



**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, March 12, 2009, 3:00 - 4:30 pm**  
**Location: Sesnon House**  
**6500 Soquel Dr. Soquel, CA 95003**

**Members Present:** Maria Castro, Elizabeth Chavez, Sandy Davie, Larry Drury, Irene Freiberg, Christine Furlanic, Wilma Gold, Elaine Henning, Linda Kishlansky, Sita Moon, Michele Mosher, Rob Mullen, Ellen Murtha, Ellen Ortiz, Tricia Pastor-Cross, Jerri Winner, Ann Wise, Nicole Young

**Excused Absences:** Naomi Brauner, Jean-Gallagher-Heil, Barbara Griffin, Erika Ismerio,

**Guests Present:** Vicki Boriack, Michael Garcia, Brian Sanford, Edith Gurrola, Karina Cervantez, Cynthia Wells

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

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting was called to order by Ellen Murtha

II. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Quorum established.

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by, Claudia Vestal and seconded by Wilma Gold, motion passed.

Abstentions: Elaine Henning, Tricia Pastor-Cross, Elizabeth Chavez

IV. SPECIAL SESSION DISCUSSION

a) CABRILLO COLLEGE

Sheila Anderson, Interim Director at Cabrillo Children's Center gave a short presentation on the how the Cabrillo budget will impact the children's center. Cabrillo's \$65 million budget needs to be reduced by \$5 million this year which will impact the children's center. The Baskin Center will close. There is a space allocation process on campus and Sheila is concerned that the ECE Department may lose the Baskin Center building to another program. There are cuts across college teaching units as well as facilities. This has been a multi-year issue and the college is a complex budget. The department is advocating for ECE as "educational" as well as "important student services." There are initial discussions with Head Start on partnership.

b) HEAD START

Cynthia Wells of Head Start stated that it will apply for Recovery and Reinvestment stimulus dollars for expansion. Cynthia explained concepts of Head Start and Early Head Start, Maria explained Migrant Head Start. There



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is a quick turn around time to get funds into the community. It is presently looking at innovative ways the funds can be used to serve the County. Some possibilities are to collaborate with the teen program in Watsonville and Cabrillo Children's Center, include other partners in staff development, and contracting with centers and family child care homes to use slots for Head Start children. Cynthia W. asked Council members to get additional suggestions to her.

V. STAFF REPORT

a. PRIORITIES REPORT REVIEW MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Priority report is due to the state by May 30<sup>th</sup>. In preparation, a review meeting will be hosted with Subsidized Programs Consortium members on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 at COE to share the draft and receive input. The report will then be shared at the Planning Council's April meeting for review and approval and then to the Board of Supervisors for approval at their May meeting.

b. LOCAL JURISDICTION CHILD CARE PROGRAMS MEETING

- Cecilia Espinola, Director of HSD, asked Carole Mulford and Diane Oyler to facilitate on behalf of CCPC, a meeting with child care programs that receive county funding. Susan True and Cynthia Wells are also convening the meeting. The meeting will be Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-10:30 at COE to discuss pending cuts to programs at county level, discuss future local jurisdictional and state funding, as well as look at opportunities for future funding.
- Diane O. reported to Council members the result of the Jade St. Park Preschool plan that was held by the Soquel Union Elementary School District. Many families shared personal stories in support of the preschool plan. Much of the opposition revolves around zoning issues and too much traffic noise. Carole acknowledged how prepared Diane was to answer any child care questions or concerns.

c. MEMBERSHIP:

- Planning Council's new member orientation will be held Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.



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- d. PLANNING COUNCIL RETREAT
  - Planning Council retreat has been rescheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup> at the Cabrillo College, Horticulture Building.

VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

- a. ECE Conference is set for Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. Go Kids is working with COE on its production.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Larry Drury and Ellen Ortiz discussed the 18-month State budget plan. The May election will address some of the projected deficits. If the propositions slated on the May ballot do not pass, the State will be looking at making more cuts on this year's budget. Diane O. sent a budget analysis via e-mail for everyone's review. Larry mentioned looking to the May revise as well.
- b. The Child Development Division has surveyed child care contractors regarding expanded service. They will try to backfill slots that have been lost.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Sandy D. asked all Santa Cruz Credit Union members to consider voting for Santa Cruz Community Ventures to receive additional funding by the Credit Union.
- b. Sita M. volunteered to be part of the Roots and Wings community building committee for foster care to represent the child care field. The goal is to help make foster care a more positive experience for children.
- c. Ellen M. asked for help to write a letter to the County regarding the budget cuts and the impact to various agencies funded by them. Letter would come back to the Council for approval as a letter of support.
- d. Wilma G. suggested Diane O. put a link to NAEYC's website for information on Month of the Young Child (MOYC). Local events can be included. Larry suggested we put MOYC on the retreat agenda so planning can start early next year.



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- e. Community TV has requested information for local events/activities for telecast.
- f. Ellen announced that the Packard Foundation has reorganized their Local Grantmaking division and, is interested in funding local projects for children ages birth to 3 yrs.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Ellen Murtha adjourned the meeting right at 4:25 pm

**Next meeting:** Thursday, April 16, 2009, 3:00-4:00 p.m. Location: Sesnon House, 6500 Soquel Dr., Aptos, CA 95003.