



City of Madison

Meeting Minutes

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION BOARD

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

8:35 AM

Madison Municipal Building, Room 260

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:49 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: Heidi Lauhon, Joanne E. Brown, Andrea J. Dearlove, Patricia A. Lasky, Erica M. Laughlin and Christine E. Lidbury

Absent: Ald. Brian Benford, Kathy B. Raschke, Joan L. Ershler and Richard C. Schultz

III. Public Comment

*George Hagenaeur - Community Coordinated Child Care
George gets an entire benefit plan from providers. He reported that over the years, the benefit structures have been moving toward flexibility. There are few programs in Dane County that have less than 9 sick days. The majority have accumulated hours or days that can be used for vacation, sick time or personal time. There are an average of 12-15 days. Since the definition in the proposed ordinance allows for flexible time, then most childcare centers won't have problems.*

IV. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 28, 2005

Motion by Christine Lidbury to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 28, 2005, seconded by Erica Laughlin. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Welcome to and Introduction of New Member, Joan Ershler

Joan Ershler was not able to attend this meeting. She plans to be at the meeting next month.

VI. Board Member Training

The City provides training for members of boards, committees and commissions. Trainings are Monday, November 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Alicia Ashman Library and Wednesday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Warner Park. Board members are invited, but not required to attend.

VII.

Creating Section 3.57 entitled "Mandatory Minimum Sick Leave" of the Madison General Ordinances to require employers in the City of Madison to provide sick leave benefits to employees.

This ordinance was referred to the Early Childhood Care and Education Board to evaluate its effects on child care centers. Dorothy suggested surveying programs that may be affected. George offered to do a more detailed analysis of the City of Madison centers. Dorothy suggested sending out the information on E-News and asking for feedback through that forum as well as notifying them about the Equal Opportunities Commission Hearing. Lorna suggested that we include other nonprofit agencies that may be affected, as well.

The Board will review the information George compiles and the responses from E-News. This item will be referred to the November meeting.

Refer For Public Hearing to the EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION BOARD

VIII. Budget Update

Child Care Assistance and Purchase of Service funding were restored to the 2005 level. Staff made a presentation to the Board of Estimates on October 17. Dorothy discussed the fee for child care accreditation. The fee was included in our budget, but not the staff position. Dorothy expressed her concern. The fee provides different percentages for centers serving 25% low income children. School age programs are at a lower rate. The fee structure could generate approximately \$20,000. Brian Benford sponsored an amendment to the Board of Estimates to put the staff position back into our budget. Some centers may end up passing this fee along to parents. The Board should establish criteria for appealing the fee. Board should also report back to the Mayor about the fee structure after it goes into effect. The reduction in CCCI money will dilute our ability to help centers buy items to meet our standards.

Board members would like to see a way to shift the burden of extra fees from the centers/parents who can't afford it, to those who can. The Board discussed the idea of setting up a "friends of" organization that would help pay the fees.

Centers should receive a decal to display at their center.

The Mayor wants to examine efficiencies in provision of service, so he asked the Office of Community Services to look at City funded after school programs and senior programs to see if any services are being duplicated. A committee, including Richard Berling and Joanne will be examining this issue. There will also be a representative from the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee. Pat Lasky will serve on this committee, as well.

IX. Mayor Coming to Community Services Meeting on November 9

Board members are invited to attend the Community Services Commission meeting on November 9 at 5:35 p.m. in Room 300. The Mayor will be attending. The Board will be getting feedback from the Mayor about the funding process and asking other questions they may have.

X. Funding Priorities

The current goals and priorities were adopted two years ago. During this funding cycle, the Board found that the priorities did not reflect what they wanted to fund. Any changes to the priorities need to be made by March. The Board will hear feedback about the priorities at the public forum in November.

XI. November Forum

1. *Fee Structure for Accreditation*
2. *Priorities*
3. *Sick Leave Ordinance*

The forum will be Wednesday, November 16 at 8:35 a.m. in Room 260. The notice will go out to all center and agency directors. Immediately following the forum, there will be a subcommittee meeting consisting of Joanne, Pat and Christine to report on the Sick Leave Ordinance.

XII. Announcements

Andrea works with the organization called Imagine a Child's Capacity. They are hosting a fundraising event on December 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Orpheum Theatre.

The Child Care Tuition Assistance position was offered to Varinia del Moral. She has accepted and will be starting on November 7.

Daithi and a subcommittee of Dane County United met with the Mayor recently to discuss accreditation. There is a press conference scheduled at 1:30 p.m. at MATC Downtown Child Care Center to highlight childcare accreditation.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Andrea Dearlove to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Heidi Lauhon. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.