**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, May 7th, 2019 at 10AM

**Place:**  United Way Square, Charleston WV

**Committee Members Present:** Heather Foster, Kathy Baker, Jeanette Barker, Dwight Coburn, Lisa Ertl, Monica DellaMae, Dr. Keri Ferro, Phillip Keith, Laurie McKeown, Lori Milam, Margaret Ann O’Neal, Mitzi Payne M.D., Curator Randall Reid- Smith, Pamela Roush

**Committee Members Absent:** Travis Helmondollar, Pam Myers, Jackie Newsome

**Additional Guests:** Melanie Clark, Shelia Zickefoose, Ginger Huffman, Natalie Snider, Janet Bock- Hager, Rochelle Goodwin

1. **Welcome, Introductions** – Heather Foster, Council Chair

Foster thanked participants for attending and thank Margaret Ann O’Neal for use of United Way space.

1. **Administrative Updates**

Heather Foster provided an update of the restart of the ECAC council in full. It was discussed how the council will operate and that designees with be accepted for council positions as needed. Heather Foster suggested that the Executive Committee draft an SOP for the council.

Monica DellaMae provided updates for the new ECAC website & logo. A revised website is being created which will be hosted by the Department of Education and will include a council email address for sustainability (*ecac@wv.gov*). The next meeting will feature a preview of the new website. The group then discussed the new ECAC logo provided by the Executive Council, everyone agreed on the logo and noted the bright colors and pinwheel.

The group then discussed Member Expectations that council members are encouraged to attend meetings and that the group will rotate meeting locations. Curator Randall Reid-Smith offered to host the August 6th meeting at the Culture Center. Heather Foster noted that bagged parking meters will be provided for the group.

1. **Committee Activity Reports**

**Early Childhood Health Committee** – Mitzi Payne M.D. provided an update on the Health Committee and shared the committee’s new goals which include: 1) ACES – Adverse Childhood Experience 2) Childhood Obesity – Which includes projects directed by Dr. Jeffries such as partnering with Keys 4 Healthy Kids, Rethink Your Drink, and the Portions Plate 3) Medical Dental Care 4) Substance Use Disorder.

Foster read a written statement from Pam Myers about a recent trip from a team of WV providers to a summit on the substance use disorder and early childhood care. The group returned from the trip motivated to continue meeting. After discussion with the Health Committee, the group was invited to join the Health Committee-Substance Use Disorder subcommittee.

**Higher Education Committee**- Dr. Kerri Ferro & Melanie Clark shared that the High Education Committee is currently developing a new workplan. As part of the previous workplan, the group developed a common core curriculum for Associate’s Degrees in Early Child Care to be used by community and technical colleges in West Virginia. Most schools have adopted / or are in the process of adopting the curriculum. The committee is working on a license accreditation through NAEYC for the curriculum.

**Professional Development Committee**- Natalie Snider & Pam Roush shared that the Professional Development Committee developed a new workplan with tasks in March. The group discussed the Draft West Virginia Specialized Knowledge / Competencies for Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance Progressions. The Council agreed to review the draft and send input prior to the August meeting, when the Core Competency document will be discussed for approval by the Council. Questions regarding the document can be sent to Natalie Snider at nsnider@rvcds.org.

1. **Special Presentation : WV Women Moving Forward Initiative**

Special Guest Rochelle Goodwin, Senior Associate Vice President for Academic and Public Strategy, WVU, shared the history of the WV Woman Forward Initiative. Discussed the economic impact and barriers of keeping women in the workforce. West Virginia has a low women workforce participation rate which can be related to dependent care of children and family/elders. The group discussed solutions for dependent care. Rochelle shared that WV Women Moving Forward has developed a mapping project to list and locate daycares throughout the state and to identify daycare deserts, they also created an online list of summer programming available to children located here: <https://wvforward.wvu.edu/wv-forward-work/women-moving-forward/workforce-barriers/wv-summer-care>. The Council’s expertise is requested to help fill gaps in the two maps- especially to think through strategies for documenting in-home family services not currently on the WVDHHR radar. Rochelle invited the group to participate in their monthly calls which take place on the first Tuesday of the Month at Noon and the in-person meetings which take place on the second Tuesday of the Month, this month’s will be on May 14th at 2PM at AARP in Charleston and will focus on dependent care.

1. **Public Comments – None**
2. **New Business**

Margaret Ann O’Neal discussed United Way programs and efforts to help provide resources to those in the community. A clothing closet is now set up at the United Way to outfit those in need of professional attire for job interviews and other career-wear. The United Way is collaborating with Dress for Success on this project. Additionally, the United Way is collaborating with Mountaineer Foodbank on a popup food bank in Clay County this weekend.

The group discussed suggestions of future guests / topics. The group agreed to discuss the new PreK Standards which will be implemented in July 2019 at the next meeting. Other topics suggested were: School Readiness and ACES.

Additionally, the Council would like to receive committee workplan updates which will be compiled into one document.

Foster will send committee leadership contact information to the Council members. All Council members are encouraged to join and participate actively in a committee. Committees are welcoming of new members at any time.

2019 Proposed Meeting Calendar:

* 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 6th – Tentative: Culture Center, WV State Capitol Complex, Charleston WV.
* 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, November 12 – TBD.

1. **Adjourn**