, 2008

Board Members Present: Julie Curry, Ron Benham, Molly Dries Bright, Rick Ingraham, Mary Ann Discenza, Terry Harrison, Debbie Cheatham

Contract Staff Present: Maureen Greer, Sharon Walsh

Additions to Agenda: No additions to the agenda

Acceptance of Minutes: Minutes were accepted as distributed.

Budget and Expenditures

- Savings Balance: \$91,066.49
- Checking Balance: \$17,924.61

Staff Report

- Administrative Liaison
 - Newsletter: the newsletter is almost complete. The final article is due to be received on Wednesday
 - Taxes: the 2007 taxes have been completed and approved by Julie.
 - EHDl Survey: The EHDl survey results were too long to include in the newsletter so the report will be sent out separately. The Board had no revisions for the document.

- Governmental Relations
 - Still seeking an appointment with OSEP to meet with the new Assistant Secretary

- Appropriations Request Letter: working with NAEYC and DEC to develop a letter that numerous organizations will sign on to. The Board agreed to support this action even though the numbers will be lower than what ITCA has requested in the past.

Committee Reports

- Legislative:
 - The FERPA proposed regulations were discussed. The committee recommended that the proposed regulations should be distributed to members with the caveat that ITCA would be commenting on them.
 - Funding Formula Methodology: Defer any more conversations until the Board retreat when the Board can develop a set of principles that any proposed formula must meet.
 - Verification Letters: The Board should read the most recent verification letters to see how OSEP is responding to states and how consistent their responses are compared to past letters. Some members are concerned about the tone and content of letters that have been received lately.
- Membership Services:
 - The initial meeting was held on Monday with two of the committee members represented.
 - The committee agreed that the web site needs to be revised.
 - The Board divided the remaining states and will do follow-up phone calls.
- Data
 - The committee continued to review the national survey and need one final call to complete the review process.
- Family Alliance
 - Molly met with Maureen Casey to work on a communication process that worked for both Associations. They will have a meeting in Boston in May
 - The article about their outreach activities will be included in the April newsletter.
 - There was a brief discussion regarding ITCA documents that should be shared with EIFA.

Old Business

- Summer retreat: The retreat will be scheduled for Saturday and Sunday August 23/24. The OSEP meeting will try to be scheduled for Tuesday afternoon, the 26th.
- LRP: The Association needs to identify a mechanism to provide timely response to requests for media requests. Ron moved and Mary Ann seconded that on an interim basis, Sharon and Maureen will handle the media requests and remain consistent with Board data, policies and positions. The vote was unanimous.

New Business

- Act Early: Terry and Sharon will pursue a conversation with George Jessien to talk about the role of ITCA with the Autism initiative.
- President's Budget: There is no good news regarding the President's proposed budget which reflected a freeze at current levels.
- Medicaid TCM Interim Rules:
 - Congress is pushing hard for a moratorium on the many changes in Medicaid rules.
 - While there are some abuses, the rules need to be written for the majority instead of the exception.
 - Julie will draft a document related to TCM to support states' efforts to deal with this issue.