

Minutes of Advocacy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Las Trampas Room

Committee Members Present: Chair Cathy Roof, Kathy Lafferty, Crystal McClendon-Gourdine, Silvana Mosca-Carreon, Eran Perera

Committee Members Absent – Estela Alvarez, Sharon Bernhus, Aurora Ruth

LPC Members Present: Dan Safran

Staff Present: Mary Louise Vander Meulen

Guests: Meredith Downing, *Literacy Lab*; Emily Hunt, *Ensuring Opportunity: The Campaign to Cut Poverty in Contra Costa County*

Welcome/Introductions:

- Chair Cathy Roof welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:13 p.m.
- Introductions completed.

Agenda Review/Approval:

- Kathy Lafferty moved to approve the agenda for July 14, 2015 with the following changes: Alice Burton phone call presentation will take place at 3:15 pm instead of 4 pm, and the addition of Emily Hunt to the agenda for a presentation on Ensuring Opportunity following Alice Burton. Silvana Mosca-Carreon seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - AYE: Lafferty, McClendon-Gourdine, Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Roof
 - NAY: None
 - ABSENT: Alvarez, Bernhus, Ruth
 - ABSTAIN: None

Minutes Review/Approval:

- Kathy Lafferty moved to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2015 meeting. Silvana Mosca-Carreon seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - AYE: Lafferty, Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Roof
 - NAY: None
 - ABSENT: Alvarez, Bernhus, Ruth
 - ABSTAIN: McClendon-Gourdine

Public Comment: No public comment received on items on the agenda.

Information Shared about the San Francisco Title V CDE SRR Initiative by Alice Burton

- Alice Burton called in on the speaker phone at 3:25 pm. She introduced herself as being part of the CDE Initiative Staff and an Independent Consultant. She has worked with Ruth Fernandez on the CARES program, and is aware of the work of the LPC.
- The San Francisco Title V CDE SRR (State Reimbursement Rates) Initiative was formed in January 2014 by program directors that were concerned about the inadequate reimbursement rates for child care programs in SF and throughout the state of CA. These rates were set in 1980 and have remained virtually frozen with a modest 5% increase that remains at a rate lower than in 2007-2008.
- The problem for families and child care programs in the high cost counties, such as San Francisco, is more severe than in many other parts of the state. There are numerous ramifications due to this under-funding. It affects providers as well as the low-income children and their families.

Minutes taken by: Mary Louise Vander Meulen

Minutes Approved on: 9.29.15

- The purpose of the committee is to increase the voice in local and state policies to advocate for increased rates.

Information Shared about the Ensuring Opportunity by Intern Emily Hunt

- Intern Emily Hunt introduced herself to the group. She is working on her Master's and will be working with Ensuring Opportunity over the summer to do research on the effects of raising the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour countywide, not just by city. She is particularly interested in the affects it may/will have on the early care and education workforce.
- Emily requested individuals contact her if they have specific concerns regarding the ramifications of the rise in minimum wage. She would like to hear what providers have to say. Several committee members voiced their concern that centers and FCC will not be able to continue offering quality child care, let alone stay open. Lengthy discussion held regarding these concerns.

Legislative Updates and Children Now Policy Initiatives Overview-Guest Presenter: Jael Myrick

- Presenter not present today, removed from the agenda.

2015-16 LPC Advocacy Committee Goals

- **Update from Committee Chair**
 - Very brief overview of the LPC Advocacy Committee Goals for 2014-15 shared by Cathy Roof.
 - A suggestion was made to encourage the development of realistic goals for 2015-16; to write goals that are attainable.
 - A suggestion was made to possibly use the public Library as a source of promoting quality early care and education; and the use of Data Tool in collecting data.
- **Call for Ad hoc Committee**
 - Cathy Roof called for an Ad hoc Committee to work on the goals for the committee for the 2015-16. Kathy Lafferty and Eran Perera volunteered to be part of the Ad hoc committee. Silvana Mosca-Carreon is willing to help as well, if the meeting time will work in her schedule.
- **Next Steps**
 - Cathy Roof will email them with a date, time and place. The meeting may need to be the last week of July.

Other Updates/Upcoming Events/General Announcements from Community Partners

- **Next Meeting:** Next Advocacy Committee meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2015
- **Updates:**
 - Brief discussion held regarding Dan Safran's desire to join the Advocacy Committee. Mary Louise Vander Meulen will bring this to the attention of Deborah Penry and Ruth Fernandez.
 - Kathy Lafferty informed the group she would be retiring in the fall of 2015. She would like to continue to be on the LPC Board and Advocacy Committee but a seat would need to be available for her. She would not be able to continue in the seat she is in presently; she will no longer be a Child Care Provider.
 - Cathy Roof handed out the Save The Date flier for the 12th Annual Young Children's Issues Forum.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Cathy Roof is going to try to attend the meetings for the CDE SRR Initiative.
 - Kathy Lafferty will be attending the Ensuring Opportunity meetings.

Minutes taken by: Mary Louise Vander Meulen

Minutes Approved on: 9.29.15

- Cathy Roof requested the members to think about attending meetings for PACE, CAPPA, CCDAA

Adjournment:

- Crystal McClendon-Gourdine moved to adjourn the meeting. Cathy Roof seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.
 - AYE: Lafferty, McClendon-Gourdine, Mosca-Carreon, Roof
 - NAY: None
 - ABSENT: Alvarez, Bernhus, Perera, Ruth
 - ABSTAIN: None