

2020 FL-AHEAD Fall Meeting Minutes October 28, 2020

I. Call to Order

Marra Piazza Brass called to order the FL-AHEAD summer meeting at 12:40 p.m. on October 28th, 2020 via Zoom.

II. Introduction/Roll Call

Marra Piazza Brass introduced the Executive Board:

Marra Piazza Brass – President, Eckerd College

Craig Levins, Broward College, Incoming President-Elect

Ashley Gorion –University of Central Florida, Treasurer

Mary Hoffman, State College of Florida, Secretary

Attendees:

Aimee Stubbs

Alicia Hall

Alissa Kashdin

Alyssa Morley

Anne Anderson

Ashley Erickson

Ashley Gorion

Ashley Milito

Bea Awoniyi

Beth Roland

Catherine Wharton

Chanda McCann

Christine Hopp

Cori Bright-Kerrigan

Courtney McGonagle

Craig Levins

Dana Lindsey

Farah Robles

Gabriel Lopez Kafati

Geni Wright

Janice Seabrooks-Blackmore

Jemima Francique

Jennifer Meier

Jeremy Abell

Jessie Howell

Judy Enyart

Keith Kennedy

Kelly Morgan

Kevin Price

Kimberley Smith

Kimberly Foy

Kristeena LaRoue

Laurie Carneiro

Lisa Elsinger

Lisa Gould

Marie Macher

Marra Piazza Brass

Mary Asbury

Mary Hoffman

Matthew Lowe

Melanie Jackson

Michelle Shaw

Miriam Peden

Nicole Bilodeau McKay

Patrick Arnwine

Peggy Kledzik

Renee Ruffalo

Sarah Darancou

Sherise Hobson

Sil Schwan

Steven Bianco

Tiffany Paschal

III. Minutes Approval: Mary Hoffman read the minutes from the August 5, 2020 meeting. Kimberley Smith made a motion to accept and the second was given by Craig Levins. Minutes were approved and accepted as presented.

IV. Treasurer's Report: presented by Ashley Gorion-

- Total Funds in Account: \$8808.72
- General Fund: \$5348.72
- Scholarship Fund: \$3460.00 (Thank you to Bea Awoniyi \$1000 & Johnson scholarship matching funds of \$1000)
- Total Membership – 104

V. EIT Consortium Report: presented by Steven Bianco

The following sub-committees have been formed: Technology, Policy & Government Regulation, Training & Education. The Training & Education sub-committee could use additional members and Anne Anderson discussed keeping resources on LiveBinders.com.

VI. Regional Consortia Report: presented by Alicia Hall

- West Central Region met September 18th, next meeting is November 13th.
- North Florida Region (North Central, North East and North West) met on August 11th, next meeting is November 4th. Spencer Scruggs has relocated to TCU, Beth Roland has stepped in for the time being. They could use an additional volunteer to help lead this large region.
- Central East and Central need an additional volunteer leader in this region to assist Alicia Hall.
- Southeast Region is currently being covered by Craig Levins and Michelle Shaw.
- Southwest Region's leader is Angie Hartsell.

VII. Marketing Committee Report: presented by Michelle Shaw

Designs have been completed for the FL Ahead Agenda and Power Point presentations. Looking for a volunteer to help with various social media outlets for FL Ahead and Mary Asbury at Valencia College volunteered.

VIII. No Old Business. Craig Levins presented **New Business as follows:**

- Broward College is looking for a Project Coordinator for the Center for Students with Unique Disabilities and two (2) Success Coach Employment Specialists.
- Future Conference Opportunities include Accessing Higher Ground where Craig Levins and Steven Bianco will present on the development of the Florida EIT Consortium. Registration has closed for the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities Virtual Conference however there is a lot of good information on their website (<https://fcsua.org>) regarding funding of Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program Grant Opportunities and student scholarships as well.

- FL Ahead Winter Meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 27th.

IX. Covid-19 Open Discussion began at 1:15 p.m.

Topics of discussion included decline in enrollment, especially for the First Time in College students; institutional teaching methods and the impact of so many online course offerings; increase in accommodation requests; different mask types; attendance flexibility in the online environment; working with faculty on individualized accommodations for specific situations; developing a relationship with the academic leadership team to address potential or existing issues for students with disabilities; instructor training on how to properly set up Zoom/Teams classrooms to prevent unauthorized users from entering the class; and are institutions fundamentally altering course curriculum during Covid and not truly aware they are doing it?

X. Craig Levins introduced Dr. Lisa Elsinger, Wellness Program Manager at Broward College. Dr. Elsinger provided great insight on “Minding Your Mind” as your thoughts, beliefs, attitudes, words, and actions all influence your quality of life. Dr. Elsinger also discussed how important self-care is and wanted us to consider work-life harmony instead of balance. She encouraged us to take regular breaks during the day to decrease stress and reduce feeling like we are on overload. Practice daily mindfulness, get enough rest and learn how to get asleep and stay asleep will help you to function better daily. Determine each day the things that are in your control and what is not, don’t let the things that are not within your control rule your day. Find things that make you laugh and things that inspire you. Be adaptable to change. Challenge yourself to write down one thing you are grateful for daily.

Open Discussion Topics included working with state leadership and identifying what schools need, budget concerns, disability documentation and identifying future guest speakers.

Marra ended the meeting with a quote by Bruce Lee “Notice that the stiffest tree is most easily cracked, while the bamboo or willow survives by bending with the wind.” As disability professionals we all are flexible and need to care for ourselves.

Meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m. Motion made by Kimberley Smith and 2nd made by Jennifer Meier.

Minutes submitted by Mary Hoffman, Secretary