



March 6, 2019

11:00-12:00

Bristol Board of Education Room – Room #36

**Members Present:** Kim Carmelich, Maureen Eaton, Kate Kerchaert, Lauren Kittle, Donna Koser, Karen Lombardi, Tracy Krasinski, Tim O'Connor, Donna Osuch, Mary Alice Petrucelli-Timek, Coral Richardson, Alexandra Strahowski

**Start Ups/Welcome:** All present introduced themselves and Maureen & Lauren welcomed everyone to the meeting. **Community Outreach:** An outreach committee was formed. Initial meeting was productive and new members are welcomed. The committee is fine tuning outreach tools (such as intake form, brochure, etc.) Donna also reminded member to share information to be posted on the website and/or Facebook page. JPEG format would be preferred, if possible.

**Subcommittees:**

**Infant & Toddler** – The committee had a guest speaker. Karen Thomas from Etiquette CT at their February meeting. The discussion was fruitful and the guest was helpful in helping the group figure out next steps around “breastfeeding etiquette”. The committee has plans to organize a “Breastfeeding in the Park” event in August. The committee is looking into possible partners and appropriate park.

**Health** –The committee created Friday Fun Facts to be shared for National Nutrition Month (March) on Facebook. The committee will be participating in the Teddy Bear Jamboree. Lake Compounce responded back to the committee's request for “healthier snacks”, water is available and they will review their current menu. “Boost Bowls” information was shared for possible “pop up” events in the community where healthier food options will be served. The Dr. scheduled for the Library event has been rescheduled for later in the month due to scheduling conflicts. Little Read and “Walk and Talk” books have been purchased. The committee has plans to reach out to the Police Chief to ask if he would consider being videotaped reading a book for social media.

**Transition to Kindergarten (T/K)** – K registration is on track and began on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The folders are completed with “Important, Do Not Throw Away” stickers. A centralized form has been approved and parents will be asked to complete and return. “Dine & Discuss” will be held April 4<sup>th</sup> with the discussion being held around the “universal form”; a simple one page forms to be delivered to a dedicated K teacher from each school. May 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. is the Kindergarten Orientation night. One school has been selected for recording the event. The video will be available to parents/guardians who were unable to attend. BECA members were asked to add a tag line to all of their email correspondence with a reminder: “It's time to register for Kindergarten”.

**Prenatal to Birth Work:**

Phase I: Bristol Babies Born Reading event will take place April 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at the library. The baby showers will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Phase II: Birth to age 3 piece will focus importance. The committee was asked

**Community Sharing/Upcoming Events/Meetings:**

**Imagine Nation –Museum of Early Learning** is holding a “Teddy Bear Health Clinic” on March 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a life size operations game, touch screens, and more. May 3<sup>rd</sup> is a Wine event.

School Readiness – Grant is on track – RFP’s have been seen out. March 11<sup>th</sup> is a Narcan training where there is free food and a kit.

**Child First**, new staff is getting to know Bristol.

The **Main Street Community Foundation** general grant cycle is open and applications are due March 29<sup>th</sup>. Members are asked to visit [MainStreetFoundation.org](http://MainStreetFoundation.org) for the application. All applicants are required to contact the Foundation prior to applying to ensure that they are eligible to apply. Members can also email Kate. Scholarships for High School and College students are due March 15<sup>th</sup>. WOW (Wonder of Women) is scheduled for April 23, 2019. Tickets are \$65.00 each and proceeds will go to the Women and Girls Fund offered to the six town area. Call office for more information.

**WIC** – Food packet now allows any brand and will provide strawberry yogurt. WIC Smart modules benefits to families with barriers and provided tips for cooking with kids, picky eaters and more. Lots of handouts during the month of April for National Nutrition Month. They also provide a WIC shopper app.

**Bristol Preschool** – Shirley and Marilyn’s retirement party will be held tomorrow (March 7<sup>th</sup>). Program starts at 6:00 p.m.

**United Way** – VITA, where people can get IRS certified assistance to receive their maximum refund, is ongoing and held on Tuesday evenings and Saturday’s. Myfreetaxes is also available. Chamber of Commerce duck race tickets will be available at the March meeting. Tickets are \$5.00 each.

**Next meeting April 3, 2019 - 11:00 Rm 36 @ BOE 129 Church Street**