October Policy Council Minutes

NRCA Head Start Policy Council
10/20/2025 5:30 PMEDT
@ 135 Church St., Christiansburg, VA 24073

Attendance

Present:
Members: Jennifer Brown, Leah Hill, Alisha Persinger, Stephanie Smith, Scott Sowder, Sarah Popczun, Nick Popczun
Guests: Alison Harris

Absent:
Members: Roni Fitch, Sarah Huff, Samantha Mahoney, Jennifer Smith, Paige Walters

Meeting was called to order at 5:44pm.

Motion:
Motion made to approve Policy Council September 2025 minutes as is.

Motion moved by Scott Sowder and motion seconded by Jennifer Brown. All in favor. Motion carried.

Leah Hill reviewed the Policy Council orientation PowerPoint and reviewed what the members should expect to receive in their monthly packet.

Alison Harris reviewed the 2024-2025 Self-Assessment report. She reviewed the take aways and next steps and how the program is progressing in the second year of the five-year grant cycle.

Alison Harris reviewed with the Big 5 practices. These five practices are part of the Pyramid Model. When these five practices are implemented and incorporated into the daily classroom schedules; children's negative behaviors should decrease, and teacher's classroom management skills should increase.

Jennifer Brown asked if we had any information on how the haunted attractions are going this season. She had seen where they had gotten good reviews from the local critics.

Members received a paper copy of the NRCA Head Start Annual Report.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:56pm.

Members received a survey through OnBoard to vote on the day of the week that they would prefer to hold Policy Council meetings. Wednesdays had the most votes. Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 3, 2025, beginning at 5:45pm at Christiansburg Head Start.
Fiduciary Training with company attorney will be on Tuesday, November 18th at 6:00pm, through Zoom. This is a combined training with NRCA Board.