



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, May 10, 2017

The Early Childhood Council convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 10, 2017, at Workforce Solutions Capital Area located at 6505 Airport Blvd., Austin, TX 78752

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Larry Elsner, Vice Chair Monica Sanchez and Commissioners Raul Alvarez, Rebecca Harrison, Aletha Huston, Roscoe Overton, Sr., Jacquie Porter, Brook Son, and Sebastian Wren. Board Members not in attendance: Rhonda Paver. Staff in Attendance: Austin Public Health (APH) staff – Cindy Gamez, Donna Sundstrom, and Laura Williamson.

Chair Larry Elsner called the Board Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS: Members of the audience introduced themselves to the Council members.
2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Commissioner Son recused herself on Item 6ci.
3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: No speakers present.
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Porter motioned to approve the April 12, 2017, Regular Meeting Minutes with amended edit to 6ai. Commissioner Huston seconded. Minutes were approved with an 11-0-0 vote.
5. PRESENTATIONS – Larry Schooler presented on the progress of the Supervised Children’s Activities during Community Meetings resolution from City Council. The City of Austin Community Engagement Division will possible issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to potential vendors to deliver service. The Community Engagement office would like input from the Early Childhood Council on potential bidders, potential funders, as well as help with distributing focus group information to the early childhood network. A request for the ECC to also review the RFP before it is issued was made. The City of Austin expects about 300-400 meetings to be covered under the RFP.
6. WORK GROUP REPORTS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS –
 - a. Executive Work Group -
 - i. New Commissioners Semple and Burson-Polston introduced themselves to the group.
 - ii. Commissioner Elsner proposed a new orientation/mentor program for the new members. He asked the seasoned members to contact him if they were interested in pairing up with a new member.
 - b. Cross Systems Work Group -
 - i. Commissioner Son reported that the next Community Schools meeting will be June 21, 2017.
 - ii. Neighborhood Housing and Community Development (NHCD) 2017-18 Action Plan – Commissioner Huston made a motion to add a 5th recommendation to last year’s ECC input to the NHCD Action Plan that ***targets early childhood educators for Community Land Trust housing opportunities to preserve stable, affordable housing for this critical workforce***. Commissioner Porter seconded. Motion passed on an 8-0-0 vote with

- Commissioner Sanchez off the dais.
- iii. Commissioner Son reported that early childhood centers requested if the Austin Police Department could help with lockdown drills/training at their centers. This is a new requirement from the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services for licensed child care centers. APH Staff, Cynthia Gamez, reported that APH and partners from United Way were meeting with APD in June and would bring up this request. APD has a new District Representative Coordinator, Lt. Gisette Gaslin, and the ECC would like for her to come to the next meeting.
- c. Policy Work Group – Commissioner Huston encouraged new members to join the Policy work group. 1-pager district brochures were distributed and format was discussed. Approval of brochures will need to be on the June agenda.
- i. Continuity of Child Care – A motion was made by Commissioner Huston to approve a resolution ***recommending that the Austin City Council continue funding for continuity of care at or above the amounts currently invested.*** Commissioner Wren seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 10-0-1 vote with Commissioner Son abstaining.
- ii. CodeNEXT – A motion was made by Commissioner Son to approve a resolution ***recommending:***
- ***The CodeNEXT Advisory Group and Opticos Design revisit the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan — specifically subsection “Children, Families, and Educational Policies, p. 148 — and itemize the ways that the family-friendly ideals outlined in that plan have been codified in CodeNEXT.***
 - ***The CodeNEXT plan incentive construction of family-friendly units (for example, 3- and 4-bedroom units with proximity to child care and proximity to transportation) and construction of child care facilities that would serve families from a range of incomes.***
 - ***The Early Childhood Council will continue to provide input throughout the process of finalizing CodeNEXT.***
- Commissioner Sanchez seconded. Motion passed on an 11-0-0 vote.
- d. Public Engagement Work Group – Did not meet last month. The group meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 4pm at La Madeleine Mueller.
7. STAFF BRIEFING AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS – None
8. SUCCESS BY 6 UPDATE – Sue Carpenter reported that United Way can help coordinate council visits and that staff are available to attend as well. United Way is also willing to present on the School Readiness Action Plan in June if needed.
9. RELATED GROUPS – None
10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Approve 1-Pager district brochures. Ask Lt. Gisette Gaslin to come to the next meeting

ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m. without objection.