

Minutes of a Meeting of the Events Committee of the Board of Directors of Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida.

April 14th, 2026

Time and Place of Meeting

A meeting of the Events Committee of the Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida, was held on April 14, 2026, commencing at approximately 8:30am EST via Microsoft Teams.

Call to Order; Roll Call

The following directors, constituting a quorum, were present via Microsoft Teams:

- Tara Sherrod, Committee Chairperson
- Laura Richardson Bright, Vice Chairperson of the Board of Directors
- Jamie Merchant, Board Member

Coalition Staff present:

- Melanie Stefanowicz, Chief Executive Officer
- Beth McBride, Chief of Program Services
- Cheryl Carpenter, Chief of Early Childhood Education

Presiding Officer; Secretary

Tara presided as Chair of the meeting; Melanie served as secretary of the meeting and kept the minutes. A quorum of the Board being present, Tara called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30am EST.

Welcome & Public Comment

The section, Welcome & Public Comment, was presented. A full discussion followed. No formal action was taken or required.

Approval of the February 18, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Tara initiated a discussion regarding approval of the February 18, 2026, meeting minutes. A full discussion followed. Upon motion dually made by Laura and seconded by Tara, the February 18, 2026 meeting minutes were approved.

Special Initiatives

The section, Special Initiatives, was presented, including updates pertaining to the following outreach events: the Southwest Florida Reading festival, CMON's Spring Fling, and a review of the outreach calendar. A full discussion followed. No formal action was taken or required.

Partnership Development

The section, Partnership Development, was presented. A full discussion followed. No formal action was taken or required.

New Business

The section, New Business, was presented as it related to the June 6, 2026 Directors' Conference. A full discussion followed. No formal action was taken or required.

Next Meeting & Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:30 a.m. EST. The next meeting was scheduled for June 5, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. at the Oasis Restaurant in Fort Myers.

Respectfully submitted,

