



Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council
Minutes March 10, 2021 – 9:00-11:00 a.m.
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Members Present: Florene Bednersh, Jennifer Bergquist, Artesia Carlon, Theresa Embry, Donna B. Fisher, Flo Furuike, Michelle Graham, Supervisor Gregg Hart, Holly Harvan, LuAnn Miller, Annette Muse, Lorraine Neenan, Daisy Ochoa, Nancy Saengjaeng, Raquel Valdez, Sharol Viker, Susan Walsh, Janelle Willis, Ralph Ybarra

Members Excused: Jacqui Banta, Shelley Grand, Eileen Monahan

Members Absent: Susan Cass

Alternates Present: Ethan Bertrand,

Guests Present: Adriana Hernandez (Community Care Licensing), George Mingle (Dept of Social Services), Robin Palmerston (Children’s House Montessori), Chris Sears (Lakeshore Learning), Melynda Velasquez (Santa Barbara County Education Office),

Staff Present: Taundra Pitchford, Shelley Trost

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Chair, Lorraine Neenan, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

II. Public Comment Period

None.

III. Approval of Minutes of February 10, 2021

Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 10, 2021, by Florene Bednersh. Donna B. Fisher seconded the motion. **MSC.**

IV. CCPC Grant Updates

- **SB Foundation Grant** – is financially on track. i3 Leading with Intention part two continues tomorrow, March 11th. Part three completes the series on March 25th.
- **LPC Grant** – is financially on track. We have a little bit to spend down due to no travel or in-person meetings this year. Steering Committee will discuss ideas in our March meeting.
- **Workforce Pathways Grant** – Stipends will be paid out in June after all applicants have submitted their proof of training and education. Monica Thorpe has been a great help as a Professional Growth Advisor. We have approximately 100 applicants. Two PITC cohorts were offered in English for center-based programs and Spanish for family child cares. First 5SB is partnering with us to offer the Dual Language Learners training component. We have some great instructors lined up and dates will be announced soon.

V. Steering Committee Report Review of January 27th. See minutes in official records.

Steering discussed vaccinations becoming available to the SB County ECE community and the coordination of vaccines. We also discussed reopening of schools in early March and the governor’s master plan. Legislation was discussed and the bills that apply to Early Care & Education. We planned the upcoming CCPC meetings.



VI. **Discuss Membership Terms**

Membership terms were discussed as well as membership renewal for terms ending in June 2021. Supervisor Gregg Hart will be renewing along with his alternate, Supervisor Bob Nelson, through 2024. Shelley will be sending out notification next week with member terms as well as the member job description. Each member whose term ends on June 30, 2021 will need to notify our office whether or not you plan to renew.

Member attendance was discussed. We ask if you are unable to attend a meeting, please contact our office in advance so you will be considered an excused absence. According to the Council Bylaws, no more than three unexcused absences are allowed. Membership is a two-year commitment.

VII. **Coordinator's Report – See report in official records.** Highlights included:

- Discussion of schools reopening.
 - Discussion of the coordinated efforts to bring the vaccine into the county.
 - Older children will be returning to school. What after school care is needed for elementary aged children? Secondary schools will also be opening. We are expecting preschool enrollment to increase.
 - CommUnify is opening all centers this month. They will be following the recommendation guidelines. There will be full day and part day child care available.
 - SBUSD, GUSD, SMBSD will have staggered schedules to start and build from there.
 - SBCEO offered advice and help for those reopening.
 - The Parent Child Workshop is not open.
 - Private programs are open and have been open since fall 2020.
 - Discussion re: distance learning vs in person learning.
 - Discussed social emotional adjustment of returning back to school. The process of having contact with each other. Where do they fit into the social environment?
 - Directors may now be able to breathe a bit and share duties with others.
 - Our Public Health office may not be signing off on the waivers any longer. They are in discussion with Sacramento. Most are being approved with the fire clearance.
 - The ratio right now is 13 children / 3 adults.
 - The CA Inclusion website on the Teaching Pyramid has a nice new addition entitled tools for supporting children coming back to school - found here: <https://cainclusion.org/teachingpyramid/walking-up-the-pyramid/>
 - CDE is offering a relief package for those areas that suffered natural disasters, i.e. Thomas Fire, mudslides, etc.
 - Another CRR supply distribution was discussed. The greatest needs are disinfecting wipes, thermometers, and gloves. Distribution dates will be sent out once they are set.
 - Most recent funding has not been released yet.
 - Grant distribution being transferred from CDE to DSS is happening and is a work in progress.
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- Child Abuse Prevention Month is coming up in April. How should Council advocate for this?
 - Permit streamlining was discussed at the last Board of Supervisors meeting. Gregg Hart was an advocate for this. The work calendar is very full and getting it on the agenda takes time. We are going to use the COVID-19 climate to get that pushed to the front of the line.



VIII. Committee Updates

- **ICCAT: Holly Harvan** – ICCAT will meet again when Jacqui has returned from maternity leave. The Inclusion Initiative is working on completing the Disability is Natural series with Kathie Snow. Contact Holly for the recording link if you are interested in the replay. The Inclusive Practice series was increased from three to four trainings. The focus on collaboration is key. Interviews were completed with successful classroom settings. We are working on Community Care Licensing Regulations. What does that look like? We also have scheduled an upcoming UDL training with author, Pamela Brillante on May 5th via Zoom.
- **Facilities: Janelle Willis** shared that Facilities is coming back into play in the state budget. There are some discussions by the state, and this may be back on the table.
- **COAT: Robin Palmerston** – Robin is the new lead for COAT Committee. They met and discussed what our branding is in SB County. We want to stay consistent with what the state uses. The Call-To-Action brochure is being completed and should be available soon. ECE staff is central to our community. The next COAT meeting will be the first Monday of April at 2 p.m. Anyone interested in joining us, please contact us.
- **Needs Assessment: Flo Furuike** – Final feedback was given to Holly Goldberg and she will circle back to the committee for one final read through and then we are ready to go to the design team and then print.
- **WALDO: Sharol Viker** – WALDO meets after CCPC at 11:15am under a separate Zoom link. Topics on the agenda today include Workforce Development - reporting the ECE Leadership activities and the Workforce Pathways grant. WALDO is a support to CCPC on these grants. Last time we met, we discussed higher education. This time we will focus on Dual Language Learners. We are also going to look at the Master Plan. If you would like to join us, please let us know.

IX. Update on Vaccine Rollout for Early Care and Education Professionals

Susan Klein-Rothschild shared that on February 27th Public Health announced that CRR was going to lead the effort for early educator vaccine distribution in SB County. We started with a lottery list and were able to get 330 early educators vaccinated. The same numbers are forecasted for week two. We are being given a protective one-hour time slot by Public Health for early educator vaccines only. SB Foundation is helping to fund this for a couple of weeks. We are really fortunate that we have protected time slots for teaching staff. CVS, Rite-Aid and Cottage have also opened up to early care and education workers. There is a huge need and not everybody is on the lottery list. It was reported that early educator vaccines were the easiest group to work with. ID only was required. Those that received their first dose will receive a follow-up email for the second dose. Many follow-up emails have been returned undeliverable. Discussion regarding the different companies and different protocols for each vaccine. Vaccines are extremely limited right now across the systems. DC is stating that there will be enough vaccines by May to vaccinate everybody. Discussion.

X. Questions/Open Discussion

The next steps after vaccinations were discussed.

If somebody has been fully vaccinated and two weeks has passed, they do not have to quarantine if exposed.

Not sure if vaccine prevents the transmittal of COVID to others if they are exposed. This topic is on the agenda to discuss with Public Health officers. Discussion.

None of the regulations are changing until further notice. We will continue with 6 ft. distancing, masks, etc., until we hear differently. What we are doing is working.



XI. Legislation Updates: Part of official records:

Please review legislation update that was emailed. Bills we are keeping an eye on include:

AB22 Universal Child Care

AB92 Child Care Family Fees

AB123 Paid Family Leave Benefits

AB321 Dual Language Learner Preschool Enrollment

AB393 Grant Transition from CA Dept of Education to Dept. of Social Services

AB568 Early Care Dashboard

AB791 Trauma Informed Child Care Training. We already have this in place.

AB865 Alternative Payment Programs

Child Tax Credit

XII. Other Business/Announcements

Members discussed being open over the summer is not a priority yet. We are focusing on re-opening for now.

SBUSD is going to be working on a summer program. Some staff are nine-month employees, so they will have to see what that looks like.

CPIN Earth Science is scheduled for April 17th. Information and registration link will be emailed out.

April is the month of the Young Child. We would like to put together a proclamation. Discussion. It is a good opportunity to include sites being open during COVID. They will reach out to First 5 and Planning Council. We used to go to every city and make proclamations to cities as well as the county. First 5 is happy to co-sponsor that work.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.