

Sacramento County Local Child Care & Development Planning Council



Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

August 23, 2006 | 1:00 p.m.
9961 Horn Road, Sacramento, CA

Meeting Attendance

Committee Members		Staff		Guests		
Kathryn Skrabo	x	Billee Willson		Marianne Knoy	x	Kathy Seatris
Allyson Kurtz	x	Caroline Stromberg	x	Marge Tomczak	x	Donna Sneeringer
Marta Suarez						Natalie Woods Andrews
Norm Tanaka	x					Jane Dankbar
Dennis Vicars	x					
Allyson Kurtz	x					

Issue	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.	
Submitting policy and legislative recommendations to Boards of Education and Supervisors	<p>In seeking to identify the purpose of the committee and to establish linkages with other advisory bodies, Donna Sneeringer and Natalie Woods Andrews were invited to attend today's meeting to discuss protocol and procedure for communicating and making recommendations to Boards of Education and Supervisors.</p> <p>The Children's Coalition reviews the Board of Supervisor's Legislative Platform and from that makes recommendations on issues the Coalition believes the Board should address. Donna Sneeringer offered to carry issues identified by the LPC to the Children's Coalition in an effort to coordinate and align issues that both bodies supported. Subsequently, the Board of Supervisors would be informed of issues they may have missed in their Legislative Platform, and provided information on specific issues to help the Board make informed decisions.</p> <p>When asked about the time frame to make recommendations on the Legislative Platform, Marianne Knoy replied the Legislative Advocate's office would be sending out copies of the 2006 Legislative Platform in October and request input by November 1. Copies of the platform, as well as the issue summary sheet which the committee has already completed were provided.</p> <p>The Board of Education generally does not operate with advisory bodies, and subsequently it does not have an established protocol set up for such groups. However, when talking about policy and legislative issues County Office of Education staff are to be careful about the message, and that it is in line with the positions adopted by the Board of Education. Natalie Woods Andrews advised the LPC would want to follow the same example, and to clarify when speaking on behalf of the LPC or on behalf of oneself.</p> <p>If there is an issue to be discussed in a large forum, or on which the LPC believes the Board of Education should address, it should first</p>	<p>No Action Required</p> <p>Committee members are to review and note any additional issues they feel should be addressed.</p>

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be sent to Joyce Wright or Natalie for review. They will then move it forward through the County Superintendent and the Board. Likewise, any issues and recommendations forwarded to the Children's Coalition and/or the Board of Supervisors should be copied to Joyce and Natalie to keep the Board of Education in the loop.

Donna Sneeringer noted the same steps should be followed for the Board of Supervisors, so they are apprised of issues brought before the Board of Education.

Through discussion it was determined the role of the Policy Committee is to serve in an advisory capacity to provide information, communication and collaboration with the appointing boards and their representatives. By keeping the appointing boards abreast of issues in early child care and making policy recommendations, the Policy Committee and the LPC can provide the information that is key to the Boards advocating for critical services and legislation in child care.

Staff was asked to draft an outline of the process and procedures for submitting policy and issue recommendations to the appointing boards.

Dennis Vicars noted that because the LPC meets quarterly, it would be difficult to obtain approval by the full Council on time-sensitive issue letters. He recommended discussion with the Executive committee to seek authority to act on behalf of the full LPC to advise and inform consistent with the LPC bylaws and child care plan strategy. Authority would have to be granted through the by-laws. The Chair is to bring this up in the Executive meeting.

In September the Committee will draft a letter listing those issues and recommendations they believe should be included in the County Legislative Platform. It will be presented to the full Council at the October meeting for approval and then submitted to the Legislative Advocate's office by the November deadline.

Leslie McFadden, Legislative Advocate, will be in attendance at the September committee meeting. At that time, the committee will review the priorities in their work plan and the recommendations in the current five year plan.

The next committee meeting will be September 27, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. at the Child Action, Inc. offices at 9961 Horn Road.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.