

NIH Child Care Board Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2009
Natcher Conference Center - Room D

Members in Attendance: Valerie Durrant, Jayne Lura-Brown, Hillary Fitis, Angela Magliozzi, Susan Persons, Henry Primas, Brian Rabin, Heather Rogers, Lisa Strauss, Sheri Schully, Joslyn Kravitz (via phone), Conrad Farina, Shanil Haugen, Mary Ellen Savarese, Tonya Lee and Bea Curl.

Members Absent: Christie Espinosa, Rosalind King, Kim Plascjak,

Center Liaisons Attending: POPI: Paulina Alvarado, Max Kimpson, ECDC: Anne Schmitz, Beth Levy, ChildKind: Jaydah Wilson, Amy Cliber

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Durrant welcomed Sophia “Bea” Curl, the new Child Care Program Specialist, who will be replacing Mary Ellen Savarese. Ms. Savarese has accepted the position as Chief, Program Branch, ORS Division of Amenities and Transportation Services. Chair Durrant also welcomed the new POPI Liaison to the Board, Max Kimpson.

II. Approval - Minutes for January

Chair Durrant called for a vote to approve the minutes from the March 2009 meeting. The minutes were approved with corrections.

III. Report from Chair

Introduce New Child Care Specialist—Mary Ellen Savarese

Ms. Sophia “Bea” Curl started at NIH on April 27, 2009. Ms. Curl has over 30 years in the field of Child Development and 20 of those years were with Department of Defense Children and Youth. Ms. Curl stated that she was looking forward to raising the bar and taking the NIH Child Care Programs and Services to another level. Mary Ellen Savarese thanked Lisa Strauss for being a member of the selection panel.

Parenting Festival Report—Jayne Lura-Brown and Brian Rabin

Ms. Lura-Brown thanked everyone that participated in the 7th Annual Parenting Festival that was held on April 22, 2009 in Building 50. Ms. Lura-Brown stated that this would be her last year and Brian Rabin had agreed to be chair of the Parenting Festival for 2010. There were over 200 participants, a significant drop in last year’s numbers. It was stated it may have been because of the weather and holding it the day before *Take Your Child to Work/Earth Day*. Based on the evaluations of the participants and feedback from the presenters, the event was a great success. Suggestions for next year were to have it on the NIH Calendar, invite the Women in Biomedical Careers, and to continue the Parenting Seminars. The Parenting Seminars were a great way to lead into the Parenting Festival.

Women in Biomedical Careers- Heather Rogers

Heather Rogers and Rosalind King attended the Child Care Subcommittee meeting. Ms. Rogers reported there seemed to be some misunderstanding on the perception of what the NIH Child Care Board does and its role. There is definitely parallel interest and it would serve the best interest of the NIH community if both groups could work together in addresses their areas of interest: Back-up Care, Legislation Change, and Northwest Child Development Center.

Waiting List Committee/Sibling Policy- Lisa Strauss

The Waitlist Committee met to discuss the current Sibling Policy. There will be no changes to the policy. However, there will be some explanation added to the Frequently Asked Questions to explain the family philosophy that supports the policy. Anne Schmitz, Director of Executive Child Development Center has offered to draft a statement explaining the philosophy and importance of serving the entire family. Ms. Savarese thanked the Committee for the in-depth conversation that examined the policy thoroughly.

Child Care Board Membership Committee—Mary Ellen Savarese

The NIH Child Care Board will have 4 vacancies to fill. At the Parenting Festival, the Board Members were able to identify 2 potential members. Members for the Board need to be federal employees, as mandated in the charter. If you know of anyone that would like to be a member of the Board, please have them submit their resume to Mary Ellen Savarese no later than June 1, 2009. If any Board member would like to participate in this Committee, please contact Ms. Savarese by May 31, 2009.

IV. Northwest Child Care Center – Mary Ellen Savarese

Chair Durrant received a letter from Dan Wheeland thanking the Board for its support on the Northwest Child Development Center (CDC). The Northwest CDC was determined not to be shoveled ready due to completion of a security risk assessment. However, the Northwest CDC is still being considered for capital funding. Ms Savarese gave the Board a draft concept plan of the new facility and presented the planned program and design.

V. Child Care Board Work Plan

The Board reviewed the Work Plan and suggested the following changes:

- Revisit the role of the WorkLife Center—due to recent changes in focus the WorkLife Center has been unable to participate in Board activities.
- Change WorkLife Center to “any organization”
- Develop a package for the Administrative Officers that include all resources and programs currently available to assist families with Work/Life Balance. Hillary Fitis has offered to pilot this initiative at the Clinical Center

This conversation led into what needs to be included in the Annual Report. The Annual Report needs to include what the Board will need from Dr. Kington to advance its efforts. The following efforts need to be included in the report:

- Back-up Care
- Legislation Changes
- Family Resources—Dependent Care
- Northwest Child Development Center

VI. Announcements and Adjourn

Tonya Lee reminded the Board that the NIH Child Care Staff Training day would be held on May 8, 2009. If anyone would like to attend the NIH Child Care Staff Training Day, to please contact her.

The next meeting will be June 11, 2009 at Building 50