



**The Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council**  
El Consejo de Planeación de Cuidado Infantil del Condado de Santa Cruz  
[www.childcareplanning.org](http://www.childcareplanning.org)

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, December 11, 2008, 3:00 - 4:00 pm**  
**Location: Sesnon House**  
**6500 Soquel Dr. Soquel, CA 95003**

**Members Present:** Maria Castro , Elizabeth Chavez, Larry Drury, Jean Gallaher-Heil, Barbara Griffin, Elaine Henning, Linda Kishlansky, Alma Martinez, Rob Mullen, Sita Moon, Marilyn Moore, Michele Mosher, Ellen Murtha, Ellen Ortiz, Tricia Pastor-Cross, Claudia Vestal, Jerri Winner, Ann Wise, Nicole Young

**Excused Absences:** Naomi Brauner, Sandy Davie, Irene Freiberg, Christine Furlanic, Wilma Gold, Barbra Griffin, Therese Valdez, Wesley Van Camp

**Guests Present:** Gail Evans, Bonnie Farrar-Dunbar, Jane Hiesey

**Staff Present:** Diane Oyler, Carole Mulford

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting was called to order by Ellen Murtha. She welcomed

Everyone, reminded them we have a short meeting and would need a timekeeper and note taker to help make the meeting run efficiently.

II. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Quorum established.

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by, Claudia Vestal, motion passed.

IV. STAFF REPORT

a) MEMBERSHIP

Diane announced Erika Esmerio was appointed as a new member of the Child Care Planning Council. The Board of Supervisor's approved of her appointment on December 7, 2008. The Executive Committee will conduct a new member orientation in January 2009. Diane introduced Gail Evans, ROP teacher to the Council.

b) AB212 PROGRAM UPDATE

Diane gave an update on the AB212 program which will start offering training to state subsidized programs, January through May 2009.

c) LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Diane shared there were several letters submitted to Senate Pro Tem, Darrell Steinberg supporting the appointment of Larry Drury to the Early Learning Quality Services Advisory Committee. LPC's in surrounding



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counties are also submitting letters of support for Larry Drury.

d) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Diane announced several training opportunities offered in the coming months: Children's Collaborium, *Preschool For All*, West Eds. *Putting It All Together*, and CPIN's, *Mathematics for Preschoolers*.

e) SUBSIDIZED PROGRAMS

Diane mentioned she is compiling funding contracts for all subsidized programs in the county and will create a Subsidized Programs Funding Grid. The funding grid is a useful tool to identify and track all sources of subsidized child care funding that exists in the county.

f) PRESCHOOL 4 NOW

Carol shared that yesterday COE hosted a live *Preschool 4 Now* teleconference yesterday. Carol announced that Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> 3:30-7:00 pm, COE will host a CPIN input session for Pre-K Foundation Vol. 2. The topic will be Children's Health and Physical Development.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATION

a) Nicole Young, shared that Santa Cruz County Human Services

Department is launching a new initiative to enhance our community's ability to find and support lifelong homes and connections for foster care children. Program is called "Roots & Wings." Next meeting is December 16<sup>th</sup> 3:00 – 5:00 pm at Simpkins Swim Center.

b) Alma Martinez, shared that First 5 Strategic Plan is almost completed, and will be presented to the Commission on December 17<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00 pm, at Simpkins Swim Center. One key issue of concern being addressed in the plan is childhood obesity. All are welcome to attend this community meeting.

c) Miche Mosher, shared information on the Infant Toddler Consortium, which is focusing their efforts on developing collaborative trainings for providers. Maria Castro, who has been the training/workshop facilitator shared that the meetings have been very successful.



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- d) Jean Gallegher-Heil, presented an update on the Cabrillo ECE Department and how the budget cuts have affected the ECE course offerings. This will require the department to cut units. They will try to focus on holding on to core courses to ensure students have what they need to transfer and to graduate. They are trying to preserve every class. Ellen Murtha volunteered any support that may be needed to support the ECE Department. Jean didn't feel at this time a letter was necessary, but possibly at a later date.
- e) Maria Castro, shared that she attended Head Start training that focused on the preschool teacher and their teaching skills. The focus was on improving teachers awareness and sensitivity as it relates to classroom organization, concept development (activities), etc.
- f) Ellen Murtha, shared that Child Care Ventures and Ecology Action Center are trying to bring more "Green" efforts to Santa Cruz Child Care Community. This is a very timely resource and could tie into the County Developer Fee Loan Program. Jerri Winner, announced that Head Start is receiving "free" services from the Ecology Program and are providing instructions on how to grow organic gardens at their sites. She also shared that PG & E will replace all lighting for child care programs.
- g) Tricia Pastor Cross, added that Live Oak School District is working with a local Architect who is designing a new "Green" building for the Green Acres After School building this coming year. It will be used as a "pilot" site for the community to view a "green building" if they are planning on a new facility.
- h) Linda Kishlansky, shared information about trainings focusing "Ages & Stages" and other screening techniques for infants and toddlers with special needs.



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VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Ellen Murtha proposed that the Executive Committee would post minutes from the meetings rather than reiterate the content at the Council meetings unless there is an item that would benefit Council members. Ellen O. suggested that only action items be placed on the consent agenda. If there are other items that need to be reviewed by the Council they should be included in a separate packet. The Executive Committee will conduct a new member orientation in January 2009.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Ellen Murtha adjourned the meeting right at 4:00 pm

**Next meeting:** Thursday, January 8, 2009, 3:00-4:00 p.m. Location: Sesnon House, 6500 Soquel Dr. Aptos, CA 95003.