



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting of the First Things First – Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on November 3, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. at the Cocopah Housing and Development Office, 10488 Steamboat Street, in Somerton, Arizona, 85350.

Chair McCormick called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Members Present: Jill McCormick, Dr. Michael Reed, Paul Soto, Monica Torres, Cristina Solorzano, LaDonna Crabb, Deal Begay

Members Excused: Gina Nierenhausen

Approval of October 6 and October 12, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Dr. Reed moved to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2010, regional council meeting. The motion was seconded by Member Soto with the stipulation of amending the October 6 minutes as discussed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Dr. Reed moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2010, special meeting. The motion was seconded by Member Soto, and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Election Outcome

The Regional Council was pleased with the November 2, 2010, Election outcome. Coordinator Pascual expressed deep appreciation for the Regional Council's support, especially during the last few months.

Debrief on Cocopah Early Steps-Family Conference

Coordinator Pascual provided an overview of the Cocopah Early Steps Family Conference, which was held on October 22-23, 2010. The topics of discussion included the following items:

- a) Evaluation Form: Coordinator Pascual reviewed the evaluation form that participants were asked to complete. The participants' responses were compiled in to the evaluation report that was included in the meeting packets. Overall, participants reported they were satisfied with the outcome of the conference, and all participants indicated desire to continue similar events in the future.

- b) Recommendations:
 - i. Consideration of a one day event vs. two days
 - ii. Saturated Outreach/Advertising, with a required RSVP to participate
 - i. Additional informational booths
 - ii. Funding Amount: The allocated amount for the strategy was \$14,000, and the final cost of the conference was around \$11,000.

- c) Procurement Process vs. Arizona Grant Statutes: Coordinator Pascual recommended that consideration go in to the funding mechanism utilized for this strategy if continuing in the future.

At the Regional Councils' request Coordinator Pascual will schedule a meeting with Kermit Palmer, Cocopah Tribal Administrator, to revisit the organizational structure and physical location of the Early Steps Program.

FY2011-FY2012 Regional Funding Plans

Coordinator Pascual engaged the Regional Council Members in a discussion of the FY2011 and FY2012 Funding Plans and strategies as well as prioritization of regional needs. Free parenting classes, caregiver training, and home visitation were all strategies that still remain as priority areas of focus to continue to be addressed in the funding plan. Regional Council Member Solorzano suggested restructuring the Early Steps Job Position (Cocopah Early Steps Specialist) versus changing the strategy.

The Regional Council also discussed moving forward with the strategy for renovation of the Head Start facility. The carry forward amount planned to be used for the Head Start renovation is \$55,316.

The Regional Council agreed, by consensus, on the following strategies/changes for the FY2012 Funding Plan:

- a) Continue Comprehensive Family Support Strategy (Early Steps Program)
- b) Removal of T.E.A.C.H.
- c) Continue with Community Awareness
- d) Continue with Exposition/Conference Collaboration (adjusting the allotment amount down to balance the budget)
- e) Continue with Nutrition and Food Assistance (at the current funding allotment)

Announcements

Chair McCormick asked Magdalena Garcia, Community Outreach Liaison, to make an announcement. Ms. Garcia followed up on recruitment for champions and outreach with the Regional Council.

Regional Council Member Torres announced that the Cocopah Head Start would have a federal review upcoming on December 5 thru December 10, 2010.

Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2010, at 3:00p.m., at the Cocopah Housing and Development Office, located at 10488 Steamboat Street, Somerton, AZ 85350.

Chair McCormick adjourned the meeting at 4:24p.m.

Marie Megui, Administrative Assistant III

H. Jill McCormick, Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council Chair

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