

Oregon Commission for Child Care Minutes

4/23/04

present: Lynne Angland, Rosetta Wangerin, DeeDee Overholser, Astrid Newell, Stephanie Swan, Lisa Kopetski, Cheryl Reece

guests: Tom Olsen

staff: Claudia Grimm

I. COMMISSION BUSINESS

Lynne called the meeting to order at 8:45 am. **Note:** A quorum was not present, so no business decisions could be made. Commissioners reviewed the March minutes. Lisa requested the March minutes be changed: "CCD adjusted rules to allow mixed age groups in certified family homes to parallel registered family child care rules." The minutes will be adjusted and Claudia will bring both the March and April minutes to the June Commission meeting for approval.

Claudia distributed a copy of the Commission's biennial budget, expenditures are through February 2004. Claudia's salary comes from CCDF (federal funds). The remainder of the Commission's budget is general fund. Claudia announced that it cost approximately \$3000 for the Pendleton trip. In light of the budget, can Commissioners hold additional community forums in other areas of the state? Tom said we could send a delegation, perhaps to the southern Oregon Coast. Commissioners requested clarification on the inclusion of lunches under the training line item: should lunches go under in-state travel? Rosetta wondered if we can ask Sonja to expand line items under the budget, using bullets for explanation.

Membership: John Sandusky's first term as a non-profit representative sunsets in July; he would like to be reappointed by the Speaker. Astrid will be moving to Bellingham, WA in June. She has spoken to a couple of people about the medical position. She will get names of potential applicants to Claudia, as well as a letter of resignation. Lisa inquired about her provider position. Claudia will be sending applications to two people from last night's forum that expressed interest in the provider position. Elizabeth Jacobs is a provider from Portland who has also expressed interest in applying for the position.

Claudia said that the Chair position will be open again in August. The Chair is appointed by the Governor. Claudia has not talked to Kitty about whether she wants to remain Chair or not. The outcome of the Mayoral election may influence that decision. The Commission meets in June, and then again in September. Claudia would like to have the Commission make a recommendation for the Chair position to take to the Governor's office for consideration. DeeDee would like to see someone in the Chair position that

leads the Commission to take action vs. debate the issues. Rosetta said that point counterpoint discussions can be very beneficial in resolving issues, and moving the group to take action. Since Lisa will not be at the June meeting, she asked Claudia to note that she would like the Commission to consider Rosetta for Chair. Lynne offered to remain Vice Chair.

Lisa inquired about new member handbooks; Claudia is still working on developing these. The new member handbook should contain: list of acronyms, explanation of the child care infrastructure, copy of child care statutes and rules, and definitions for child care terminology. DeeDee suggested creating a single notebook that gets carried to meetings with copies of the three versions of rules, statutes, report to Governor and Tom's power point on the child care infrastructure in Oregon.

The Family Child Care Network would like the Commission to write a newsletter article. Claudia asked Lisa if she would like to write it using her perspective as a provider serving on the Commissioner for the past 12 years. Lisa said she would write the article.

Commissioners looked over notes from the first child care advocates meeting. Advocates discussed increasing training requirements for family child care providers. Cheryl suggested the Windflower Training Second Helpings: a curriculum for seasoned family child care providers. Cheryl will provide Claudia with information. Rosetta noted that as the Network expands the mentoring program, it is essential to get more information on small business development into provider training. Classes must be inexpensive, or providers won't be able to afford to attend. Astrid noted that for the medical profession, 150 hours of continuing education is required every three years (this is for Board certification). Optometrists require 20 hours of training per year. Pharmacists also require training. These are professionals that make money! Child care can be an isolating business; Cheryl finds it valuable to interact with other providers. Getting providers out of the house is important versus on-line tutorial. Lisa recently utilized an on-line training option, and that was the only way she could have fulfilled her 15 hour training requirement. Cheryl added that sometimes college campuses intimidate providers. Lynne suggested using local networks to get training to rural providers. DeeDee noted that as a consumer of care, she is looking for signs of the structural quality indicators not evidence of training. What are the incentives for increased provider training?

The Commission needs more information about the provider training legislative concept before we can endorse a legislative agenda. There needs to be an incremental plan for increasing training requirements. As a Commission, we need to figure out where we stand on this issue.

DeeDee reiterated that the Commission does not need a legislative agenda to get child care on the legislative radar screen. Commissioners can make

personal contact with their legislators; we can do things that bring awareness to legislators. Health consultation model (nurse consultant in a provider home): can this count as training?

II. **DEBRIEF COMMUNITY FORUM**

Lisa counted over 58 people who came to the community forum. Claudia will forward the Children First contact for Umatilla County to Lisa. Lisa thinks Blue Mountain Community College is a logical convener for the issue. Tom asked whether there is there a legislator who could speak with the President of the College?

III. **UPDATES**

A.) Tom: the Senate passed the Snowe Amendment, although President Bush may veto it. Possible ten million dollar increase in funding to Oregon. Lisa asked if this money could be used for providers receiving child care subsidy. Tom told Lisa that DHS is considering changing the co-pay requirements to get to the 75th percentile. CCDF being reauthorized with TANF (increase work requirements for people receiving subsidy). DHS estimates that need for child care will increase three-fold in Oregon.

DHS is considering a rate adjustment to bring provider reimbursement to the 75th percentile. DHS is leaning towards not doing a pilot study. DHS will need to submit this to the Legislature in terms of a Policy Option Package. This is where the advocates come in.

Child Care Contribution Tax Credit: a marketer has been selected and will begin soliciting tax credits. A pilot will be developed at the end of the year, and community models to increase quality and provider compensation will be developed in the Spring of 2005.

The Child Care Division is considering a statutory change in the requirements for certified family child care homes statewide, which would help child care supply in rural communities. Certifiers will come to the Commission to get our support and then CCD can move forward with the change. Tom stated that this change is an incentive for registered providers to become certified. Claudia will put this on the June agenda, and invite certifiers to attend. Lisa requested to be conference called into the meeting for this discussion.

CCD is closer to piloting the structural quality indicators. Multnomah County has located funders who are interested: Hanna Andersson, Penney Foundation and the Child Care Division. CCD is considering adding a rural pilot in Coos and Curry counties. The Ford Family Foundation and Cow Creek Tribe Foundation may be potential funders for this pilot.

B.) Claudia: Financing Task Force update.

Lisa expressed concern that Commission has not had the opportunity to comment on the draft document that going out for review. Claudia said that she has brought updates and draft documents to the February and March Commission meetings. Further, Commissioners were encouraged to attend Financing meetings. Both Kitty and Astrid have been attending as representatives of the Commission. DeeDee stated that the Commission will review and approve the final document before it is distributed to the public. Claudia agreed to send out an E-Mail asking for Commissioners to review the first draft and respond to her with any questions or concerns.

Rosetta requested the opportunity to bring a Family and Friends Workgroup report to the Commission (formerly Kith and Kin Care).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.