



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD

NORTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the First Things First North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council; Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board was held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at the Washington Elementary School District in the Governing Board room located at 4650 West Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, Arizona 85304.

Chair Bill Adams called the regular meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

Members Present: Elaine Ellis, Member; Sally Downing, Vice Chair; James Emch, Member; Bill Adams, Chair; Jenna Goad, Member; **Willette Watts, Member;**

Members Not Present: Connie Robinson, Member. Gina Montes, Member Mindy Zapata, Member

Staff Present: Brenda Tomlin, Regional Coordinator; Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant; Tracey Craig, Regional Manager

Quorum: Established.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Member Elaine Ellis moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 9, 2010, second by Member James Emch, all in favor, no discussion, motion carried.

3. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:** No call to the public forms received. Chair Adams introduced a guest, Mr. Steve Maroski, Director of Academic Support for Washington Elementary School District.

Chair Adams and Vice Chair Downing presented Karyn Parker a certificate of appreciation for her dedicated service to the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council from March 25, 2008 – February 26, 2010. Ms. Parker resigned her At Large position effective February 26, 2010.

4. **CALL TO PRESENTERS:** Presentation was completed by Amy Kobeta, Vice President of Children's Action Alliance regarding the completion of the Needs & Assets report for the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council. Ms. Kobeta provided an overview of the process and talked about plans for community contact via a web-based survey and follow-up telephone surveys. Council members expressed concern about assuring that the voice of parents was present for the report, specifically being able to identify not only "what they need" but also "why they need it." Council members requested that this item continue on future agendas to make sure the Council is able to keep close tabs on the progress of the report. **(Attachment A)**

5. **ESTABLISHING A NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR FILLING COUNCIL SEATS:** Background information was provided to the Council in their packets regarding requirements for committee make-up, timeline and responsibilities. There are currently five positions to fill as initially determined that Council members would either

have a 2 year term or a 4 year term. Member James Emch moved to nominate Member Willette Watts, Member Jenna Goad, and Member Elaine Ellis to serve as the nominating committee. Member Goad identified that she was a member with a 2 year term and would be re-applying for a council seat, and therefore would not be able to serve on the committee. Discussion continued and Member Ellis identified that she would nominate her husband (Martin Krepcho, a psychologist with the family practice residency at Phoenix Baptist) to serve as a community member for this committee. Vice Chair Sally Downing also identified that she would be willing to assist with this task. Motion made to have Dr. Ellis, her husband and Vice Chair Downing serve as the nominating committee, second by Member Jenna Goad, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

6. REVIEW OF CRISIS PREVENTION STRATEGY WORKGROUP RECOMMENDATIONS: DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE

VOTE: A written overview of the workgroup's recommendation which was comprised of Vice Chair, Sally Downing, Member Jenna Goad, Member Mindy Zapata, and Coordinator Tomlin was provided to the Council Members in their packet. Member Elaine Ellis thanked the committee members for putting the great summary together. Member Elaine Ellis moved that the Council adopt and develop an RFGA for Family Resource Centers in the amount of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) for the 2011 budget, second by member James Emch, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

7. POSSIBLE REALLOCATION OF 2011 FUNDING (Continued Discussion):

Background information was presented to Council Members in their packets to help determine if any of the strategies for fiscal year 2011 were "over-funded." Coordinator Tomlin provided the Council members with additional information for consideration regarding the number of eligible homes/centers for the receipt of Child Care Health Consultant Services. Member Elaine Ellis advised the Council that the original ratio of one mental health consultant per twenty five centers is inadequate. The actual number should be one mental health consultant per six to eight centers based on a very renowned psychologist in California. Member Elaine Ellis proposed that the Council keep all of the money in the strategy. Dr. Ellis will bring back information to the Council for their review. Coordinator Tomlin also reminded the Council that there was funding set aside for a family support strategy that had not yet been identified. Council Members can make a decision to reallocate this funding to a different goal area. Council Members determined that they would like to reallocate a total of \$740,000. This amount for re-allocation will come from the Child Care Health Consultant Strategy (\$240,000 – reducing the staff requested to 6 instead of 8) and the \$500,000 from the unidentified family support strategy. As the discussion moved toward identifying the goal area for this funding, Vice Chair Sally Downing declared her conflict of interest – she is currently employed by the Arizona Department of Education who holds the FTF contract for expanding preschool classrooms across several of the regional council areas. Member Downing also recused herself from any further vote or discussion on this matter. Member Elaine Ellis moved to allocate this seven hundred forty thousand (\$740,000.00) to Access and Affordability as follows: Five hundred thousand (\$500,000.00) to Tuition Scholarships, and two hundred forty thousand (\$240,000.00) to Pre-K Expansion, second by Member James Emch, discussion followed regarding the options for access and affordability and differences between supporting child care tuition scholarships versus expanding preschool programs, no members in favor, motion fails. Member James Emch moved to allocate seven hundred forty thousand (\$740,000.00) towards tuition scholarships for part time 3 days per week day care, second by Chair Bill Adams, discussion followed, all in favor, one recusal; motion carried. *[It appears that a quorum was lost before this vote was taken. This matter will appear on the next Council agenda for a ratification vote.]*

8. FUNDING MECHANISM DECISION FOR 2011 STRATEGIES DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE:

a. **Home Visitation:** Background information was provided in each of the Council packets regarding national home visitation models – the target population served, length of intervention, services provided and estimated cost. There is increased funding to this strategy for the 2011 fiscal year in order for the Council to provide increased

services. The Council needs to decide if one of the ways they want to increase service in this strategy area is by increasing service numbers of existing grantees. Member Jenna Goad moved to maintain current contracts as is by flat funding and put the remaining five hundred thousand (\$500,000.00) towards the Nurse Family Partnership model, second by member Elaine Ellis, all in favor, discussion; motion carried.

b. **Early Literacy:** Member Elaine Ellis declared conflict; Dr. Ellis provides clinical services for the Agency that currently holds two of the existing contracts to provide Early Literacy services in the region. Member Ellis recused herself from any further vote or discussion on this matter. There is increased funding to this strategy for the 2011 fiscal year in order for the Council to provide increased services. Coordinator Tomlin identified for the Council that based on data received to date, there appears to be a significant waiting list/interest for the Raising A Reader Program, just as there is a significant interest in the programs/services offered in all of the City of Phoenix Libraries in the region. Vice Chair Sally Downing moved to do the justification and increase the funding to Raising A Reader by 35% based on their waiting list and increase the library allocation by 100% for fiscal year 2011, second by Member Jenna Goad, all in favor, one recusal, no discussion; motion carried. *[It appears that a quorum was lost before this vote was taken. This matter will appear on the next Council agenda for a ratification vote.]*

9. **NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:** Member Jenna Goad would like to see on-going brief updates on the legislature. Coordinator Tomlin reminded the Council that much of this is contained in the weekly Chair/Vice Chair call in on Fridays and the email that follows.

10. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, April 13, 2010, Washington Elementary School, 4650 West Sweetwater Glendale, Arizona 85304.

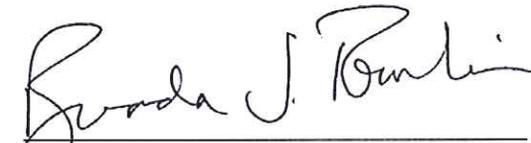
11. **ADJOURNMENT:** Member Elaine Ellis moved to adjourn, second by Member James Emch, all in favor, no discussion; meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

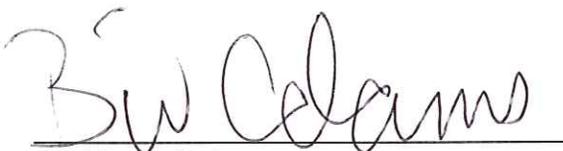
APPROVED



Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant


Brenda Tomlin, MSW, ACSW, Coordinator

COUNCIL APPROVAL


Bill Adams, Chair

