

Minutes of Advocacy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Las Trampas Room

Committee Members Present: Chair Cathy Roof, Crystal McClendon-Gourdine (late), Silvana Mosca-Carreon, Eran Perera, Aurora Ruth, Dan Safran

Committee Members Absent – Estela Alvarez, Kathy Lafferty

Staff Present: Ruth Fernandez, Mary Louise Vander Meulen

Guests: None

Welcome/Introductions:

- Chair Cathy Roof welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.
- Introductions completed.

Agenda Review/Approval:

- Dan Safran moved to approve the agenda for September 29, 2015 with the following change: The discussion of the theme and format for Forum 2016 will take place following the LPC Advocacy Committee Goals for 2015-16; instead of last on the agenda. Aurora Ruth seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - AYE: Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Roof, Ruth, Safran
 - NAY: None
 - ABSENT: Alvarez, Lafferty, McClendon-Gourdine,
 - ABSTAIN: None

Minutes Review/Approval:

- Dan Safran moved to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2015 meeting. Aurora Ruth seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - AYE: Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Roof, Ruth, Safran
 - NAY: None
 - ABSENT: Alvarez, Lafferty, McClendon-Gourdine
 - ABSTAIN: None

Public Comment:

- No public comment received on items on the agenda.
- Items of interest to the public:
 - Ruth Fernandez shared that First 5 Contra Costa is working on their strategic plan. Ruth encouraged everyone to attend First 5's planning meetings held on the first Monday of each month. Ruth noted that she will send the committee the next meeting announcement.
 - Aurora Ruth shared how the committee should advocate for more child care facilities in Contra Costa County. The need is high and something needs to be done.

Review, discuss, and approve updated LPC Advocacy Committee Goals for 2015-16

- The LPC Advocacy goals were read by Chair Cathy Roof, followed by discussion.
- Lengthy discussion held on the topic of improved teacher compensation, staff retention, and adequate facilities; and how these messages need to be brought to the attention of civic and business leaders. Ruth Fernandez will work on Goal 2 & 3 to add wording that will cover these topics. The outcomes will stay the same.
- Some discussion and concerns voiced if these are realistic goals with realistic outcomes.

Minutes taken by: Mary Louise Vander Meulen

Minutes Approved on: 11.10.2015

Discuss theme and format for 2016 12th Annual Young Children's Issues Forum

- Discussion held on possible ideas and themes for the upcoming 2016 Forum to be held on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at the Pleasant Hill Community Center.
- Several suggestions were discussed: panel of teachers on QRIS, the issue of the lack of facilities in Contra Costa County, the need to raise the SRR, and teacher compensation.

Discussion about the CA Child Development Block Grant (CCDBG) State Plan

- Ruth Fernandez gave a brief review of the CA Child Development Block Grant. She noted how it has language referencing QRIS in the plan.
- Members of the committee were encouraged to forward suggestions or comments to her after reviewing the information. She will also forward suggestions she has received from other counties LPC's to the members of the committee.
- Several topical input sessions will be held in Marin at the Marin COE on October 8, 2015. These sessions are hosted by the CDE early Education and Support Division in partnership with the CA Department of Social Services. Each session will include a brief overview of the related Child Care and Development Fund law, and then participants will have the opportunity to speak and share comments about the topic. Ruth encouraged the members to attend the input sessions.

Updates on current ECE legislation

- Hand out given to members of committee with current ECE legislation. Very brief discussion on several on the bills.

Other Updates/Upcoming Events/General Announcements from Community Partners

- **Next Meeting:** Next Advocacy Committee meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2015
- **Updates and Upcoming Events:** No reports

Adjournment:

- Silvana Mosca-Carreon moved to adjourn the meeting. Dan Safran seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m.
 - AYE: Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Roof, Ruth, Safran
 - NAY: None
 - ABSENT: Alvarez, Lafferty, McClendon-Gourdine
 - ABSTAIN: None