



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, March 8, 2011**

The Early Childhood Council (ECC) convened for a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at Austin City Hall, Executive Session Room, 301 West Second Street, in Austin, Texas.

Board Members in attendance are listed on the attached attendance roll sheet. Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) staff in attendance was Ron Hubbard. Guests that signed in were: Cindy Gamez and Cris Perez.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Huston called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. **INTRODUCTIONS:** Guests were asked to introduce themselves.
2. **DISCLOSURE OF RECUSAL FOR AGENDA ITEMS:** None
3. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** None
4. **PRESENTATION:** Cristela Perez and Cindy Gamez with Workforce Solutions Child Care Services (CCS) presented about the CCS child care and child care quality improvement activities including the new swipe card attendance system, the integration of the child care system into the TWIST (The Workforce Information System of Texas) data system, the waiting list being down to about 600 children due to enrollments, the Watson wage supplements for qualified teachers, and the last Director's Symposium scheduled for August.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The February 8, 2011 meeting minutes were approved on Council Member Keith-Thompson's motion with Council Member Sanford's second on a 9 – 0 vote. Council Member Wallace arrived after the vote.
6. **STAFF BRIEFING – Ron Hubbard, Early Childhood Coordinator**
 - a. Corrective action policies related to providers losing Texas Rising Star certification are being reviewed for the City/County Direct Child Care Program through the CCS. The proposed policies will be brought to the ECC for review and comment in the next couple of months. Workforce Solutions, CCS, Success By 6, County, and City staff are being asked to comment on the policies too.
 - b. Fire code changes and child care was discussed. The City's Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office organized a meeting for child care providers whose fire inspection is due soon to discuss the fire code changes and resources that may help providers pay for the required upgrades. Additional meetings will be held.
7. **COMMITTEE/WORK GROUP REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS**
 - a. Executive Committee

- i. Chair Huston discussed the Travis County appointed position to the ECC and the ways the ECC communicates with the County.
 - ii. Council Member Farenthold, the Travis County appointee and a County employee in the Health and Human Services and Veteran's Services Department, announced and described several new documents including the Family Safety Planning Toolkit for immigrant families, the Community Impact Report, and the County Snapshot from the American Community Survey.
 - iii. Preparation for the HHSD Director's visit was discussed. Suggested information included the Early Childhood Framework, a summary of current City early childhood funding, the early childhood system, the role of the early childhood coordinator, and current activities such as Pre-K, subsidy rates, and fire code changes.
- b. Research and Policy Development – Council Member Farenthold discussed the survey of providers about the fire code changes and related expenses. Survey results were distributed.
- c. Providers – Council Member Sanford discussed the groups new meeting schedule, plans to survey mixed use child care programs, and that full-day Pre-K was still in the AISD budget but was still unfunded.
- d. Finance – Council Member Rosofsky talked about the child care subsidy resolution passed by the Public Health and Human Services Committee of the City Council, and the legislation related to subsidies by Representative Strama.

8. SUCCESS BY 6 UPDATE: None.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: HHSD Director's visit and Budget presentation were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 AM.

Early Childhood Council

Attendance - 12 Month
Scheduled Meetings

	LAST	FIRST	APR 10	4/20/10 Special	MAY 10	6/3/10 Special	JULY 10	AUG 10	SEPT 10	OCT 10	NOV 10	DEC 10	JAN 11	FEB 11	MAR 11
1	Black	Albert	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1
2	Carpenter	Sue	1	1	1	1		E		1	1	1	1	X	X
3	Esner	Larry	1	1	1	1		X		1	1	1	1	1	1
4	Fahrenheit	Anna Lisa				New appointment 10/19/2010					1	1	1	1	1
5	Holder	Kyle	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1
6	Huston	Aletha	1	1	1	1		X		1	1	1	1	1	1
7	Keith-Thompson	Debra	1	E	1	1		1		1	1	1	E	E	1
8	Paver	Rhonda	1	1	1	X		1		X	1	1	1	1	E
9	Porter	Jacquie		New appointment				1		1	1	1	1	1	1
10	Rodriguez	Cindy	1	1	1	1		X		1	1	X	1	1	E
11	Rosofsky	Natasha	E	1	1	1		E		1	1	1	X	1	1
12	Sanford	Margie	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1	1	E	1
13	Wallace	Avis	1	1	E	1		E		1	E	X	1	X	1
Total Members Present			10	10	10	10	No Mtg	6	No Mtg No Post	11	12	11	11	9	10

Present = 1, Absent excused = E, Absent