



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, December 12, 2012**

The Early Childhood Council (ECC) convened for a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 12, 2012, at City Hall, 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas.

Board Members in attendance are listed on the attached attendance roll sheet. Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) staff in attendance were Ron Hubbard, Dr. Phil Huang, and Carlos Rivera. Guests that signed in for the meeting were: Alison Bentley, Brook Son, Pat Smith, Raye Sansom, Gloria Neunaber, Kara Johnson, Andrea Brauer, Michelle Crawford, Franciell Farris, Sue Carpenter, and Robbie Polan.

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Holder at 9:02 AM.

1. **INTRODUCTIONS:** Chair Holder asked guests to introduce themselves.
2. **DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** None
3. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** None
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The November 14, 2012 meeting Minutes were approved on Council Member Huston's motion, Council Member Black's second on an 8-0 vote with Council Member Koenig arriving after the vote.
5. **PRESENTATION:** A presentation, Early Childhood Issues in the 2013 Texas Legislative Session, was made by Kara Johnson, Early Opportunities Associate, Texans Care for Children.

A recommendation to City Council and Travis County Commissioners Court to include items:

- 1) Increase the reimbursement rates paid by the Texas Workforce Commission through the local Workforce Boards with the Child Care and Development Fund for child care providers who are certified by the Texas Rising Star system as meeting more than minimum standards of quality care.
- 2) Provide technical assistance and mentoring to child care providers serving large numbers of children from low-income families.
- 3) Reinstate the Early Start grant that provides funds for Texas schools to offer full-day instead of half-day Pre-Kindergarten classes.

in the City and County's State Legislative Agendas was approved on Council Member Huston's motion, Council Member Porter's second on a 9-0 vote.

A recommendation to City Council and Travis County Commissioners Court to include an item to restore funding for nurse-partner home visiting programs for vulnerable parents in the City and County's State Legislative Agendas was approved on Vice-Chair Fahrenthold's motion, Council Member Koenig's second on an 8-1 vote. Council Member Keith-Thompson voted "No".

6. WORK GROUP REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS

a. Executive Work Group – Kyle Holder

- The 2013 ECC Work Plan Development was discussed and approved with edits and corrections on Council Member Koenig's motion, Council Member Elsner's second on a 9-0 vote.

b. Policy and Finance Work Group – Aletha Huston

- Restaurant patio smoking ban discussion and endorsement: (The item was taken early, without objection, to accommodate the presenters' schedules.) Carlos Rivera, HHSD Director, and Dr. Phil Huang, HHSD Medical Director, provided information about second-hand smoke on restaurant and bar patios.

A recommendation to City Council to endorse a ban on smoking on restaurant and bar patios was approved on Council Member Huston's motion, Council Member Black's second on an 8-0 vote with Council Member Koenig arriving after the vote.

c. Providers Work Group – Jacquie Porter

- City Swim Policies discussion and recommendations: Recommendations were discussed regarding changes to City policies. The recommendations made by the Providers Work Group were approved on Council Member Keith-Thompson's motion, Council Member Porter's second on a 9-0 vote. Council Member Porter will assemble the document with the recommendations for final approval.
- Child Inc. letter of support was discussed and a draft letter will be presented in January.

7. STAFF BRIEFING AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS – Ron Hubbard, Early Childhood Coordinator, provided updates on meetings with the Planning & Development Review Department about impact reviews and Medicaid Waiver projects.

8. SUCCESS BY 6 UPDATE – Sue Carpenter gave an update on the School Readiness Plan and announced the next Early Childhood Stakeholders meeting on January 24th, 3:00 to 4:30 PM.

9. RELATED GROUPS – No reports.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Holder adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 10:39 AM.

Early Childhood Council

Attendance with 12 Month History

	LAST	FIRST	JAN 2012	FEB 2012	MAR 2012	APR 2012	MAY 2012	JUN 2012	JUL 2012	AUG 2012	SEPT 2012	OCT 2012	NOV 2012	DEC 2012
1	Black	Albert	1	1	1	1	E	1		1	1	1	1	1
2	Casini	Sofia					Appointed 8/2/2012			1	1	1	1	1
3	Elsner	Lamy	1	1	1	X	1	X		1	1	1	1	1
4	Fahrenthold	Anna Lisa	1	1	1	1	1		NO MEETING					
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	E	1	E	1		1	1	1	1	1
8	Koenig	Laura		New appt 3/1/12	1	1	1	1		E	1	1	E	1
9	Paver	Rhonda	X	1	1	1	X	1		E	1	X	1	E
10	Porter	Jacquie	1	1	X	1	1	1		X	1	X	1	1
11	Rodriguez	Cindy	1	1	E	1	1	1		E	1	1	1	E
12	Wallace	Avis	E	E	1	1	1	E		E	1	1	1	E
	VACANCY - CM TOVO													
	Total Members Present		n/a	n/a	n/a	10	7	9		7	12	10	11	9

Present = 1, Absent excused = E,
Absent unexcused = X