



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Draft Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First – Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board was held on March 23, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held at the Doubletree Hotel, 445 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson, Arizona 85711.

Chair Lynn called the meeting to order at approximately 9:50 a.m.

Members Present:

Steve Lynn, Dr. Eugene Thompson, Nadine Mathis Basha, Dr. Pamela Powell, Vivian Saunders, and Dr. Arturo Gonzalez

Members Absent:

Hon. Cecil Patterson

Ex-Officio Member Designee's Present:

Amy Corriveau, Molly Bright and Mary Ellen Cunningham

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Member Thompson to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of agenda items 2.E.i Cochise revised strategy, 2H Communications and 2I Legislative Report be pulled off the Consent Agenda for discussion, seconded by Member Powell. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Member Mathis Basha to approve Consent Agenda item 2.E.i Cochise revised strategy, seconded by Member Gonzalez. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Member Thompson to approve Consent Agenda item 2H Communications, seconded by Member Saunders. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Member Powell to approve Consent Agenda item 2I Legislative Report, seconded by Member Thompson. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Member Gonzalez that the Board oppose HCR2001 and SCR1001 ballot measures, seconded by Member Mathis Basha. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Member Gonzalez that the Board direct staff and the Chair to continue discussions with the legislature on the offer to loan the state up to \$300 million to be paid back over a specific period of time either with or without interest that must be approved by the voters, seconded by Member Mathis Basha. Motion carried.

Board Member Report/Update

Member Corriveau stated to the Board that on April 7th, Deer Valley School District Sunrise Preschool has invited legislators to a visit day to view first hand a Quality First center.

Member Cunningham reported DHS is renewing their Title V Block Grant, and one of many public input sessions will be held April 6th in Tucson.

Member Powell commended Susan Wilkins and the T.E.A.C.H. team for their work around the state.

Member Saunders recently presented to the Alaskan American Indian Organization and suggested further discussion with the staff on how to move forward with presenting our model to other organizations and conferences.

Chair Lynn urged everyone to contact the legislature to inform members of the action by the Board today and the offer of the interest free loan. He also encouraged everyone to mail in their census information and stated this will assist First Things First in allocating money to the Regional Councils.

Call to the Public

Bruce Liggett, Arizona Child Care Association, updated the Board on DES child care subsidies and the impacts in lost jobs, child care centers closing and the number of children and families pulled off assistance. Mr. Liggett asked the Board that to consider discussing with DES the matching requirement for federal dollars.

Shanna Kukla, Center for Early Childhood Studies, Pima Community College, presented to the Board on T.E.A.C.H. hardship waivers and the impact of the comprehensive scholarship model.

System Building Work Session

Member Mathis Basha introduced the system building work session by reviewing the work that has been done to date by the Arizona Early Childhood Task Force. The Task Force is a broad-based group of community members, convened by First Things First to identify a model early childhood system for Arizona and to make recommendations for First Things First's role in that system. BJ Tatro facilitated the work session during which the Board briefly reviewed the work done to date, including the vision statement, list of system partners, system elements, and system characteristics. The Board then reviewed the proposed system outcomes and provided feedback.

Quality First!

Sandy Foreman and Allison Landy from First Things First, and Jill Morgan and Chris Nash from the United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona and Valley of the Sun United Way respectively, presented to the Board the Quality First enrollment process, enrollment data, first year outcomes and challenges.

Regional Partnership Council Presentations – Innovation to Compliment Quality First!

Mary Jan Bancroft with Make Way for Books and Jane Kroesen from the South Pima Regional Partnership Council presented to the Board information on their strategy. Dr. Dorothy Johnson from the North Pima Regional Partnership Council and Diane Hiratsuka from the Pima County Health Department presented to the Board on the integrated nutritional component in the Child Care Health Consultant model.

Executive Session to Discuss and Obtain Legal Advice Regarding Legislative Changes to State Employee Compensation and the Executive Director Performance Review

A motion was made by Member Gonzalez to move into Executive Session at approximately 12:30 p.m. to discuss and or to obtain legal advice regarding legislative changes to state employee compensation and the Executive Director performance review, seconded by Member Powell. Motion Carried.

A motion to return to regular session at approximately 1:30 p.m. was made by Member Powell, seconded by Member Mathis Basha. Motion carried.

General Discussion

Member Saunders requested that a discussion item regarding a strategic communications campaign be placed on a future agenda.

Chairman Lynn requested that a discussion item regarding a tobacco campaign that discourages smoking be placed on a future agenda.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2010 and will be held in Phoenix, Arizona.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m.