

Draft Minutes for Approval

YOLO COUNTY CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 9:00 AM-10:30AM

City of West Sacramento Community Center

Effective January 10, 2023, all meetings of the Yolo County Local Childcare Planning Council (LPC) will be held in person. The meeting was available for live stream viewing via Zoom. Those participating by Zoom used chat for public comment during the meeting.

Members in Attendance:

Lynn Arner
Brenda DiGregorio
Justine Jimenez
Cindy Flores
Sara Gunasekara
Tanya Kiz
Maria Lewis
Sue Lomax
Kim Relph-Smith
Kari Roberts
Tico Zendejas

Members Not Present:

Rahele Atabaki
Gina Daleiden
Fawn Montagna
Elizabeth Hansen

Guests:

Nora Chavez
Sarah Portugal
Kelli Twibell
Jeannine Weigt
Jaqueline Gallegos
Dhamar Gallardo
Jon Bell
Evila Flores
Andrena Nalasko
Dianna Esparza
Irene Talamantes

Staff:

Shannon McClarin
Kathleen Glassman

Item	Time
1. Call to Order and Introductions/Roll Call	
<p>Call to order at 9:10am Guests: Jaqueline Gallegos and Dhamar Gallardo (City of West Sacramento Home Run Staff), Jon Bell (Lake shore rep for Northern California and Northern Nevada), Nora Chavez (E-Center), Evila Flores, Andrena Nalasko and Diana Esparza (Catalyst Kids), Sarah Portugal (IEEEP Grant), Kelly Twibell (UC Davis), Jeanine Weight (WCC), Irene Talamantes (Community Child Care and Grandparent)</p>	
2. Public Comment- None	
3. Consent Agenda & Minutes	
<p>Consent- Approve 3-7-2023 Agenda Consent-Approve 1-3-2023 Minutes Consent Minutes with amendment that Gail Nadal was present at the meeting and Item 7 grammatical error</p> <p>1) Tico Zendejas 1) Maria Lewis Motion carried with unanimous Vote</p>	
4. Opportunity for members to state conflict and recusal:	
None	
5. Schedule meeting locations through June	
<p>Justine Jimenez announced that Liz Hansen is resigning due to the need to provide support for a child with special needs in her program on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Justine said once again we need to decide on a time and location that will work for child care providers. Kim Relph-Smith suggested Noon. Kari Roberts validated that this might be helpful for Child Care providers. Sue Lomax asked about meeting at various times and Kari said a moving target is difficult. Justine proposed we meet at Noon the first Tuesday of the month. Justine clarified for Tico that we need to have a quorum present in person. We need to take a vote on a member attending for just cause. (We stopped and voted on Brenda attending virtually). Tico Zendejas proposed that we meet in April at YCOE in Woodland, at First 5 Yolo or Catalyst Kids in Davis in May, and here in West Sac in June.</p> <p>Vote to have meetings at 12:00 pm the first Tuesday of the month, meeting in Woodland in April, in Davis in May and in West Sacramento in June.</p> <p>1st Tico Zendejas 2nd Kari Roberts Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Vote to approve Just Cause for Brenda attending virtually.</p> <p>1st Kari Roberts 2nd Kim Relph Smith</p>	

Motion carries unanimously.

6. LPC Budget through June

Justine Jimenez said that it was suggested that we could have a Día de Los Niños booth on April 28th at Ferns Park to celebrate the LPC's 25th Anniversary. Kathleen Glassman updated us that the Executive Committee proposed that we purchase preprinted bags and books to promote LPC at Día de Los Niños. Brenda DiGregorio mentioned that Amazon has free delivery, and we could get free books after a certain amount on Scholastics Books. Kathleen Glassman said stickers with the LPC logo will be put into the books. When asked how much money we have in our budget, Kathleen announced that we have \$17,000 to spend.

Shannon McClarin also mentioned that we need to identify what data we need gathered from the Needs Assessment. We have set aside money for the cost of the needs assessment. Cindy Flores was asked if data was collected around the needs of childcare providers from the Yolo Infrastructure Grant. Cindy Flores and Kari Roberts believe that no data was collected on needs. Kim Relph-Smith said she believes we need to have data about the impact of the pandemic on our childcare providers. We need data before we can say that we have a great need. She suggested we use our funds to support data collection efforts. We can use other data collection opportunities in our community as well.

She suggested a survey to childcare providers about their needs (3 specific questions). Kathleen Glassman said there is a woman from the data department at SCOE who can collect data for us. This woman is currently working on a needs assessment for another LPC. She will be available in June to do our Needs Assessment. She looked at children with needs and childcare data in Sacramento. Shannon will share the needs assessment with us. Justine mentioned that we need to build more childcare centers in the City of West Sacramento and will share that report when it is done.

Kari Roberts mentioned that Woodland sets aside pieces of dirt for childcare.

Shannon McClarin shared that we are funded by CDSS and we get a set amount each year. Kim Relph-Smith added that our budget was cut due to budget shortfalls and it has never been replaced. We need data to back us up to ask for more funding. She shared that the LPC used to have full time staff. Kim said that this lack of a full-time person hinders our capacity to keep balls rolling in a productive direction. Kari Roberts agreed and said that we have a lot of ideas that come up and die because we are all volunteers with full time jobs.

Vote to accept the budget as discussed with money set aside for needs assessment and promotion materials.

1st Kim Relph-Smith

2nd Kari Roberts

Motion passes unanimously.

7. Advocacy needs/process

Yuba/Sutter was provided as an example. Shannon McClarin will gather samples from Alameda, Fresno, San Diego and others from Region 3. Kim Relph-Smith suggested that the executive committee review these examples and report back what they recommend.

8. Member Updates

Kim Relph Smith reminded the council that calendar items need to be funneled to Kathleen Glassman so we keep our website relevant. Please send dates, times and locations as well as any fliers to Kathleen at Kathleen.glassman@ycoe.org

Help Me Grow: Brenda Di Gregorio previously shared flier for Spring Eggstavanza to be held on March 26th at Hiddleson Park across from the Children's Therapy Center. There will be eggs for kids to look for and agencies will be tabling.

Catalyst Kids: Catalyst kids provides before and after school care for K to 8th grade. They are licensed centers and have their own subsidy. Their subsidy has to stay in house. Their hours are 7am to 6pm. Diana mentioned that if families have needs during nonworking hours, they may benefit from other subsidy programs. Catalyst has 9 centers in Davis and 2 in Woodland and serve other counties also. Diana announced that they started their registration for Fall. Catalyst Kids has ELO grants and hope to support in that aspect as well. They also hope to support with TK efforts. Evila oversees 5 Davis centers. Evila said that Tafoya in Woodland will be closing. The building will be occupied by TK and may be able to use some rooms for the ACES program. The ACES program is opening more slots for those children currently in the Catalyst Kids program. Kim asked where all of these kids will go and Diana said Catalyst would love to support. This is a great loss for the community. Kari said that Tafoya opened in 1999 and Catalyst Kids started there the first year Tafoya opened. For children who have been there since preschool and families who rely on their care, this will have a great impact. Kim asked if the District is aware of the need for care in Woodland? Woodland Prairie closed previously as well. The LPC needs communication with the District. Catalyst Kids will be at the upcoming ELOP meeting.

YCOE: Shannon provided a UPK update. There has been no request for data. Shannon and Kathleen will be joining the LPC statewide meeting to begin planning with other LPCs across the state. Workgroup members have been identified. Kim asked what data they need and Shannon stated that they do not know.

Kim suggested YCOE taking on someone who can manage this project and the LPC. Shannon responded positively to the suggestion.

CHS: Cindy said there was a distribution event on a Saturday and they had the usual turnout for PPE and educational materials. There was a Teaching Pyramid training the morning of the distribution which may have been convenient for providers, but it did not result in more participation. If providers are still in need, they can contact CHS and pick up supplies. CHS has received the last shipment from the state. Covid test kits were only able to be used by small licensed child care rather than large licensed child care or centers.

City of West Sacramento Home Run: Dhamar announced that March 25th will be a financial wellness event in partnership with YCOE at the YCCA center at Alyce Norman. They will provide tax prep and activities for kids. Justine will email the flier to the LPC.

Lynn announced that March 16th will be a Beginning Together Inclusion event for the City of West Sacramento at the Community Center at 6:30pm. They had a training event last month and this month will be a community meeting to determine the needs of our providers and engage with local agencies supporting Inclusion in West Sacramento. Lynn will email the flier to the LPC.

RISE: Tico announced that the Capay Valley Health and Community Center building in Esparto is coming along.

YCN: Sue announced that the Yolo Crisis Nursery will be breaking ground in October on Second Street in Davis.

Lakeshore: Jon Bell said that there are challenges for centers across California to provide services following the addition of TK and UPK. He is working on partnerships to provide care. He has been very busy assessing sites to provide developmentally appropriate spaces for 4 and 5 year olds. He talked about calming corners and providing support materials. He said that facilities are a huge problem. Modularity is not available in California. Jon tries to be the advocate for developmentally appropriate spaces. He stated that he is not asked by Superintendents. He tries to be a champion. Donors Choose, Charles Best is now CEO for Lakeshore and is trying to find partnerships with nonprofits. Charles Best will be here on May 5th if anyone wants to meet with him.

Alphabet Soup: Kari announced that the Minor Renovations grant was awarded to Alphabet Soup and their check is finally on its way.

Jon Bell announced the awardees can work with LIFF to get equipment and save on some of the items.

Woodland State Preschool: Maria is tabling at the Spring Eggstavanza and Dia de los Ninos to try to fill their State Preschool slots.

A conversation ensued about there are no fees for private, but there is a fee for Head Start. Kim suggested we watch the legislation that may eliminate the family fee. She shared that the fees are a federal requirement and would need to be waived by California. Kari mentioned that the cost of living is much higher here in California and the fees have a greater impact on our families.

1) Kari Roberts
2) Kim Relph-Smith
Motion passed unanimously