



## COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE

### Meeting Summary July 16, 2014

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Barbara Andrews, Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta, Sandra Cortez, Pamela Dunn, Rossana Espinoza-Thorndahl, Nuri Funes, Michelle Green, Diana Holzberger, Brigid Howe, Linda Janulis, Edward Krauze, Bernadine Occhiuzzo, Nicole Queen, Shaun Rose, Claudia Simmons, Tamieka Thomasson, Barbara Warman

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Carl Eggleston, Hillary Fitis, Mary Gies (staff), Monica Sanchez

**GUESTS PRESENT:** The Honorable Nancy Navarro, Montgomery County Council; Eleanor Wallace, Community Use of Public Facilities

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Vice Chair Michelle Green called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** The Commission welcomed Councilmember Nancy Navarro and participated in a discussion with her on:

- child care subsidies,
- child care in public space,
- the Children's Trust,
- family child care 'hubs',
- child care and early childhood education as an economic development issue, and
- methods to increase advocacy at the local and State level for early childhood care and development.

**WELCOME:** The Commission welcomed its new members and announced that a new member orientation will take place on September 17, 2014 at 6:00 PM.

**ACTION:** The Commission voted to approve the summary of the June 18, 2014 full Commission meeting summary.

**ACTION:** The Commission voted to approve the July 9, 2014 Committee meeting summaries.

CHAIRS REPORT: Tamiaka Thomasson announced her resignation as Chair of the Commission due to her new role as Program Manager I for Child Care in Public Space, Early Childhood Services, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services.

It was announced that a special election for a new Chair will be held at the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Shaun Rose nominated Michelle Green as Chair and Hillary Fitis as Vice Chair.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: The Committees continue to work on their contributions to the Commission's 2013 – 2014 Annual Report, which includes recommendations to the County Executive and County Council and priorities for 2014 – 2015.

NEW BUSINESS:

**Debrief** – The Commission debriefed from its conversation with Councilmember Navarro. The conversation focused on the need to have increased advocacy by all stakeholders to elevate early childhood education and development to a higher priority at the County and State levels.

Staff will electronically send out the following documents to bring all members up-to-date on current issues related to child care and early childhood education:

- 2014 Working Parents Assistance Workgroup Report
- 2009 Universal Pre-Kindergarten Workgroup Report

UPDATES: Barbara Andrews updated the Commission on the work of the Montgomery County Early Childhood Advisory Council.

ACTION: The Commission voted to invite Rene Williams, Program Manager, Child Care Subsidy Programs, HHS to attend monthly meetings in Felicia Turner's absence. Staff will extend the invitation.

ACTION: The Commission voted to allow for electronic approval of a letter to the County Council, with a copy to the County Executive and Director of HHS, requesting that unused Working Parents Assistance Program funds be rolled into the next fiscal year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.