

Tulare County Child Care Planning Council Meeting
Thursday, May 8, 2003
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Dinuba Welfare Office
1066 North Alta
Dinuba CA

MINUTES

Present: Barbara Bozarth, Margaret Chavez, Rose Crow, Laurel Eckert, Tim Foster, Edwyn Ortiz-Nance, Pam Pulford, Celeste Rodriguez, Lois Sheffield, Isidro Silva, Tina Shirley (staff), Stan Stine, Prudy Tanner, Mary Thomas, and Mary Wright.

Guests: Denise Espinoza, (Dinuba Youth Services).

Absent: Irene Aguirre, Donna Bailey, Natalie Boudreaux, Karen Cardell, Debbie Castro, Glenna Crummal, Maggie Florez, Senaida Garcia, Marilyn Giese, Sharon Heberling, John Hobbs, Laura McLean, Erma Montion, Michele Morrow, Michael Myerstein, Alma Potter, Caroyln Rose, Ramon Sanchez, and Sally Ybarra.

I. Welcome, Introductions

Pam Pulford, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. Pam stated that the Council has four new members: Edwyn Ortiz-Nance, John Hobbs, Laura McLean and Michael Myerstein.

II. Council Training

Marlene Smith conducted training on the Child Abuse and Abduction Resistance Education Services (CARES) program. The main focus of this program is abduction. Marlene outlined the services that the CARES program provides.

III. Approval of Minutes

Prudy Tanner made a motion to approve the March minutes as written. Mary Thomas seconded the motion. Tim Foster abstained. The motion was carried.

Lois Sheffield made a motion to approve the April minutes as written. Barbara Bozarth seconded the motion. Tim Foster abstained. The motion was carried.

IV. Public Comments

No public comments.

V. Executive Committee Report

A. Membership

A new Council member chart was available in the packets of all council members. The following members will not be renewing their appointments: Laurel Eckert, Debbie Castro and Celeste Rodriguez. If you have any recommendations please let staff know.

B. Priorities Committee

Due to recent legislation, Planning Councils are now required to submit local priorities by May 30 of each year. Councils must determine what and where services are needed. Prudy Tanner made a motion to send the priorities as is and Rose Crow seconded. The motion was carried. Members agreed that a committee should be developed to review the priorities for potential revisions. The following Council members volunteered to sit on the committee: Stan Stine, Prudy Tanner, Pam Pulford, and Margie Chavez.

C. First 5 Conference Report

Erma Montion attended the Statewide First 5 Conference on behalf of the Council. Unfortunately Erma was not present to report on the conference.

VI. Nominating Committee

The following individuals were present at the Nominating Committee meeting: Rose Crow, Alma Potter, Isidro Silva Jr. and Tina Shirley. They have nominated Pam Pulford for Chair, Rose Crow for Vice Chair and Erma Montion for Secretary. The slate will be voted on at the June meeting.

VII. Subcommittee Reports

A. Advocacy

i. Position Statement

Prudy Tanner requested that the Council endorse the following statement regarding the Governor's proposal to realign child care.

"We oppose the Governor's Child Care Realignment proposal because we believe in a statewide early care and educational development system administered by the California Department of Education that delivers optimal school readiness for California's neediest children".

Tim Foster made a motion to add the Tulare County Child Care Planning Council to the list of agencies that endorse the statement. Edwyn Ortiz-Nance seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

ii. Advocacy Policy

The Advocacy committee will reconvene to work on the development of a policy. The proposed policy will be presented at the August 2003 meeting.

iii. Advocacy Letter

Lois Sheffield read a letter drafted by the Advocacy committee. Pam Pulford mentioned that care should be added to the first sentence. Mary Thomas made a motion to approve the letter with the change and send to Tulare County legislators and the Governor. Mary Wright seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

B. Marketing

i. Website Update

Tina Shirley reported that the Council's revised website is almost done and the projector will be set up for viewing at the next Council meeting.

C. Quality Development

i. Quality Child Care Vision

Tabled until June. Council members reviewed the proposed vision. Lois Sheffield and Stan Stine recommended that further revision be made to the vision and brought back to the June meeting for review.

VIII. First 5 Update

The YMCA Safe Exchange program has been funded for a third year. Tim Foster stated that the Y is considering opening Safe Exchange sites throughout the county.

IX. Staff Report

A. AB 212 Report

Summary sheets of the most recent stipend allocations were included in member packets. There were 118 stipends processed.

Checks are in the business department and should be going out within the next two weeks.

B. CIGNA Information Day

The Planning Council had a vendor booth at Cigna Information Day. Many community agencies attended the event. Information regarding the Council was distributed to CIGNA employees.

C. Reappointments for June

As previously discussed, Laurel Eckert, Debbie Castro and Celeste Rodriguez will not be renewing their membership. If you have any recommendations please let staff know.

D. Other

Public hearings on the State Plan for California Child Care and Development Fund Services will be held on May 20, 2003 in Fresno. If you are interested contact Pam or Tina for location and time information.

X. Announcements

Laurel Eckert has been promoted to Residential Manager at Community Care Licensing. She will not be reapplying to the Council for another term.

XI. Next Meeting

The next Tulare County Child Care Planning Council meeting is scheduled for June 12, 2003, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Doe Avenue/Aspen Room.