



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
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## Meeting Minutes - Approved EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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Thursday, February 8, 2018

2:30 PM

30 W. Mifflin St.  
10th Floor  
Room 1000B

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 8 - Denise DeMarb; Christine Coke; Kate Toews; Mykenzie L. Lemberger; Senay Goitom; Lana Nenide; Nancy K. Brien and Dipesh Navsaria

**Others present:** Coral Manning, Rommel Tijerino, Terri Strong, Lisa Strub, Deb Diaz, Jim O'Keefe, Christie Voigt.

Brien called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Goitom, seconded by Lemberger to approve the November 27, 2017 minutes. Motion passed by voice vote.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

No additional disclosures.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. [50356](#) Update on the Subcommittee for Family Child Care Support

Brien gave an update on the work of the Family Child Care Support Subcommittee. The subcommittee has two more meetings scheduled and more may be added.

2. [50418](#) Quarterly Child Care Assistance Data Report

**Attachments:** [CCA Quarterly Report](#)  
[CCA Report 2017](#)

Tijerino discussed the trends in the child care assistance program over the past few months. The committee reviewed the 2017 data report. Fewer children were served in the program at the end of 2017 due to eligibility review of those in the program and on the waiting list. Many families no longer on the City program are eligible for WI Shares and are receiving child care assistance through Dane County. The City does not track data on the location in which

children receive child care once the family is no longer on the program.

3. [50357](#) Consideration of the La Petite Academy Monona application for accreditation

**Attachments:** [LPA Monona Memo](#)  
[La Petite Brochure](#)

Manning discussed La Petite Academy Monona's request to apply for City accreditation. This La Petite Academy is located just over the border in Monona, but serves many Madison families. The center had attempted accreditation three times from 2002-2015, but stopped the process due to license issues in June 2015. At that time, Monica host notified them that they could reapply in the future. Jenny Rowe and Kim Busch were present from La Petite to provide information. Currently, 68 children are enrolled with 45 having Madison addresses. Rowe and Busch are familiar with the Madison Accreditation standards and are committed to incorporate those within the center even if the accreditation application is not accepted.

Motion by Navsaria, seconded by Toews to accept the accreditation application from La Petite Academy Monona. Motion passed by voice vote.

4. [50358](#) Overview of Current Child Care Assistance Eligibility Guidelines

**Attachments:** [Fact Sheet](#)  
[Ordinance 3-12](#)

Tijerino reviewed the current eligibility guidelines. Families must live within the City of Madison for a minimum of six month and not be eligible for WI Shares. Families must also meet one of the following criteria: be employed or looking for work; or enrolled in school or a training program; or have special circumstances (e.g. domestic abuse, homelessness, etc.).

The City will pay up to a maximum rate for child care. Families will have to cover any child care costs beyond that rate which may be in addition to their family share. There are 12 billing cycles reviewed by each center and submitted based on attendance for that period.

5. [50359](#) Discussion of Options for Modification to Child Care Assistance Eligibility Guidelines

**Attachments:** [Option 1](#)  
[Option 2](#)  
[Option 3](#)  
[Option 4](#)  
[Budgetary Impact Sheet](#)

Manning discussed the options papers for potential updates to child care assistance eligibility.

The committee discussed proposed eligibility changes and potential effects for families and the program.

Option 1 - Six-month residency requirement  
No other city program requires a six-month residency prior to receiving services.

Motion by DeMarb, seconded by Navsaria to remove the 6-month residency requirement prior to application for child care assistance. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Option 2 – Training programs**

Broadening the definition of training will allow those participating in City or United Way funded trainings to utilize the child care assistance program.

Motion by Goitom, seconded by Navsaria to broaden the definition of training to include training programs that are supported by the City, United Way or other employment training programs deemed appropriate by the Early Care and Education Manager. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Option 3 – Elimination of the cost above family share**

Staff establish annual maximum rates for child care at each age level of children, above which the child care assistance program will not pay. The family share is calculated based on income and amount each family can afford to pay. The maximum City rate does not currently capture the cost of care at the higher-cost accredited centers. This means families currently must pay the family share and any amount above the maximum rates calculated. The elimination of the family responsibility for more than the family shares will allow low-income families the ability to remain in the child care assistance program and in quality accredited care.

Motion by Benzschawel, seconded by Goitom to modify policy to allow the City to pay for costs of care above the Family Share up to 150% of the City maximum payment rate. At now point would the City pay more than the actual cost of care. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Option 4 – Housing Expense Deduction**

Currently only health, dental and vision insurance, medical flex plan contributions and child support paid to another household can be deducted from a family's gross income. This option proposing allowing a deduction of any amount of rent paid that is over 30% of a family's gross income. Including the new housing deduction would assist families to remain eligible for the program that would have be over income otherwise.

Motion by Lemberger, seconded by Toews to allow families to deduct any housing expense greater than 30% of their gross income when determining their ability to pay for child care under the Tuition Assistance Program. Verification of rental agreement or mortgage documentation would be required if a family qualified for this deduction. Motion passed by voice vote.

6. [50360](#)

Recommendations for Ordinance Modification for Staff to Work With City Attorney's Office

Motion by Navsaria, seconded by Nenide for City staff to forward suggested changes from item 5 to the Attorney's Office to update the ordinance. Motion passed by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Toews, seconded by Nenide to adjourn the meeting at 3:53 pm.  
Motion passed by voice vote.