



**EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 13, 2015**

The Early Childhood Council convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2015, at City Hall in Austin, Texas.

Board Members in Attendance: Kyle Holder (Chair), Jacquie Porter (Vice-Chair), Albert Black, Dustin Breithaupt, Larry Elsner, Aletha Huston, Laura Koenig, Rhonda Paver, and Brook Son. Staff in Attendance: Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) staff – Cindy Gamez and Ron Hubbard.

Vice-Chair Porter called the Board Meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS: Members of the audience introduced themselves to the Council members.
2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Item 6bii – Albert Black and Jacquie Porter
3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: None.
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The April 8, 2015, regular meeting Minutes were approved on Council Member Koenig’s motion, Vice-Chair Porter’s second on a 9-0 vote
5. PRESENTATION: Head Start 101 – Patrick Sanders, Child Inc., gave a Head Start overview of number of children enrolled in Head Start and Early Head Start, educational qualifications of teaching staff, parent engagement activities, Policy Council membership and curriculum requirements.
6. WORK GROUP REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS

- Executive Work Group –
 - Chair Holder discussed the Early Childhood Council’s endorsement and approval to sign Cooperative Agreement of the newly revised School Readiness Plan. Approved on Council Member Huston’s motion and Council Member Black’s second on a 9-0 vote.
- Policy and Finance Work Group –
 - Council Member Huston and staff liaison Cindy Gamez shared highlights from the National League of Cities cross-site meeting in Jacksonville, Florida including other municipal leadership activities related to early childhood alignment.
 - Council Member Son discussed the CDBG community planning process.

RECOMMENDATION-

Recommendation adopting that “City Council support continued funding for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) child care funding through Neighborhood Housing and Community Development” was approved on Council Member Son’s motion with Council Member Elsner’s second on a 7-0-2 vote with Council Members Black and Porter abstaining.

- Council Member Son discussed current Passages funding in jeopardy and community-wide gaps in non-subsidized/flexible child care funding.

RECOMMENDATION-

Recommendation adopting that “City Council identify and allocate on-going funding (\$160,000) beginning Fiscal Year 2015-2016 to protect families in the Passages Program from loss of child care. The Early Childhood Council also recommends that City Council consider the unique nature of the population served by the Passages Program which includes a very vulnerable population of homeless families” was approved on Council Member Son’s motion with Council Member Koenig’s second on a 9-0 vote.

- Provider’s Work Group –
 - Council Member Porter reported that the work group took back answers from HHSD’s vaccination presentation to the group. Also discussed that the group is working on an on-going action plan related to barriers facing providers.

7. STAFF BRIEFING AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS –

- Cindy Gamez reported on the NLC Site Visit is scheduled for June 16th at 9am and will include a meeting with mayor staff at City Hall to discuss municipal leadership in early childhood alignment.
- Cindy Gamez reported that there have been no new Early Childhood Council appointments. Only three new appointments have been made to date in addition to current standing representatives from AISD and Travis County bringing total to seven members. Two additional appointments are needed to make a quorum by June 30th.

8. SUCCESS BY 6 UPDATE –

- a. Alison Bentley reported on SB6 Action Plan. The last stakeholder meeting included work on the plan’s tactics. United Way SB6 received Award for Common Good (national recognition) for SRAP initiative. SRAP 2.0 will be published within the next couple of weeks.

9. RELATED GROUPS – None

- a. Austin AEYC – Raye Sansom reported on AAIEYC Awards Banquet and newly elected President.
- b. E3 Alliance – Council Member Koenig reported on AARO’s Pre-K Initiative. Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) will distribute a “Prescription for Pre-K”
- c. Early Education Consortium Summit in Washington, D.C. – Council Member Paver reported on Summit. Representatives from public/private sectors discussed Pre-K with members of the HHS sub-committee.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS –

- a. A/TC HHSD Budget Presentation
- b. Immigrant Services Network of Austin Presentation
- c. Workforce Commission Child Care Report
- d. Early Childhood Council appointments update

ADJOURNMENT - Chair Holder adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m. without objection.