



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 April 1, 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 3:09 p.m.

Members Present:

Chair H. Jill McCormick
Council Member Dr. Michael Reed
Council Member Christie Stevens
Council Member Cristina Solorzano
Council Member Patricia R. Weissenberg
Council Member Ines Pampara
Council Member Paul Soto

Members Absent:

Vice Chair Rev. Deal Begay
Council Member Elizabeth Renaud
Council Member Gina Nierenhausen

Approval of March 5, 2014 Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

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

Discussion on Regional Benchmarking: Indicator 2

Dr. Amy Kemp, Evaluation Consultant, provided an overview and discussion on the Regional Benchmarks at Statewide Level as well as the Benchmarks/School Readiness Indicators prioritized by the Regional Council for the Cocopah Community. The discussion focused primarily on Indicator 2: Number/Percentage of children enrolled in an early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars.

Member Weissenberg moved to accept the following benchmark: In the Cocopah Region, 100% (20) children will be enrolled in an early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 Stars. Seconded by Dr. Reed, and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Presentation on Read on Yuma

Diana Maldonado, Literacy Director United Way of Yuma County, shared information on the "Read on Yuma" program. History, activities, funding, evaluation and collaboration/partnerships with various agencies were topics of information provided by Ms. Maldonado.

Update on Early Steps Program

A copy of the Early Steps Program report was provided to the Regional Council.

Regional Director's Report

- a) Regional Council & State Regional Forum: May 29, 2014, 11am-1pm, Cocopah Community Center
- b) 2014 Needs and Assets Update: A first draft of the Needs and Assets Report will be available to Regional Council for review approximately on April 10, 2014. The Regional Council was provided with the Monthly Progress Report submitted by the vendor.
- c) Grants Renewal Process: up for renewal consideration at the May 7, 2014 Regional Council meeting is the Yuma Community Food Bank & the Early Steps Program. Renewal packets are due to First Things First on April 1, 2014.
- d) Cocopah Head Start Site Tour: Tentative
- e) Council Seat Update: Council Membership interviews scheduled for April 8, 2014.
- f) Financial Update: Items included in the report were total monies allotted and awarded as well as the year to date expenses of the First Things First programs funded in the Cocopah region.

A brief review of the proposed State Board fiscal policies was shared by Regional Director Ramirez. It was stated that tobacco revenue had declined by 23% over the past five years. The proposal is that each region's allocation be adjusted such that the region's carry forward is part of the allocation not in addition to it. This recommendation will be presented to the Program committee then and forwarded for consideration by the State Board at the June 2014 meeting.

Announcements

Member Cristina Solorzano new job title Family Development Specialist.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will occur on Wednesday, May 7, 2014, 3:00 p.m., Cocopah Community, 14251 S. Centre Avenue, Somerton, AZ.

Adjournment

Chair McCormick adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:



Marie Megui, Administrative Assistant III

APPROVED BY



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

May 7, 2014