



Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council
Minutes April 13, 2022 – 9:00 - 11:00 am
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Members Present: Jacqui Banta, Jennifer Bergquist, Donna B. Fisher, Flo Furuike, Michelle Graham, Shelley Grand, Supervisor Gregg Hart, Holly Harvan, Beth Hassenplug, Annette Muse, Lorraine Neenan, Daisy Ochoa, Robin Palmerston, Nancy Saengjaeng, Tressa Saviers, Raquel Valdez, Serineh Vartani, Sharol Viker, Susan Walsh, Ralph Ybarra

Members Excused: Eileen Monahan, Janelle Willis

Members Absent: Artesia Carlon,

Alternates Present: Jennifer Macdonald, Maggie Flores

Guests Present: Rebecca Arreola (SBCEO) Barb Finch (DSS/KIDS), Katie Mervin (SBCEO), Monica Thorpe (SBCEO)

Staff Present: Christian Patterson, Shelley Trost

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Chair, Michelle Graham, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Introductions.

II. Public Comment Period

None.

III. Approval of the Minutes of March 9, 2022

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 9, 2022, by Jacqui Banta. Robin Palmerston seconded the motion. No opposed. No abstentions. **MSC.**

Approval of the Minutes of April 8, 2022 – Special Vote Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the special vote meeting of April 8, 2022, by Susan Walsh. Annette Muse seconded the motion. No opposed. No abstentions. **MSC.**

IV. Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) Presented by Barb Finch PowerPoint in Official Record.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Awareness month. CAPC has partnered with San Luis Obispo and Ventura for a Memorial Flag event on April 12th for all children who have lost their lives to abuse. We also have another event coming up called Help your School-aged Children Thrive on June 1st. Information will be shared with Council. Discussion. The Safe & Sound Organization can be found here <https://safeandsound.org/>.

V. Child Care Planning Council Grant Updates

a. Local Planning Council Grant

We have ordered and received the Teacher Appreciation journals. Christian is creating a thank you letter to insert in the journals. We plan to distribute them the last week in April so teachers can receive them first week in May. The LPC grant has been expended.

b. Santa Barbara Foundation's ECE Leadership Grant

We held our Leading with Strengths training with Patty Pistoresi. All attendees received the Strengthsfinder 2.0 book and took a Discovering Your Strengths assessment prior to the training. Assessments were brought to the training. We received great feedback.

c. Workforce Pathways Grant

The SB Foundation gave us permission to use the \$1000 they originally granted to us to reimburse people for first-time Child Development Permit applications. The state waived the fee



early in the year and there was no need for reimbursement. We will add this money to the stipend program for those that did receive their child development permit this year.

Supplemental First 5 SB Dual Language Learner Grant

A balance of \$18,161 will be used for stipends in May/June.

VI. Brown Act (AB361) Review and discuss Brown Act Virtual Meeting Requirements

A. Review the Brown Act

- On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a statewide emergency arising from COVID-19 pursuant to Government Code section 8625
- On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB361 which amends the Brown Act to allow for governing boards to continue holding virtual meetings should there be:
 - A State of Emergency
 - Imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees
 - Special vote/meetings must be held every 30 days or less prior to the next calendared meeting to reconsider whether the State of Emergency continues to directly impact the safety of members to meet in person
 - A vote will be taken to reach a decision about whether to continue meeting virtually. Voting is for members only.
- B. Our next meeting is less than 30 days in advance. Do we meet in person or remain virtual for our next meeting on May 11th?
- C. A motion was made by Robin Palmerston to hold the May 11th meeting virtually. Donna B. Fisher seconded the motion. No opposed. No abstentions. **MSC.**

VII. Vote to Approve Applications for Membership

- All but one existing member whose terms end in June 2022, have expressed the desire to remain on the Council for one more year. The list includes Donna B. Fisher, Flo Furuike, Holly Harvan, Susan Walsh, Shelley Grand, Annette Muse, and Raquel Valdez. Sharol Viker is retiring on June 30, 2022 and will no longer be living in Santa Barbara County. We thank Sharol for her years of service with Child Care Planning Council.
- One new membership application was submitted for review from Jennifer Macdonald who comes to us from CommUnify. She has attended council meetings for years and has been an alternate for Lorraine Neenan.
- We have not received a reply from Michelle Robertson from First 5 SB County yet as a replacement for Sharol Viker.

Donna B. Fisher made a motion to approve the new membership for the 2022-23 fiscal year. Jacqui Banta seconded the motion. No opposed. No abstentions. **MSC.**

VIII. Vote to Approve the Slate of Officers for 2022-23. Introduction of the new 2022-23 slate of officers.

- Jacqui Banta has been nominated for Chair Elect moving from the Vice Chair position. She has been on council for several years and is the lead for the ICCAT Committee. Jacqui has been working for Children's Resource & Referral for over five years.
- Jennifer Macdonald has been nominated for the Vice Chair position replacing Jacqui Banta's role. She is on Facilities Committee and has been a council alternate for Lorraine Neenan for several years. Jennifer works for CommUnify and comes with 30 years of experience in ECE.



- Raquel Valdez will be stepping aside from the Secretary/Treasurer position but will remain on council. We thank Raquel for her years of service on the Steering Committee.
- Holly Harvan has been nominated for Secretary/Treasurer. She has been on council since 2020. She works in Inclusive Practices for Early Care and Education at SBCEO.

Lorraine made a motion to approve the slate of officers for the 2022-23 fiscal year. Robin Palmerston seconded the motion. No opposed. No abstentions. MSC.

IX. Committee Updates

Needs Assessment/Strategic Plan Ad Hoc – Lorraine Neenan/Jennifer Bergquist

Committee discussed the Needs Assessment and how we could improve our messaging. We need to engage the entire council on the Strategic Plan. We really need to prepare well for the retreat in September. When we do well in the retreat, we are set up to succeed for the entire year. We want to address quality accessible care in the community.

COAT- Communications, Outreach, Advocacy Team – Jacqui Banta said we are currently working on updating the Call-To-Action, goals, and outcomes for the county. Ethan Bertrand from the Board of Supervisor’s office included the Week of the Young Child in their monthly newsletter.

Facilities – Beth Hassenplug talked about the lead testing. First Presbyterian is using this state testing. The facilities infrastructure grant has completed stage one. Applications have been submitted. We are working on stage two. We’re looking for ways to support people with new construction. We are working with COAT to get out there and communicate with employers and leadership in our city to increase the number of childcare spaces.

ICCAT - Inclusive Child Care Action Team – Jacqui Banta

IEEEP continues to do the work for special needs and be over the team for the county.

WALDO – Christian Patterson

WALDO discussed the new grant focused on supporting students continuing their education. The Workforce Pathways grant has been renewed for another year. We will review the teacher application and requirements for next year. We may make some changes to the categories.

QCC Updates – Katie Mervin

Katie sent out a survey to ECE workforce to see what type of training they are interested in. We are evaluating feedback as it is received. We are currently working on our training calendar for 2022-23. We will keep our eye on what the state is requiring from us.

X. Coordinators Report

Isla Vista Youth Projects connected Christian with Stuart Kasden from City Council. He is looking for information on Early Care and Education. We have invited Stuart to our upcoming meetings to help him with questions he may have.

Yolanda Medina Garcia from Starr King Parent Co-op is planning multiple events for Santa Barbara City College to do with ECE. The next seminar is behind held May 6th from 1-6pm. We were able to offer a scholarship to help with payment for eight people.

On May 14th we will be holding a job fair in partnership with CRR, QC, AHC, SB Foundation, CCPC. Use link to participate. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ece-job-fair-tickets-293318111367>



ECE Public Service Loan Forgiveness- Expires 10/31/22

Student Loan Forgiveness Program has given new student guidance for loan forgiveness in the form of a temporary waiver. The application deadline is October 2022. You can apply and possibly receive credit towards your student loans. The application can be found with this link below.

<https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/pslf-limited-waiver>

PK-3 Specialist Credential Information

June 16, 2022, 9:00AM/June 17, 2022, 8:30am

The state is looking into how to make the PK-3 credential the most beneficial for all. They would like comment. To join the meeting use this link <https://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/meetings>

XI. Public Policy Review

AB 2131 – The policy allows for CDSS to make amendments to enact the universal license for Early Care and Education. They would switch to one license per site. This would go into place by January 2024. The bill went into hearing on April 5th. No outcome reported yet.

AB 2281 – The bill would establish mental health services for young children. The bill went into hearing on April 19th. No outcome reported yet.

XII. UPK/UTK Update

- SBCEO would like to apply for the Early Educator Teacher Development Grant. This grant provides funds to increase the number of educators CSPP and TK programs can hire.
- The county office planning template has been released. We are working on completing it.
- If anyone has questions about UPK, office hours are available to answer questions. Please reach out to our office and we can give you further information.

XIII. Other Business/Announcements

- Jacqui Banta shared that CRR has a Family Day at the Park being held on April 14th. They are hopeful to connect with FFNs and community.
- Sharol Viker gave a reminder that First 5 SBC has grant funding available. Innovation Grants are ongoing. The Express grant is also ongoing. Capacity Building Grants have a due date of June 6th and will go before the contract support committee for approval. Disbursement will be in July. More information can be found on the website.
<http://first5santabarbaracounty.org/our-funding/>

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair, Michelle Graham, at 10:05 am.