

## **Minutes of Advocacy Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Las Trampas Room

**Committee Members Present:** Chair Cathy Roof, Estela Alvarez, Kathy Lafferty (late), Crystal McClendon-Gourdine (late), Silvana Mosca-Carreon, Eran Perera, Doug Rowe, Dan Safran

**Committee Members Absent:** Aurora Ruth

**Staff Present:** Ruth Fernandez, Mary Louise Vander Meulen

**Guests:** Lia Bristol, *Supervisor Mitchoff's Office*; Cynthia Castain, *LPC Board Member*; Nirmala Dillman via video conference, *LPC Coordinator San Mateo*; Susan Jeong, *EHSD*; Mariana Moore, *Ensuring Opportunity*; Vanessa Muniz, *United Way of the Bay Area*

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### **Welcome/Introductions:**

- Chair Cathy Roof welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.
- Introductions completed.

### **Agenda Review/Approval:**

- Estela Alvarez moved to approve the agenda for January 12, 2016. Dan Safran seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - AYE: Alvarez, Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Roof, Rowe, Safran
  - NAY: None
  - ABSENT: Lafferty, McClendon-Gourdine, Ruth
  - ABSTAIN: None

### **Minutes Review/Approval:**

- Dan Safran moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2015 meeting. Eran Perera seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - AYE: Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Roof, Safran
  - NAY: None
  - ABSENT: Lafferty, McClendon-Gourdine, Ruth
  - ABSTAIN: Alvarez, Rowe

### **Public Comment:**

- No public comment received on items on the agenda.
- Items of interest to the public:
  - Dan Safran thanked Cathy Roof for the delicious cookies she brought to share.

### **Brief Overview of SRR Pilot in San Mateo County- Guest Presenter: Nirmala Dillman, San Mateo County LPC Coordinator**

- Video conference presentation by Nirmala Dillman, LPC Coordinator from San Mateo County on the San Mateo County Child Care Subsidy Pilot.
- The pilot was designed to address two concerns: 1) First, families barely earning enough to meet the high costs of housing in the county were being considered too high income to qualify for child care subsidies and; 2) the state reimbursement rates paid to providers contracted to provide high quality child care were so low that contractors could not cover their costs, therefore were not able to utilize their full allocation of state and federal child care development funds.

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- As a result, fewer children were subsidized through these contracts and child care spaces were lost to the county.
- The pilot permitted the county the flexibility to reallocate state contract funds for CA State Preschool and General Center from contractors who could not fully earn their contracts to contractors who could increase enrollment.
- San Mateo County found that it did not add families but allowed families to stay in the program longer.
- Ruth Fernandez questioned Nirmala if Contra Costa County would and can do this. Nirmala Dillman response was that the county has to be ready. Programs will need to be willing to do this; may be hard to hear that they need to return money.
- Cathy Roof will be attending the next SRR meeting at the end of January. Ruth Fernandez may attend too. Invitation was open to all LPC Advocacy Committee members.

### **Earn It! Keep It! Save It! Campaign – Guest Presenter: Vanessa Muniz, Director, United Way of the Bay Area**

- Guest Vanessa Muniz, Director of United Way of the Bay Area gave a presentation on United Way's campaign Earn It! Keep It! Save It! This campaign provides Volunteer Income Tax Assistance to the low income families in Contra Costa County and other counties.
- There are 200 locations throughout the Bay Area; 38 in Contra Costa County.
- Last year 11 million dollars was returned to families and individuals through this program.
- Starting in January 2016, services are available to households with a 2015 income of \$54,000 or less. There are some exceptions that may apply.

### **Continue Theme Discussion for 2016 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Children's Issues Forum**

- Forum flier is being updated with the new CCCCOE logo. Once this is ready it will be emailed to everyone to pass around to increase enrollment.
- The sponsorship letter and form provided in the packet today. Ruth Fernandez encouraged everyone to pass this on as well. So far we have received verbal commitments from the East Bay Community Foundation, First 5 Contra Costa, and Lakeshore Learning Materials.
- There will be a Resource Fair like last year. Vendors will be required to give a percentage back to the Forum
- Ruth Fernandez stated that she will have a budget update at the February meeting.
- On February 3, 2016, Ruth Fernandez and Cathy Roof will be attending the Early Advocacy Day event in Sacramento. This event is put on by CAEYC and will give them a chance to meet the legislators and invite them to our event.
- Karen Sakata has agreed to do the welcome form the Forum.
- Lengthy discussion on the dynamics of the Teacher Panel planned for the Forum.
  - Crystal McClendon-Gourdine will moderate the Teacher Panel the day of the Forum. The teachers' voices are important and the keynote speaker will be able to tie this all together.
  - Crystal and Ruth will meet to prepare the questions for discussion at the next meeting. Three questions will probably be sufficient.
  - Discussion held on what teachers to ask to be on the panel:

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- Have teachers that show how the DRDP has worked for them and the positive effects it has had in their classroom.
- Find a teacher who can show how the assessments (DRDP) enhances their planning and classroom
- May need to make profiles/categories of what teachers we want
- Do teachers view themselves as professional; if no, and then the tool just becomes another task? May need to break through this feeling – stress professionalism.

### **Legislative Updates**

- Ruth Fernandez provided a handout of the slides she received from CDE summarizing the Governor's Proposed 2016-17 Budget for Early Education.
  - This will be a 5 year transition period
  - 1.6 billion dollars in FY 2016-17 in block grants to LEAs
  - Combines funding from CSPP funding, transitional kindergarten, and CSPP QRIS Block Grant

### **Reports on meeting attended by Council Members**

- **PACE** – None
- **First 5 CA** – None
- **Ensuring Opportunities Campaign** – None
- **SRR Initiative** - Cathy Roof will be attending another meeting soon
- **SAC Meetings** - None

### **Other Updates/Upcoming Events/Next Meeting Agenda/Topics**

- **Next Meeting:** Next Advocacy Committee meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2016
- **Updates and Upcoming Events:** No reports
- **Agenda Items:** Forum updates

### **Adjournment:**

- Silvana Mosca-Carreon moved to adjourn the meeting. Dan Safran seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.
  - AYE: Alvarez, Lafferty, McClendon-Gourdine, Mosca-Carreon, Perera, Roof, Rowe, Safran
  - NAY: None
  - ABSENT: Ruth
  - ABSTAIN: None