



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First—Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council was held on Wednesday, June 16, 2010 at 3:00 p.m., at Northland Pioneer College, 2251 N. Navajo Blvd., Holbrook, AZ 86025.

Chair Pullin called the meeting to order at approximately 3:20 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Members Present:

Tom Barela, Claude Endfield, Leslie Meyer, Rance Pullin, Margie Tapia (via telephone), Becky Towle and Michael Zimmerman (via telephone initially)

Members Absent: Cathy Taylor and Mary Tyler

Others Present:

Rachel Daffara, Kate Dobler-Allen, Lannie Gillespie, Rochelle Lacapa, Mary Manzano, Linda Morrow, David Sherman and Maureen Theobald

Member Reports and Updates

Member Meyer shared that the KinderKamp Program at Blue Ridge Unified School District will run until June 30, 2010.

Call to the Public

None

Disclosure of Conflicts

None

Adoption of Minutes

The Minutes of the May 12, 2010 regular meeting of the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council were presented. Member Meyer moved that the minutes from the May 12, 2010 regular meeting of the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council be approved as written. Member Towle seconded; the motion passed.

Member Barela arrived at approximately 3:25 p.m.

Regional Coordinator's Report

Coordinator Dobler-Allen reviewed her monthly report, specifically noting that there is one more Family Fun Day Event yet to take place on June 30, 2010, in Tuba City. So far, these events, which are expected to be annual events, have reached over 1,000 people. Coordinator Dobler-Allen also noted a "Back to School" Event, which is planned for July 17, 2010, at Round Valley. The Final Needs & Assets Report will be delivered to the members in July for approval in August and then submitted to the State Board by September 1, 2010. Coordinator Dobler-Allen then reviewed the Operational Plan and noted that the State Board approved the renewals and new funding at the Board Meeting on June 15, 2010.

Program Updates

- A. Salvation Army – David Sherman shared a handout with all present and reviewed the number of food boxes, diapers and other items for families with children birth through five, which have been distributed by the Lakeside, AZ site. Questions were raised about distribution totals at the other sites (Holbrook, Snowflake and Pinetop); Mr. Sherman stated it is hard to get statistics from these sites. Member Tapia raised a question as to how “checks and balances” are handled; Coordinator Dobler-Allen responded that this contract is on a reimbursement basis, so receipts are submitted to the First Things First (FTF) Finance Department.
- B. Town of Springerville – no report.
- C. Northland Pioneer College (NPC) – Community-based Training – Coordinator Dobler-Allen paraphrased the report that Northland Pioneer College had submitted for this meeting as a year-end report.
- D. ECE/ECD Professional Development Scholarship – Coordinator Dobler-Allen stated that the NPC/Eagar Center is closed until August 2, 2010 and shared that the renewal packet has not been received. Member Zimmerman clarified that because the renewal packet has not been received, that as of July 1, 2010, this contract will be over and the remaining funds would be carried forward into FY 2011; Coordinator Dobler-Allen confirmed this.

Presentation, Discussion of Child Care/Preschool Lab School Model

Member Zimmerman, having not been physically present during the initial disclosure of conflicts, expressed a potential conflict with this agenda item and completed a conflict of interest form because his business organization could be a potential grantee in the future.

Ms. Lannie Gillespie, Navajo County Education Service Agency (ESA) Director, gave a presentation related to the First Things First Navajo/Apache Lab School Model document that had been compiled by her organization. Ms. Gillespie reviewed each of the sections of the document and shared how this model could be utilized by other counties in the state. Council Members expressed their gratitude for compiling such a professional and comprehensive document. Coordinator Dobler-Allen reminded the members that this is a professional development model to move high school students into high-quality child care centers and into NPC for further education. This model/template would also involve a competitive bid process in the future. The members thanked Ms. Lannie Gillespie and Ms. Linda Morrow, Navajo County Superintendent of Schools, for their excellent work.

Resolution Opposing HCR 2001, Presentation and Possible Approval

Chair Pullin shared a draft resolution opposing HCR 2001 with the members. Because Coordinator Dobler-Allen is staff to First Things First, she did not participate in the discussion. After discussion by the members, Member Barela moved that the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council approve this draft of the resolution opposing the HCR 2001 ballot measure. Member Zimmerman seconded; the motion passed. Coordinator Dobler-Allen noted that she has prepared a draft press release regarding the adoption of this resolution by the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council and noted that the FTF Board has adopted a similar resolution.

Early Childhood Task Force Discussion

Coordinator Dobler-Allen shared that this task force meets monthly and noted that surveys have been distributed throughout the Regional Partnership Council membership for input. Coordinator Dobler-Allen distributed handouts of the current Arizona Early Childhood Model System, as well as the current membership on the task force and reminded the members that this framework will guide the State Board; therefore, input is critical. Members expressed concern as to a lack of membership on this task force from rural communities.

Coordinator Dobler-Allen reminded everyone to save the date for the upcoming Summit on August 30 and 31, 2010.

Coordinator Dobler-Allen also read a letter from Ms. Julianne Hartzell, a member of the task force and the Chair of the Coconino Regional Partnership Council about how important it is to respond to the surveys from the task force.

Regional Council Member Celebration for Terms Ending June 30, 2010

Coordinator Dobler-Allen shared that five members' two-year terms are expiring at the end of this month: Rance Pullin, Leslie Meyer, Margie Tapia, Cathy Taylor and Mary Tyler, and noted that all new members recommended to the State Board have now been approved and will receive letters in the mail. Everyone thanked the members leaving the Regional Partnership Council for their contributions.

Adjournment

The next meeting of the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at 3:00 p.m., at North Country Health Care in St. Johns, AZ. There being no further business, Chair Pullin adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:30 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'K. Dobler-Allen', written over a horizontal line.

Kate Dobler-Allen, Regional Coordinator