

Minutes of Advocacy Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 2, 2017

9:00 – 11:00 am

Las Trampas Conference Room

Committee Members Present: Brenda Brown, Silvana Mosca-Carreon, Eran Perera,
Chair Eric Peterson, Cathy Roof, Stacie Roundtree

Committee Members Absent: Crystal McClendon-Gourdine, Joan Means, Aurora Ruth,
Dan Safran

Staff Present: Ruth Fernandez, Melody Yee

Guests: Kathy Lafferty; Lindy Lavender, Supervisor Mitchoff's Office; Cindy Molander, Multifaith
Action Coalition Education Task Force MFAC; Jael Myrick, Children Now

Welcome/Introductions:

- Chair Eric Peterson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m. Introductions commenced and were completed.

Minutes Review/Approval:

- Cathy Roof moved to approve the minutes of the 11.14.16 meeting. Brenda Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - AYE: Brown, Perera, Peterson, Roof, Roundtree
 - NAY: None
 - ABSENT: McClendon-Gourdine, Means, Mosca-Carreon, Ruth, Safran
 - ABSTAIN: None

Agenda Review/Approval:

- Silvana Mosca-Carreon joined the meeting.
- Cathy Roof moved to approve the agenda for 2-2-17. Silvana Mosca-Carreon seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - AYE: Brown, Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Peterson, Roof, Roundtree
 - NAY: None
 - ABSENT: McClendon-Gourdine, Means, Ruth, Safran
 - ABSTAIN: None

Public Comment:

- No public comment.

Early Care and Education Legislative Updates

- A general matrix was given of current legislation being considered in the current legislative session was share as a handout with the committee members. Chair Eric Peterson led a discussion on bills that directly impact Early Child Care agencies and families. He stated there had not been an update to the Governor's budget yet, but he would follow up with the Committee if anything pertinent was included.
- Ruth Fernandez gave a short overview about the local subsidy pilot, currently in effect in San Mateo, San Francisco and Alameda and Santa Clara County, for members and guests.

Minutes taken by: Melody Yee

Minutes Approved on: February 21, 2017

Ruth updated that Assembly Member Thurmond is authoring a subsidy pilot bill for Contra Costa County. Currently there is no bill number yet.

- Chair Eric Peterson shared the Joint Early Childhood Education and Care California Budget Request letter – asking for the stabilization of child care programs and centers (by honoring a multi-year agreement to raise the Regional Market Rate and the Standard Reimbursement Rates) and the support of children’s development and allowing families to work (by updating the eligibility guidelines to reflect the current State Median Income, increase funds to the General Child Care and Alternative Payment programs, as well as implementing a 12-month eligibility period for those who receive subsidies or are in state-contracted child care centers). Eric asked those to sign who supported the request and/or to their agency to the list.

ACTION: Ruth Fernandez is to forward the link to the letter to the Committee and guests.

2017 13th Annual Young Children’s Issues Forum – Group Discussion:

- Draft Agenda was discussed.
ACTION: Look for a resource of how to promote tolerance/acceptance/diversity
- Possible resources for families – community engagement group, free tax clinics (regarding potential fraud).
- Possible avenues of promotion: claycord.com, eastcountytoday.net

Other Announcements

- Reminder of the 23rd Contra Costa Child Care Council Annual Early Learning Conference to be held March 25, 2017 at Diablo Valley College from 7:30am-4:15pm. This year’s theme is *Recognizing Trauma: The Art of Helping Each Other Heal*. Registration is currently open.

Adjournment:

- Silvana Mosca-Carreon moved to adjourn the meeting. Cathy Roof seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 am.
 - AYE: Brown, Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Peterson, Roof, Roundtree
 - NAY: None
 - ABSENT: McClendon-Gourdine, Means, Ruth, Safran
 - ABSTAIN: None

Next Meeting: March 14, 2017 from 9:00-11:00 am in the Las Trampas Conference Room.