Meeting was Call Order by Barbara Tedrow, ELAC Chair, at 9:46 am.

Welcome and Introductions:

Introduction of the council (in person): Barbara Tedrow, Ray Jaramillo, Crystal Tapia, Shannon Rivera, Elizabeth Beers, Olga Valenzuela-Zavala, Alejandra Rebolledo-Rea, Angela Redondo, Dr. Gwen Warniment

(Via Zoom): Arra Carabajal

Excused: Andy Gomm, Kimberly Johns, Amanda Gibson

Quorum established by Barbara Tedrow at 9:52 am.

Audience Introductions

Motion to add additions to agenda:

Legislative update Senator Padilla and Catron Allred on Mentorship program

Elizabeth makes motion to add additions; Olga seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

**Business – Action Items**

**Our Mission, Vision**

Look at ELAC as a whole, review Bylaws, strategic plan, and take action. Last 8 years what was our role? What do we do? Ask everyone to state your role on ELAC. Let us know what is your assigned duty? So that we all know who to go to for specific information according to your duty:

1. Dr. Gwen Warniment – Honored to be here, background in elementary education learning and assessment. Educator for 13 years mostly elementary, I was an Elementary Instructional Coach. My career is now program director at Los Alamos overseeing K thru 12. Reach across to have a prenatal to career spectrum. Bi-lingual and science educator. Deputy cabinet secretary.
2. Beth Beers – Representative of other relevant entities of early systems. Families and Infant Mental Health and home base programs.
3. Crystal Tapia – Representative for Child Care providers.
4. Olga Valenzuela-Zavala – Representative Head Start Collaboration Director between state and Head Start program. I am in the Office of Child Development, liaison for FOCUS, Head Start and Pre-K.
5. Ray Jaramillo - Representative 25 year as a director in an accredited PreK program. Has been serving 8 years on ELAC, over two administrations. Representative of other relevant entities (providers).
6. Barbara Tedrow- Member at large.
7. Shannon Rivera– Higher Education representative. Oversees lab site, home childcare, kindergarten, FITT developmental Program.
8. Alejandra Rebolledo-Rea – Acting director for Early Childhood services and CYFD Secretary designee.
9. Angela Redondo – Representative for Public Schools for 15 years. There to help with a voice in rural communities.
10. Arra Carbajal– Representative of Early Childhood Programs.

**Barbara on behalf of members not present:**

1. Andy Gomm – Appointed by the Governor. Department of Health designee
2. Kimberly Johns – Representative local education agency, Principal for Shining Stars Preschool in Rio Rancho.
3. Amanda Gibson– Representative from an Early Head Start program in Las Cruces.

Barbara – How should we respond? Why are we a part of ELAC? What do we want to do from here on out as ELAC? We should be making recommendations on legislative dollars and make effective collaborations.

Beth – I felt my role was to talk about child care/infant mental health services and that we are woven into the whole system of early childhood education. Pre-natal not just at birth. Pre-conception needs to be included for healthiest outcomes for moms and babies.

Ray – I have went back and forth about relevancy of ELAC’s political side. ELAC has always had one foot inside the door and then take one out. It has been rocky at times, we isolated ourselves at times, and about half way through things, we began to change by having a voice. ELAC is in a prime position to set foundations of what this body could be. Having a powerful voice to represent all entities, also building relationship with communities.

Alejandra – I think credibility of council is what hurt; we were focusing in one area only. We need to keep in mind that we are system wide, and although we are representing a category, we are not representing our program; we are representing a bigger picture. When we are here, we have to become a council. Relevance; the State was doing something and we were trying to connect the dots and force one piece to go to the other, but we also have to look at what is going on with the state and be aware. Accountability is also important. We need a representation of our reporting what the council did so it goes to public meeting minutes and we have a way to really express what the council did on behalf of Early Childhood. Political; lets also not forget we are programming with advocacy and the interest of families, there are a lot of groups not represented here that are counting on us to be their voice.

Barbara – That is exactly right and that is why I wanted to have this conversation and ask the questions we need to answer; what is our vision, how we need to get there and how are we going to make ourselves relevant? With Senate Bill 22 and we were talking about this piece of Legislation, we were wondering how ELAC was going to be impacted.

**Legislative Update**

**Senator Padilla**

Senator Michael Padilla – Senate bill 22 – Began by thanking all who contributed and supported the bill. We have an advisory group or board for a limited time, that group will come together and advise the new Cabinet Secretary, Governor, and Director of Children’s Cabinet- Mariana Padilla. They will establish the development plan, how services are going to be delivered and integrated. Then this group will end and would like to have ELAC continue forward advising. I have to convince group of about 11 people that this is a good idea to be ongoing advisory board for the State of New Mexico.

Overview of Senate Bill 22 - We established an Early Childhood Education and Care Department and appropriated 1.25 million to stand up the department. Gave the Governor and her staff a one-year ramp time to set the department up. From July 1, 2019 to July 1, 2020. Transfer in the functions that are currently in CYFD, most of DOH and HSD. The funding for the spectrum of Early Education and will transfer into this department through the transition process. Services for Early PreK and PreK will continue to be delivered by the Public Education Department. What are the standards and what do we want NM Early Education to look like? Probably going to be very similar to what is in the PreK Act right now. What is the unmet need? Governance and planning our need is about 800 million total. We are not funding at half the rate, not everyone has adopted Early PreK, PreK services, and home visiting here in NM. #1 goal is to create a world-class workforce to help turn poverty around in NM. Told Governor, I will find the best Cabinet Secretary so they can see the work all the way through. I will introduce a bill that will create early childhood education funding 5% of the funds operations early education fund so that eventually it will fund itself. Land grant permanent fund 18 billion worth now, I would like to pick up 1 billion out of this and plant it in early childhood for 10 years. Rate of return in land grant average is 9.3%. Take 1 billion and 5% of the 9.3% will be out in early childhood education, looking at another half a billion. 10 years later place another 1 billion to restart the process.

*Questions*:

**Alejandra (**request) – ELAC is under executive order under the previous governor. We want to see if you have or your radar to have us preauthorized. Help send a message that ELAC is an umbrella that looks at sub groups.

* Senator Padilla spoke to Mariana Padilla to put together a package of legislation on Early Education and ELAC has the commitment of Senator Padilla so that it becomes the ongoing council. He is also creating a bill Early Childhood Education Care Fund; this will become a home for any funding that comes to early education.

**Pam** (Public) – What is the vision for the money? There are problems with student teaching, practicum work, and college debt? New secretary needs to be a visionary.

* Senator Padilla – Over 10 year period when establishing a department and redefining the goals you will see the adoption rate of Home Visitation, Early PreK, and PreK services expand. These funds will be used to maintain that. Home Visiting makes early PreK better, early PreK input makes PreK better, PreK input makes K-12 better. Cabinet Secretary will want to improve workforce and work with higher education institutions to pump out quality educators for the State of New Mexico.

**Alejandra** – There is already framework to push this financial plan.

* Senator Padilla –Legislation requires a 4-year rolling financial plan to be presented every year to the governor and legislature. The Cabinet Secretary and their team have to give us 4-year outlook.

**Maggie** (public) – A few years back she researched the amount of the fund and realized that is was very healthy as opposed to other states, however, our education in the state is very unhealthy. So as a citizen, how do we advocate for the children of free public school to get that permanent fund to tap into?

* Barbara – that part of the legislation ELAC did not support and has to do contractual wording, logistics, laws that it had to do with.
* Senator Padilla– We never come up with a way to protect the intent of the fund. We have to do something about this now. I will do as much as I can.

**Ray Jaramillo** (comment) – You understand what we do and that it is a passion. I hear you in legislation and get through tough questions, it is neat to see legislature talk early childhood education. I want to say we have a lot of work to do; people are doing this without the means of pay, without insurance, without retirement, and without the salary. You talked about new council, is there a plan to have a member from ELAC to represent?

* Senator Padilla – There is plenty of room to ask for this from general public educators. They will discuss market salaries. Professionalizing the field of Early Childhood Education. I would envision pulling this together in 4 to 6 months. We are in the middle of a grant of 5.4 million for 2019 to study the delivery of Early Education Resources across NM that is great information for the new leadership.

**Continued… Mission, Vision**

Barbara – How do we get ourselves out there?

Alejandra – I would recommend the Preschool Development Grant’s 5 million. How will the group take place in the planning process? So when we have this we are ready to present. There will be local committee meetings, my recommendation is to be in the mix and not shy away from it and be an advocate and be there in the planning process.

Crystal – We speak as a member of ELAC. Where is the boundary without crossing the line?

Barbara – How do we approach that? That we as whole can take a stance on an idea unless we are clear as part of ELAC that we all agree.

Alejandra – What is our title on ELAC? That is how we represent our roles.

Barbara - According to the bylaws, we meet 4 times a year for ELAC.

Katrina – Within the bylaws, it talks about conflict of interest and highlight these points so that each member knows what their role is within ELAC and how to conduct when out in public as ELAC when representing. I will highlight those specifics to share with all.

Barbara- Reading ELAC’s mission and vision. We set up 3 goals; high quality workforce; access to programs; and readiness within school system. As part of ELAC that we look at workforce and take it to meetings.

Crystal – Work force development talks about benefits and wages there is no division with PreK nor early education. Doing same job and making minimum wage with no equality.

Alejandra – Pre-school Development Grant. I did not have the data of what teachers make or home care, we also do not know what their education level is. We need data on this piece.

Dr. Gwen Warniment – Does this group work with workforce connection? Looking at workforce in general in the early childhood education.

Ray – Invite cabinet secretary to have a working meeting on these specifics and how we fit into this role.

Shannon – Highlight a big piece of workforce development. The majority are taking courses but have to work. We are looking at our teacher preparations to provide support to students. Secretary O’Neill attended Higher Ed and is an advocate of early childhood; we can invite her as well.

Crystal – This will hopefully, have a fast track to an early childhood degree.

Shannon – The state is working on alternative pathways for licensing teacher.

Barbara – How does ELAC feel? If we want to be effective, we need to take on one issue at a time. The content of the workshop. What is the big topic? Work force readiness etc.

Alejandra – The grant covers all, tomorrow is more an advising type of meeting on the data collection piece. Local meetings will give us break out of those pieces.

Barbara – There was an article last year between colleges that stated they produced 63 people with an education degree.

Katrina – There is a lot of discussion about 2 or 4-year institutions and how to increase students in this profession.

Kate – Trying to understand the educator pipeline the 63 people were for the licensure Bachelor’s degree.

**Mentorship Program at CNM**

**Catron Allred**

* CNM has at least 60 to 90 credits for Associates level.

Executive summary passed out

* We for the past 3 years have been running an early childhood mentorship program, where a student can obtain a state mentorship certificate adding a professional level. Finishing our 3rd year, we started our pilot, created a professional of community practice for our educators. How do you understand adult learning, how do you deal with conflict? How you build the collaborative feature with teachers and students? Having better practicum experience. Benefits are how it is affecting the experienced teachers and staying in the field. Teacher leaders is the key for the workforce development piece.

Alejandra – The expansion of this process is to start establishing apprentice sites.

Angela – What age groups does this pertain to?

Catron – The PED early childhood scholarships might help with this tackle 0 to 5 realm first.

Dr. Warniment – It is almost like the coaching model in K thru 12. The workforce slang is beautiful.

Crystal – One of the challenges is different when working with adults.

Catron – Putting a burden on workforce if they don’t get compensated for their practicum. In order for us to expand statewide, we need more participants. We identified infant/toddler care as our least qualified area. We will continue to use the CYFD scholarships.

Ray – Talk about program at NMSU. Work with Dr. Betsy Cahill get a no licensure Bachelor’s degree (no student teaching) have more students in this degree. In lieu of student teaching, you have to still have other credits in a minor.

Shannon – Since these degree pathways were created, are they meeting the needs for workforce development. Our degrees overlap.

Ray – I feel personally this is the closest PED and CYFD have collaborated. Just hearing public education being involved is amazing.

Alejandra motions to approve meeting minutes from January. Crystal seconds. Motion passes.

Public requested all minutes be posted on Early Learning NM’s website.

**Last item legislative update**

Barbara – Most of them did not pass. Passed bill for minimum wage $9 $11 $12 by 2021. House bill 229 the childcare co-pay assistant waiver (almost made it) childcare gross receipts got tabled. House bill 623 make another council and workforce development council.

Alejandra – Medicaid bill – depository data in the CYFD system Race to the Top timeframe was not enough to complete project. The next step is the portal for the public view.

**Schedule of future ELAC meetings**:

August 7, 2019

November 6, 2019

Meeting Adjourns at 12:20 pm