



The Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council
El Consejo de Planeación de Cuidado Infantil del Condado de Santa Cruz
www.childcareplanning.org

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 10, 2006, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
County Office of Education, Board Room
809-H Bay Avenue, Capitola, CA

Members Present: Naomi Brauner, Maria Castro, Rebecca Daniel-Burke, Sandy Davie, Larry Drury, Julie Edwards, Rebecca Garcia, Jean Gardner, Barbara Griffin, Marilyn Moore, Diane Oyler, Jody Pemberton, Wesley Van Camp, and Nicole Young.

Excused Absences: Elizabeth Chavez, Julie Edwards, Irene Freiberg, Laura Gallardo, Wilma Gold, Elaine Henning, Linda Kishlansky, Katie LeBaron, Ellen Ortiz, Tricia Pastor, Claudia Vestal and Ann Wise.

Unexcused Absences: Leslie Cheung

Members of the Public Present: Veronica Bright, Scott Haines, Kathy Mello (for Elizabeth Lopez HRA), Marcia Meyer and Dee Roe.

Staff Present: Hiranya Brewer, Sita Moon, and Carole Mulford

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Sandy Davie called meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. Introductions were made. Sandy thanked everyone for coming and welcomed guests.

II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

III. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Quorum was not established.

IV. APPROVAL OF JUNE MEETING MINUTES

June Meeting Minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Marcia Meyer gave an update on the status of ChildCare Ventures. Bill Leland is no longer with the Santa Cruz Community Credit Union. Applications for the ChildCare Ventures Coordinator position are now being accepted. A workshop series on financial management and business practices for child care providers is in process and there will be a workshop available in September. Facilities Development services are being offered by Marcia at this time. Marcia suggested having Gary McNeil come to a CCPC meeting to give an update on the Developer Fee Loan Program. Marcia also announced that the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County has given the Community Ventures/ ChildCare Ventures Centralized Services Project a second year grant for \$9,200 to kick off the Business Alliance and the bulk purchasing pilot. Marcia will be scheduling a work group meeting in September to discuss the C.S. work plan for the coming year.

VI. LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Family Child Care Owner/Operator Veronica Bright read an account of her experience in attempting to open a large family child care home in the Sky Park neighborhood in city of Scotts Valley. Her application for a permit to operate a facility serving 14 children was denied by the Scotts Valley City Council. Bright believes she followed all the appropriate

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steps to obtaining a permit and was a victim of undue neighborhood opposition and a targeted media campaign against her.

Veronica is looking for support in carrying through with her efforts to obtain a permit to care for 14 children, as well as her efforts to persuade the City of Scotts Valley to change its land use regulations regarding child care to be consistent with State law. Veronica is planning to request a letter of support from the Planning Council.

There is a meeting of the Scotts Valley City Council next Wednesday, August 16 that Hiranya Brewer, Marcia Meyer, Carole Mulford and Diane Oyler will attend.

Betsy Rutana, the child care advocate from Community Care Licensing, also requested a letter from the CCPC advocating for the Scotts Valley City Council to review their policies and practices. CCPC members present gave the Executive Committee of the Council their approval to draft this letter.

In addition, individuals wanting to respond to this issue may do so by writing a letter or attending the Scotts Valley City Council meeting.

VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Co-vice-chair Sandy Davie welcomed the new executive committee co-vice-chair Tricia Pastor. Sandy also welcomed and introduced the following new members to the Council: Wesley Van Camp, Naomi Brauner, Jody Pemberton, Nichole Young and Michele Mosher.

Sandy announced that we now have 28 of our 30 seats filled and are still recruiting for two more "Consumer" seats which are designated for people who have children aged 0-13 and have used child care within the past 36 months.

VIII. STAFF REPORT

Council coordinator Hiranya Brewer indicated that this would be a tight budget year for the Council but that she hopes this will give the Council the opportunity to hone and strengthen its internal workings and focus its efforts in the community. A major project of the Executive Committee this year will be to review and update the County Master Plan for Child Care.

Council staff Sita Moon will be working on a program funded by the California Department of Education (CDE) through funds set aside by Assembly Bill 212 to facilitate the training and retention of teachers and aides working at CDE funded centers. Sita will also be working with Diane Oyler of the Child Development Resource Center on a training and incentive program designed for license-exempt providers called the License Exempt Assistance Program (LEAP).

IX. FINALIZE COMMITTEE SIGN-UPS, CHOOSE CHAIRS/VICE-CHAIRS AND SET MEETING SCHEDULES

2006-2007 committee names, members and draft goals were posted around the room. Members met in committees to elect a chair, review draft goals and schedule a regular monthly meeting time.

A committee grid showing elected chairs, members and meetings times is attached here for your review. Please check the CCPC website (www.childcareplanning.org) for updates, changes, agendas and minutes for all committee meetings.

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X. MARIPOSA'S ART AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

Executive Director Teresa Stevens described the services provided through this after-school, arts-based program. Mariposa's Art was initially founded as a self-esteem building program for girls. Boys became interested and the program expanded, now serving many schools in both Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties. Courses include after school art and music programs, mural painting and leadership development.

Program Facilitator Michael Semas reported on his work with Spanish speaking students in the Art Teach program (a model program designed to teach high school aged students the skills to teach art to younger children). The program has been very successful and is being used as a model for developing more curriculum of this type.

For more information about Mariposa's Art, please visit their website at www.mariposasart.org or contact their office at mariposa@cruzio.com or 425-5719.

XI. CAMPUS KIDS CONNECTION (CKC)

Executive Director Barbara Griffin presented an overview of this countywide afterschool care and education program. CKC serves children from Santa Cruz City Schools and Soquel School District. They are currently opening a new preschool program at Gault and one at Santa Cruz Gardens. They serve over 600 children. Barbara will chair the Afterschool Care Consortium of the Council.

XII. XL READERS PROGRAM

Director Mark Rogers shared with the Council a brief overview of this reading intervention program designed for students who are below grade level in reading. As part of the No Child Left Behind Act, School Districts are required to set aside Title 1 money to fund necessary remedial programs such as XL Readers. Currently, fourteen schools in Pajaro Valley Unified School District, in collaboration with their 21 Century/ ASES afterschool program, receive focused reading intervention designed to blend into their after school recreation or child care programs. Three Santa Cruz City schools will also begin to receive these services in the 2006-2007 Fiscal Year.

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diane Oyler announced a training titled Legal Issues for Family Child Care Providers, which will be offered by CDRC on August 21. For more information, call 479-5284.

Marcia Meyer announced that ChildCare Ventures will be publishing and distributing the Economic Impact Report for Child Care in the next month. Hiranya mentioned that the CCPC would like to coordinate the launching of the Needs Assessment with the Economic Impact Report next month.

Larry Drury announced that Go Kids has an opening for an Education Coordinator. For details please visit their website at www.gokids.org. They are also having a fund raising event on October 7th from 5:00-9:00 PM at Fortino Winery to raise scholarship money for families who no longer qualify for CDE funding.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm.

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Next Meeting: Thursday, September 14, 2:30-4:30 @ the COE Board Room