



COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE
Meeting Summary
June 17, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barbara Andrews, Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta, Carl Eggleston, Rossana Espinoza-Thorndahl, Michelle Green, Diana Holzberger, Brigid Howe, Linda Janulis, Edward Krauze, Bernadine Occhiuzzo, Laura Seminario-Thornton, Claudia Simmons, Greg Smith, Jian Wang, Barbara Warman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Pamela Dunn, April Kaplan, Shaun Rose, Monica Sanchez

GUESTS PRESENT: Angela Cabellon, Yvonne Iscandari, Liz Habermann, Rene Williams

Michelle Green called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

ACTION: Approval of the summary of the May 20, 2015 full Commission meeting and retreat– Motion: Greg Smith; Second: Bernadine Occhiuzzo. All in favor.

CHAIRS REPORT: Uma Quarterly Meeting:

- Budget Update from Uma – just passed. FY16 tough year for social services in county
- State level funding
- Found and other sources ending.
- FY17/18 more challenging budget years

Commissions need to consider recommendations and not only ask for large buckets of money, but be realistic about changes we can affect.

Uma's asked Boards and Commissions to look for opportunities to collaborate across and to specifically examine truancy in connection to the availability of child care.

The Chair participated in the Washington area Women's Foundation – Child Care Conversation:

- State and Master Plan for teacher preparation – due December 31, 2015.
- Linkages with Economic Development and Workforce Offices re: child care economic and workforce issues
- Linking child care to non-traditional arenas where child care is not discussed, but should be

- WPA discussion and adjusting income tables
- Related priorities and collaborative networking

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Programmatic Issues: Examining EXCELS and affordability from more than a programmatic issues perspective/Working on collaborations and how to make these connection happen and with whom and considering a regional collaboration with VA and DC/Examining the economic impact of child care costs and issues on the County and examining the true cost of care.

Membership: 5 Interviews/may need another ad

Public Policy: Debrief on legislation – Child Care Bill 13-15/Priorities for Annual Report/Child Care in Public Space is not managed by the bill – likely to continue as an issue/CUPF sunset is one year from implementation of regulation.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion: Child Care in Public Space: CUPF Regulation and sunset provision. Suggest a letter be sent to President Leventhal requesting a post audit of the first round of re-bids and a committee of providers to provide feedback to CUPF. CUPF held 9 rebids/2 being rebid again due to irregularities in the process. Executive Committee met with President Leventhal in January and Michelle Green raised the concept of a post audit. It is possible that Councilmember Elrich and Berliner may propose legislation related to the public space issues, but we have no update from either.

ACTION: Chair to send letter from Commission to President Leventhal re: post audit of CUPF rebid process, Michelle Green to draft. Motion – Ed Krauze; Second – Laura Seminario-Thornton; all in favor.

UPDATES:

Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) – Meeting on June 11, 2015 with new Executive Committee made up of members; focus on release of readiness scores and have requested data by schools (MCPS) for planning and strategic thinking; discussion of new screening requirements for providers and see this as a connection between providers, parents, MCPS and pediatricians; Uma came to discuss the bill and the Children’s Opportunity Fund – which will be Birth to 21.

State Early Childhood Update – Carl reported that all regulations changes (COMAR) are on hold due to issues and concerns for Recreation departments and regulation of school age care and the definition of child care. There are not likely to be changes to the ADA and breastfeeding section of the regulations.

Announcements:

Barbara Warman: The Head Start new Performance Standards have a comment period/in Federal register tomorrow/working toward full day programs

Claudia Simmons: No official word yet on Montgomery County Head Start grant recomplete.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.