



**EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 14, 2015**

The Early Childhood Council convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, at City Hall, Boards and Commissions Room, in Austin, Texas.

Board Members in Attendance: Kyle Holder (Chair), Albert Black, Dustin Breithaupt, Aletha Huston, Debra Keith-Thompson, Laura Koenig, Anurita Mitra, Rhonda Paver, Cindy Rodriguez, and Brook Son. Staff in Attendance: Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) staff - Ron Hubbard and Cynthia Gamez

Chair Holder called the Board Meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS: Members of the audience introduced themselves to the Council members.
2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None
3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: None
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The November 12, 2014, regular meeting Minutes were approved on Council Member Houston's motion. Council Member Black seconded on a 8-0-1 vote with Council Member Breithaupt abstaining.
5. PRESENTATIONS: None

6. WORK GROUP REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS

- Executive Work Group –
 - Chair Holder led discussion regarding a Welcome Letter to the new City Council members. There was a motion from Member Breithaupt for Member Houston to draft a letter to the City Council introducing the Early Childhood members as a resource. The letter should be 1 page in length and state the mission, highlights, accomplishments, and connection of ECC to City policies affecting children. The letter should also include current and future projects. Two separate attachments containing upcoming meetings schedule and a 1 page bio of current membership will also be included. Member Paver seconded on a vote of 9-0. A second motion was made by Member Breithaupt to append the initial motion by approving the Policy Committee to draft the letter and forward to Chair Holder for signature. Member Koenig seconded the motion.
 - Members mapped out the current membership by district. Several districts are represented either by residence or place of business/ownership. 5 members live outside of the city limits.
 - Executive Work Group is waiting to take cues from SRAP 2.0 before revising their work plans. Work Groups will take discussion from this meeting to update their plans for approval at the next meeting. Staff will send ECC members a copy of current work plans.

- Policy and Finance Work Group – The Policy Work Group is also waiting to take cues from SRAP 2.0 before revising their work plans. The group also proposed to be the responsible entity of Ready Communities and will take any actions relative to the ECC.
- Provider’s Work Group – The Provider Work Group will include Hot Topics in their work plan which to improve connectivity to child care providers as well as other service providers like AVANCE.

7. STAFF BRIEFING AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS –

- Cindy Gamez briefed the Council on new National League of Cities Technical Assistance Grant. Scope of work for the next year will include 1:1 calls, Bi-monthly group huddles with other TA city sites, 2 on-site visits and 2 cross-site visits. The project will culminate with a National briefing in Washington, DC to provide info on City level progress for early childhood alignment. Need ECC members and SRAP Leadership Team to assist with a specific request for technical assistance (i.e. implementation needs or challenge) related to one of the key areas of Parent Engagement, Professional Development or Infrastructure/Local Governance.
- Cindy Gamez briefed the Council on the Healthy Texas Babies Grant from DSHS. HHSD thanks the ECC members for their letter of support for this grant. HHSD was awarded \$90K to create a local coalition that will implement an evidence-based intervention to reduce preterm births and infant mortality. HHSD will present on the grant at the next meeting.

8. SUCCESS BY 6 UPDATE – Alison Bentley reported that the next ECE Stakeholder meeting will take place on Thursday, January 15th. There will be a special presentation from Dr. Andrew Garner, a nation-wide expert on Toxic Stress. SB6 is ramping up for the next round of meetings regarding SRAP 2.0 and Data Collection. SB6 needs help scheduling meetings with the new City Council members. They plan on holding a kick-off event and follow up with individual visits. Visits to Travis County will take place later in the year.

9. RELATED GROUPS – None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – 2015 Work Plan Revisions/Approval, Recommendation to NLC for specific TA request.

ADJOURNMENT - Chair Holder adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m. without objection.