



Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council
Minutes September 8, 2021 – 9:00am-12:00pm
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Members Present: Jacqui Banta, Jennifer Bergquist, Donna B. Fisher, Flo Furuike, Michelle Graham, Shelley Grand, Holly Harvan, Eileen Monahan, Annette Muse, Lorraine Neenan, Daisy Ochoa, Nancy Saengjaeng, Raquel Valdez, Sharol Viker, Susan Walsh, Ralph Ybarra

Members Excused: Artesia Carlon, Janelle Willis

Members Absent: Supervisor Gregg Hart

Alternates Present: Bridget Baublits

New Members Present: Beth Hassenplug, Robin Palmerston, Tressa Saviers, Serineh Vartani

Guests Present: Tal Ben-Ami (WestEd/PITC), Ethan Bertrand (SBC Board of Supervisors), Theodore Fletcher (Public Health), Alicia Jimenez (Storyteller), Chris Sears (Lakeshore Learning), Maggie Suarez (Allan Hancock College), Ana Tolentino (DSS/Community Care Licensing), Susan Rothschild (Public Health)

Staff Present: Taundra Pitchford, Shelley Trost

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Chair, Lorraine Neenan, called the meeting to order at 9:10am.

II. Public Comment Period

No public comment.

III. Approval of Minutes of May 12, 2021

Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 12, 2021, by Flo Furuike. Jacqui Banta. seconded the motion. **MSC.**

IV. Installation of Officers

Jacqui Banta presented the Slate of Officers (in official records)

Chair: Michelle Graham, Vice Chair: Jacqui Banta; Past Chair: Lorraine Neenan; Secretary/Treasurer: Raquel Valdez; Nominating Chair: Janelle Willis.

Oath of Office Mission Statement & Vision was reviewed aloud by Lorraine Neenan

Oath of Office was recited by officers.

Motion to approve the Slate of Officers by Susan Walsh. Donna Barranco Fisher seconded the motion. No opposed or abstained. **MSC.**

V. Member Recognition & Welcome New members

Michelle Graham presented the names of the proposed new members and shared bios for each. The bios were previously emailed to all council for review. New members included:

Beth Hassenplug – 1st Presbyterian Early Childhood Center

Robin Palmerston – Children’s House Montessori School (retired in July)

Tressa Saviers – Behavior Therapist

Serineh Vartani – Isla Vista Youth Projects

A unanimous voter’s poll for new members to join Council was shared. All were in favor and welcomed the new members.

VI. COVID-19 Updates for Santa Barbara County

Susan Klein Rothschild was not available at this time. We moved onto the next topic.



VII. ECE Community Reflection & Recovery

- Guidance timeline was shared and discussed. Discussion on COVID Reflection 2021-22 in ECE and its impact.
- Community Impacts – Ana Tolentino shared the impacts on the community. We follow guidance from Public Health and CA OSHA in situations like this. SB County Community Data Dashboard was shared. ECE Survey responses were shared. FCCs are operating at 70% capacity. Centers are operating at about 60% capacity. Child cares need our support. Grief was the key word last year. Discussion.
- Office updates included new staff in our office, Charmaine Hauber -Data; Monica is a Quality Counts coach specializing in CLASS, Rebecca is a part-time Quality Counts coach, specializing in CSEFEL and Lupita is a new Quality Counts coach. Our office is growing.
- Workforce Pathways stipend closed at 97 applicants receiving anywhere from \$300-\$2000 in stipend awards depending upon their pathway. We just released the new application for the 2021-22 fiscal year. Applications and Professional Growth Plans are due by October 31st.
- American Rescue Plan Act – We are working on developing an emergency plan and asking for funding for direct support for ECE recovery.
- Public Policy – the matrix of Legislation will be shared with council via email (see below).
<https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>
<https://lao.ca.gov/reports/2021/4448/2021-Spending-Plan-082421.pdf>
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/build-back-better/>
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/07/22/fact-sheet-how-the-build-back-better-plan-will-create-a-better-future-for-young-americans/>

VIII. Adjournment

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:57am.

CCPC Retreat began after a short break

I. *Retreat, Refresh, Restoration, Resiliency, Rest*

Mission: We lead and collaborate in planning, coordinating, and advocating for High Quality, Affordable and Accessible early care and education for all children and families in SB County.

II. *Purpose, Possibility, Persistence*

Keynote Speaker: **Dr. Leonie Mattison, CommUnify Chief Operating Officer**

III. **COVID-19 Update in Santa Barbara County**

Presented by Theodore Fletcher, Liaison, (on behalf of Susan Klein-Rothschild) from Santa Barbara County Public Health. Theodore shared current statistics with Q&A following.

IV. **Review of Committee Goals & Objectives 2021-22**

Sharol Viker - Introduction of the sub-committees, reviewed 2020 successes and open recruitment.

Needs Assessment/Strategic Planning – Flo Furuike

Flo discussed the mission of the Needs Assessment/Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Committee. This committee is engaged in projects on an as need basis. The Needs Assessment booklet



was completed in 2020/21. This is mandatory for every county to complete every five years. We assess our community and the needs in our area. The second portion of this project is to develop the strategic plan, which is what we will work on this year. Please come and join us.

IEEEP – Holly Harvan

Holly discussed what the Inclusive Early Expansion Grant is working on. Over the past year, we really did make an impact in the county. We touched 436 people. We've collaborated with licensing, SELPA, and the Alpha Resources Center. We also included professional development. This year we are focusing on CDE's Inclusion Works! trainings and are introducing Teaching Pyramid - Going Deeper. Four people are going through training to become Teaching Pyramid Going Deeper trainers. We've had a successful first year and are receiving great feedback.

COAT –Robin Palmerston

The Call-to-Action brochure was completed in 2020-21. Robin shared what COAT Committee advocates in Early Care & Education. We work with legislation. When the climate of our nation changes, we will reach out to organizations to let them know what we do and how to support us. The Call-to-Action brochure will be very helpful to reach people with the needs in our area.

WALDO – Sharol Viker

WALDO functions as an advisory group making decisions and giving advice to the Workforce Pathways stipend program application and requirements. We also help guide the leadership project, as well as training programs, and what that looks like each year. We are also working on the study and data collection of the workforce. WALDO generally meets directly after Council each month.

Facilities – Eileen Monahan

We have been working on child care facilities for the year. Some changes have been made. We are also closely tracking legislation. This year we plan to stay on the same track. We want to support other cities to amend their land use policies as we did in Goleta. We are currently helping Tressa Saviers with transition into her new CommUnify position.

ICCAT – Jacqui Banta

We collaborate and support the inclusion practice in our county. It's an exciting group because we want to blend groups and serve children and families. We want to make sure we're meeting the needs countywide. ICCAT meets the 3rd Thursday of each month from 2-3pm.

V. Committee Wrap-up

Discussion along with Q&A regarding committees. Sharol posted a Jam Board to allow everyone to choose their committee. Committee follow will take place over the next couple of weeks to ensure all are joined to a committee. Please consider becoming a part of any of the committees discussed. Remember that every council member must join at least one committee.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55am.