

Sacramento County Local Child Care & Development Planning Council



Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2009 | 9:30 a.m.
9961 Horn Road, Sacramento, CA

Meeting Attendance

Members		Staff		Guests	
Marta Suarez	X	Laura Lystrup	X	Marianne Knoy	X
Allyson Kurtz	X	Nadine Newman	X		
Caroline Stromberg		Sara Fung	X		
CS-Personal Appt.					

Issue	Discussion	Action
Agenda Item I - Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.	
Agenda Item II - Approval of Minutes and Agenda	<p>The minutes of the 12/16/08 and 02/10/09 Policy Committee meetings were approved.</p> <p>The agenda for the 03/10/09 Policy Committee meeting was approved.</p>	<p>M/S – Sara Fung / Nadine Newman APPROVED</p> <p>M/S – Allyson Kurtz / Sara Fung APPROVED</p>
Agenda Item III – Policy and Procedure Review	<p>Members began review of the draft policy and procedures manual for the Council. Staff provided a historical overview on the manual's evolution, noting it is an attempt to consolidate and update policy to guide the Council as it works to meet its obligations as an advisory body to the Board of Education and Board of Supervisors, as well as its legislative mandate to identify funding priorities for state funded child care programs and to develop a five year strategic plan addressing child care issues in Sacramento County.</p> <p>Members focused on the sections pertaining to requests for letters of support for grants and identified the following for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who is the audience of the request? Who will be reviewing it? How does the request fit into the Council's work plan and strategic plan? What will be done with the funding? Who will benefit? Could it be a conflict of interest for some Council members to be part of the decision process? A form should be developed with specified fields for completion, and it should be available on-line or for download <p>Staff will develop a draft request form and bring to the April meeting. Items to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary outlining purpose of request (advocacy, support, grant request) and description of the issue it address (minimum 1 page, no more than 3) Description of the organization making the request How the project/request ties in to the Council's strategic plan 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a grant, type of grant (planning grant or program grant) • Project timeframe • Contact information of requestor <p>Members are to email additional content suggestions to staff to incorporate into the draft that will be reviewed in April.</p>	
<p>Agenda Item IV – Letter of Support for First 5</p>	<p>Members discussed the upcoming ballot initiative relating to First 5. Members noted that both the contracting and managing agencies for the Council (the Sacramento County Office of Education and Child Action, Inc.), as well as several members, are currently hold contracts with and are funded by First 5. Likewise, the Quality/CARES committee oversees the CARES program policy, a portion of which is funded by First 5. Members felt it best the Council not take a position on the ballot initiative to avoid concerns of a conflict of interest.</p>	
<p>Agenda Item V – Round Table Wrap-Up</p>	<p>Chair Marta Suarez will email the questions members discussed at the February meeting to Allyson Kurtz and Laura Lystrup, and requested they respond to her prior to the Executive meeting later in the month.</p>	
<p>Agenda Item VI – Staff Report / Other Business</p>	<p>Members reviewed a child care supply comparison between 2006 and 2008 data. In the two year period between 2006 and 2008, Sacramento County experienced a loss of 474 (17%) licensed family child care homes and ten licensed child care centers for a total loss of 4391 licensed child care spaces. The decreases are attributed to declining child care enrollment based on the current economy, homes lost to foreclosure and the retirement of a large percentage of child care workers. (Data based on 2006 and 2008 child care supply information from Child Action, Inc.) Members noted that in the current economic climate, parents are taking their children out of child care programs and caring for them at home. Members who are also program operators have noticed a substantial increase in the responses to job openings.</p> <p>Members discussed requesting a section to be added to the April Council meeting agenda to inform members and discuss the ballot initiatives scheduled for the May 19 special election. Members requested a non-biased presentation and were agreeable to staff contacting Alex Cooke of On The Capitol Doorstep to see if he would be available to provide an overview of the initiatives.</p>	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.</p>	