



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, January 10, 2008, 2:30-4:00P.M.

Executive Committee & Committee Chair Meeting 4:00-5:00PM

Location: Santa Cruz County Office of Education

809-H Bay Ave. Capitola, CA 95010

Members Present: Naomi Brauner, Maria Castro, Elizabeth Chavez, Sandy Davie, Larry Drury, Irene Freiberg, Jean Gallager-Heil, Barbara Griffin, Linda Kishlansky, Katie LeBaron Alma Martinez, Marilyn Moore, Michele Mosher, Rob Mullen, Ellen Murtha, Ellen Ortiz, Claudia Vestal, Ann Wise and Nicole Young

Excused Absences: Wilma Gold, Elaine Henning, Jim Hopper, Kathy Mello, Jody Pemberton, Tricia Pastor Cross, and Wesley Van Camp.

Staff Present: Diane Oyler, Sita Moon and Carole Mulford.

Guests Speakers Present: Michael Watkins, Barney Finley

Members of the Public Present: Erika Ismerio

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-Chair Sandy Davie called meeting to order at 2:39 pm. All present were welcomed and introduced themselves.

II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Carole Mulford to report on the Children's Network meeting.

III. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Quorum was established.

IV. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes without changes: Irene Freiberg moved Claudia Vestel seconded. Abstained: Katie LeBaron, Marilyn Moore, Naomi Brauner.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Katie LeBaron shared some brochures on safe toys for children
- Alma Martinez announced a lecture series presented by Julie Edwards called "Raising Children in the 21st Century."
- A lecture on the Apple Moth spraying and impact of toxins on children will be offered this evening at the Del Mar Theater in Santa Cruz from 7-9 pm.
- There will be a full time director position open at Cabrillo College Children's Center
- Maria Castro announced that Migrant Head Start now has Performance Standards for Family Child Care, making this an official model that can be used for other agencies that contract with family child care providers.
- Nicole Young is working on a project for the County of Santa Cruz, to start up a program for Kinship Care (foster care provided by family members). The agency will hold focus groups and invite participants.
- Ellen Ortiz reminded us about the services to help low income families take advantage of the Earned Income Credit, available for free through Santa Cruz Community Credit Union and Project Scout.
- Carol Mulford announced that the Child Development Resource Center just passed their Categorical Program Monitoring with high accolades.

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- Katie LaBaron mentioned that Health Services Agency conducted an observational survey to note the actual compliance with child passenger safety regulations and were disappointed to find that the actual usage of car seats, booster seats and seat belts is still low.

VI. LETTERS OF SUPPORT

No letters of support were requested within the prescribed time frame.

VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Policy and Planning committee requested to be a standing committee report at each monthly meeting, and they have been added to the monthly agenda. The CCPC brochure updates are in progress. Sita Moon has been hired as the new CDRC coordinator, replacing Diane Oyler.

VIII. STAFF REPORT

Sita gave a brief update on the STARS program. 115 participants attended the November 17th county-wide training. 90 applications have been received for financial awards and are being processed. Outreach to participants for Option 2 is ongoing. Diane reported on the progress of her learning curve for Planning Council duties. Diane has been collaborating with CCPC statewide Child Care Planning Association members and will attend Bay Area meeting in February. The Child Development Programs is very busy, but working together to help each other learn and get things done. In partnership with Migrant Head Start, we have begun sharing a Project Specialist to help fill the position vacated by Sita.

Carole attended the Children's Network on the Planning Council's behalf guest speaker reported about recent Drug/Alcohol survey of children in foster care. She also gave information about Gay/Lesbian teens, and possible cuts to Health Care currently 400 children on the waiting list for health care in Santa Cruz County. She urged members to support ABX11 regarding Health Care Reform legislation and contact Senate health committee members.

IX. COMMITTEE ORAL REPORTS

a) ECE Conference Committee

Miche Mosher reported on the great participation of community members on this committee and the planning efforts that have been possible due to the input from the group. Since the ECE conference has been moved to October, right before the National Elections, it may be called "Be a Voice for Children." The Keynote speakers will focus on issues of advocacy and important legislation for children's issues. There will be a voter registration table at the Conference and a mock vote activity.

Rob Mullen spoke about reviving the Vision Award this year and presenting of the award at the Conference. The process can be redesigned to reflect current community input.

b) Subsidized Programs Consortium

Ellen was pleased to distribute the new CEL brochures. These brochures are available for agencies that provide child care for income qualifying families to distribute to their clients. SPC will hold a special meeting April 7th, 10 to 11 am, at the Voucher Project office, for South County agencies to coordinate and

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optimize their enrollment efforts. The next meeting is March 5th, 9 to 11 am at COE. Interested CCPC members are encouraged to attend.

c) Public Policy and Planning

This busy committee took December off and will meet on January 22. All are invited to attend.

X. PRESENTATION: Michael Watkins, Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools, Preschool Planning for Santa Cruz County.

Michael Watkins described his interest and commitment to Preschool education. Prior to being Superintendent he had been instrumental in working for inclusion of children with special needs into preschool programs, creating excellent Alternative Education Programs for teen parents and other young students who need specialized educational services. Michael noted that most of the children of the teen parents from Watsonville Community School attended preschool and the results have been very positive as far as their school success.

A grant for Preschool Planning will be submitted to the Packard Foundation, building on the work previously done by LPC in preparation for Prop. 82. Interested community members are encouraged to notify Carole if they would like to join this committee. Larry Drury mentioned how important it is to keep the continuum in focus as we plan. Children who have attended preschool and even kindergarten, still may need support services to help them succeed in school

XI. PRESENTATION: Barney Finley, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

Barney Finley spoke about the recent release of the Governor's budget. He focused on the K-12 aspects. The state budget is expected to be \$14 billion overdrawn by 2009, as the \$15 billion bond measure is being repaid. The governor had previously told all state agencies to prepare for a 10% reduction in revenue. Today, the Governor declared a fiscal emergency, which forces the legislature into a 45 day timeline for solving the budget crisis.

The Governor's proposal includes 10% cuts across the board. Many services to child care and schools are anticipating cuts. Barney explained that 80% of CA taxes are paid by 10% of its tax payers. That is why a tax increase for everyone is needed in order to create stability.

XII. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING - 4:00

The regular CCPC meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

XIII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE CHAIR MEETING – (1 hr) 4:00-5:00

This time was spent supporting committee chairs to be more effective at meeting facilitation and reaching the goals of their committee's. Chair's shared successes and challenges, and learned from each other new strategies and organizational systems.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 14, 2008, 2:30-4:30
Location SCCOE, Board Room