



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

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 9, 2006, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

County Office of Education, Board Room
809-H Bay Avenue, Capitola, CA

Members Present: Maria Castro, Leslie Cheung, Sandy Davie, Larry Drury, Irene Freiberg, Laura Gallardo, Rebecca Garcia, Jean Gardner, Wilma Gold, Elaine Henning, Linda Kishlansky, Elizabeth Lopez, Guadalupe Mendoza, Marilyn Moore, Ellen Ortiz, Diane Oyler, Tricia Pastor, Cynthia Wells/Jody Pemberton and Ann Wise.

Excused Absences: Elizabeth Chavez, Rebecca Daniel-Burke, Julie Edwards, Carmen Kubas, Katie LeBaron and Ed Nadolski.

Unexcused Absences: Christina Banuelos and Claudia Vestal.

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

Members of the Public Present: Barbara Griffin (Campus Kids Connection), Jim Hopper (Department of Social Services Policy Analyst), Scott Haines (Live Oak After School Programs), Susan True (First 5 Santa Cruz County Executive Director).

Special Guest: Diane Siri, Ed.D., County Superintendent of Schools

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Wilma Gold called meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. All present introduced themselves. Wilma thanked everyone for coming.

II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None.

III. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Quorum was established.

IV. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

Ann Wise moved to approve the February meeting minutes.

Marilyn Moore Seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

a. Tricia Pastor gave a brief update about the Live Oak program regarding receiving small payments from COPE. Due to lack of funds, the summer program may be cut.

b. Larry Drury announced that Go Kids Inc. opened a new center on Beach Street this month which serves low-income families in Watsonville.

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VI. LETTERS OF SUPPORT

The Council considered the following letter of support: Marilyn Moore presented information regarding the COPE situation and asked for a vote to support a letter to the Child Development Division of the California Department of Education requesting more timely responses and forthcoming communication from CDD.

Marilyn Moore motioned to approve to have letter sent.

Ann Wise Seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

- a. Chair Wilma Gold announced that Pam Elders had given the Executive Committee notice of her resignation from the LPC. Wilma acknowledged her past contributions to the Council and to the community.
- b. Wilma also informed the Council that Ed Nadolski has decided to open a coffee kiosk at the Watsonville Community Hospital after Gateway School closes. He will plan to resign from the LPC at that time.
- c. Several new council members attended the LPC orientation meeting. Jean Gardner expressed her appreciation for the meeting and presentation.
- d. Sandy Davie requested that Leslie Cheung give a presentation on autism at a future LPC meeting.

VIII. STAFF REPORT

- a. Hiranya shared with the Council the County Office of Education's current efforts in assisting First 5 in developing their Literacy Professional Development Initiative. All members were encouraged to attend a three part meeting series to gather input from the community that will inform the planning process. The meetings will be held on the following dates at the following locations. RSVPs to Sita Moon of Child Development Programs are required: March 23rd at the COE, April 6th at Live Oak Elementary Cafeteria and April 27th at the Pájaro Valley Health Trust. Please contact Sita Moon at smoon@santacruz.k12.ca.us or call 477-5427. Those who cannot attend are invited to submit comments in writing or contact Susan True of First 5 to give input.
- b. Hiranya Brewer and Susan True reported on the current PFA planning efforts of the COE, the Planning Council and First 5 as well as two recently hired consultants: Nancy K. Brown and Naomi Brauner. These groups are working together to ensure that a broad range of input is gathered in the planning process, to educate the public about the terms of the Proposition itself, to establish an advisory body for PFA planning and to develop a work plan that the Advisory Council would take up should the Proposition pass.

Wilma thanked Susan for her attendance and contribution at the meeting.

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- c. Hiranya reported on how the remaining AB212 funds will be used. The educational stipend program will be extended to CDE staff that has completed unit-bearing courses during the 2005-2006 school year. Stipend amounts will depend on how many people apply. More information to follow.
- d. Hiranya reported on possible future meeting topics: May- the Centralized Eligibility List and perhaps in the Fall- Unionization of Child Care Workers.
- e. John Laird may be available to attend part of the LPC annual retreat. June 23 or June 30 are possible dates.
- f. Sita gave a brief report on the CARES Health & Safety program. There are still openings in both the Watsonville and Santa Cruz training sessions. Please refer interested parties to Sita Moon at smoon@santacruz.k12.ca.us

IX. COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

a. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Hiranya and Laura Gallardo presented the Workforce Development Committee's position statement. The committee's goal was to spell out some of the challenges faced by early childhood professionals and to suggest some actions to take in response to these challenges. Julie Edwards was recognized for her many hours spent working on this document. Members expressed appreciation for the document and will respond to Hiranya by e-mail to make any comments or suggestions prior to taking it to print.

b. COMPREHENSIVE QUALITY CARE- SB640 Plan

Diane Oyler presented CDRC's SB640 (Special Needs Funding) program plan. She distributed an outlined plan. CDRC will partner with the Special Education Dept. to provide appropriate training for staff who give referrals to parents of children with special needs. Inclusion will also be another area of training.

Other strategies for serving providers and parents of children with special needs were described including a mini-conference based on findings of the Needs Assessment as well as requests from providers. Discussion ensued about purchasing the SPIN family resource guide to distribute to Licensed Family Child Care providers as well as informal FCC providers. Diane will be working with Linda Kishlansky on a resource brochure which will serve as a guide to finding resources in our area for families of children with special needs.

Carole mentioned that Maria Muratta from CDE praised Santa Cruz' plan. Linda Kishlansky thanked Diane for her work on this committee. Diane announced the SPIN workshop on Autism will be March 18th. This sparked a lively group discussion on the IEP process and what needs to happen to make these meetings more inclusive of the provider or preschool teacher. For further information please contact doyle@santacruz.k12.ca.us

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c. PFA TASK FORCE

Sandy announced that the Preschool For All Public Forum on March 30th has been widely publicized and RSVPs are required. Sandy reviewed the agenda for the forum including guest speakers. Time for questions and answers will be an important part of the forum. The Task Force is also working on developing media talking points, fact sheets about the Initiative and defining quality child care. The Task Force will be working with the new First 5 and COE consultants to develop community outreach and public education strategies as we near the June election.

- Jim Hopper shared information from a meeting he attended. FCC participation, release time for teachers so they can attend courses, vacancies in current programs, workforce development, multi-age care providers, education component and their curriculum standards vs. developmental standards. Basically the importance of a transparent planning process was emphasized. Also, challenges of providing wrap around care, getting funding, definitions of terms, etc.
- Wilma reminded LPC members that it is each person's responsibility to attend all meetings and participate in public events of the Council.

X. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. SUBSIDIZED PROGRAMS CONSORTIUM

Marilyn reported on a special meeting of the Consortium that was held in response to the situation with COPE. CDD has agreed to continue to send monthly payments to COPE until their appeal is heard (offering them 30 days from the time the appeal was submitted). In the meantime, Live Oak School District has been paid by COPE up through December, 2005. The Consortium will keep the Council apprised of new developments as they unfold.

b. POLICY AND LOCAL PLANNING

Larry reported that the Policy Committee is planning to meet with the County Board of Supervisors to come to county-wide consensus on zip code priority setting and what method to use to measure need for child care.

c. AFTER SCHOOL CARE CONSORTIUM

Hiranya reported that Damian Maldonado of Region 5 Healthy Start and Afterschool Partnerships will conduct a workshop for prospective Proposition 49 applicants on April 18th from 8:30 to 10:30 in the Board Room of the County Office of Education. The COE and the CCPC will co-host the event. Contact Hiranya Brewer for more information: hbrewer@santacruz.k12.ca.us

XI. CHILDREN'S NETWORK REPORT

Sandy Davie reported on the latest meeting of the Children's Network sharing that Pam Elders gave a presentation on the Differential Response program and efforts undertaken by this collaborative in its work to help prevent child abuse. There

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will be a Campaign Kickoff on Friday, March 31st on the steps of the Santa Cruz County Courthouse. Interested participants can contact Erendira Guerrero, Public Awareness Coordinator, Santa Cruz County Child Abuse Prevention Council, (831) 464-1737, email erendira_cape@baymoon.com

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Maria Castro announced changes in the Migrant Head Start recruitment policies as well as job openings.
- b. Irene announced that Rob Reiner will be the keynote speaker for the 2006 PACE Leadership Conference in San Francisco.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT Next Meeting: April 13th COE Board Room.
Meeting adjourned at 4:35