



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 March 5, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. at the Cocopah Community Center, 14251 S. Centre Avenue, Somerton, AZ.

Chair McCormick called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Members Present:

Chair H. Jill McCormick
Vice Chair Rev. Deal Begay
Council Member Christie Stevens
Council Member Dr. Michael Reed
Council Member Cristina Solorzano
Council Member Elizabeth Renaud
Council Member Ines Pampara (joined at approximately 3:25 p.m.)
Council Member Paul Soto

Members Absent:

Council Member Gina Nierenhausen
Council Member Patricia R. Weissenberg

Approval of February 5, 2014 Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

Member Soto moved to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2014, Regional Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Reed, and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Presentation by Campesinos Sin Fronteras on Familia Primero/Family First Program

An informational presentation was provided by Campesinos Sin Fronteras Promotora, Alma Gomez. Ms. Gomez stated the program is designed to enhance parent and child relationships in the 3-18 year old age group. A certificate is provided to participants attending the 10 week training.

Discussion on Regional Benchmarking

Regional Director Roselia V. Ramirez and Sr. Regional Director Gary P. Arnold engaged the Regional Council on a discussion in reference to the Regional Benchmarks and School Readiness Indicators. Areas of discussion included purpose of the benchmarks/school readiness indicators, background, using indicators and benchmarks to measure progress, tracking and using benchmarks for planning and guiding First Things First work at state and regional level. The regional council will consider a benchmark for Indicator #2 at the April meeting.

Discussion on FY2014 Grantee Financial Data and Narrative Report

The Regional Council reviewed the FY 2014 Financial Expenditure Report and Quarter 2 Data Report. The report included an update on the Food Bank Vouchers. It was the consensus of the Regional Council that a special meeting (date to be determined) be held with Yuma Community Food Bank to discuss distribution of the vouchers to the Cocopah Community.

Update on Early Steps Program

Early Steps Specialist Lupi Rojas provided a brief update on the Early Steps Program. The update included up to date activities, events and trainings attended by Ms. Rojas as well as the goals and plans for participants of the Early Steps Program.

Regional Director's Report

- a) 2014 Needs and Assets Update – First draft of the report will be available on April 10, 2014.
- b) Regional Council & State Board Regional Forum –May 29, 2014, 11am-1:00pm, Location To Be Determined.
- c) Renewal Process Timeline – Early Steps Program up for renewal consideration. Renewal packet mailed March 6, 2014 and is due to First Things First for Regional and Finance review on April 1, 2014. May 16, 2014 final date for renewal decisions by the Regional Council. The State Board will review Regional Council Recommendations June 9-10, 2014
- d) Cocopah Head Start Site Tour – A site tour is planned at the Cocopah Head Start date and time to be determined. Confirmation pending by Cocopah Head Start.
- e) Update on Early Steps Program Assistant Job Description – will get clarification from the Cocopah Tribal Administrator on advertising of the job posting. The projected start is July 1, 2014,
- f) Parent Survey Update – Ongoing efforts continue to engage parents/families to provide feedback via the survey.
- g) Council Seat Interview Nominating Committee – Chair Jill McCormick, Vice Chair Deal Begay and Dr. Reed volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee for Council Membership Interviews. Interview dates and times to be determined.
- h) Read on Arizona – Ongoing recruitment efforts to recruit tribal communities to be part of the Read on Community. The Regional Council reviewed the informational literature on Read on Arizona which included the process or steps needed to take to become a Read on Community.

Announcements

There were no announcements at this time.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will occur on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, 3:00 p.m., location to be determined.

Adjournment

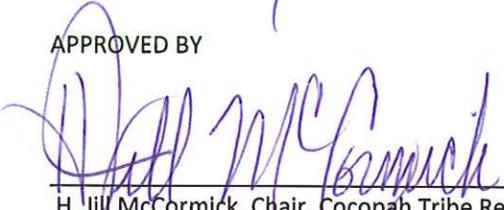
Chair McCormick adjourned the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:



Marie Megui, Administrative Assistant III

APPROVED BY



H. Jill McCormick, Chair, Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council

April 1, 2014