



MARIN COUNTY CHILD CARE COMMISSION

4th Annual Community Meeting on Child Care and Early Education

MEETING MINUTES

The Community Meeting was a regular meeting of the Marin County Child Care Commission was held on Wednesday, April 2nd, 2019 from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. at the Marin County Office of Education

1. Call to order

Roll Call

Commissioners present at roll call: Calica, Tomsy, Lau, Aldana, Fierro, Han, Andrade-Wolf, Grewe, Lombardi.

Commissioners absent at meeting: Barton, Sanchez, Negussie, Myers, Trahan.

Staff present: Ericka Erickson

Over 23 guests in attendance.

Welcome Remarks

County Supervisor Damon Connolly opened the meeting with welcome remarks emphasizing the importance of early education as a key component in making Marin a more equitable county. He also highlighted it as a two-generation approach to address inequities: it keeps parents working and kids learning.

2. Approval of/Revisions to Agenda and Minutes

2.1. M/s/c Tomsy/Andrade-Wolf, the matter passed 9-0 to approve and adopt the agenda as presented.

2.2. M/s/c Fierro/Aldana, the matter passed 7-0 to approve the minutes as presented.

3. Public (non-members) Comment on Non-Agendized Items

No comments shared

4. Commission Operations

4.1. Membership: M/s/c Tomsy/Andrade-Wolf, the matter passed 9-0 to recommend the appointment of Baldemar Ruppert as a Community Representative, Jordan James as a Provider Representative, and Daphne Cummings for a Discretionary seat.

4.2 Time of General Meetings: M/s/c Aldana/Fierro, the matter passed 9-0 to change the time of the meetings to Option 3 presented:
February: 3 to 5 pm | April: 6 to 8 pm | June: 3 to 5 pm | September: 4 to 8 pm | November: 6 to 8 pm

4.3 2019 Public Policy Platform: M/s/c Andrade-Wolf/Aldana, the matter passed 9-0 to approve the Platform as presented.

5. Child Care and Early Education Policy Updates

Carole Mills, Representative from State Senator Mike McGuire's Office, and, Samantha Hunt, Assemblymember Marc Levine's Office Representative, shared updates about state ECE in the state budget and legislation, including:

- Governor's Budget Proposal for FY 2019-2020 highlights - create a children saving account for all students entering kindergarten, \$500 million for facilities and professional development
- ECE bills

SB 499 (McGuire) – School meals: California-Grown for Healthy Kids Program

AB 6 (Reyes) – Early childhood education: Early Childhood Education Branch
AB 123, 124, and 125 (McCarty) – Pre-K for All Legislative Package
SB 26 (Caballero) – Personal income taxes: working families child care tax credit
SB 135 (Jackson) – Paid Family Leave
SB 234 (Skinner) – Family daycare homes

6. Creating the 2020-2025 Marin County Master Plan for Early Care and Education

Commissioner Tomsy, co-chair of the 2020-2025 Master Plan Ad-Hoc Committee, shared an overview of the 2020-2025 Master Plan Design process, including the connection with the 2018-2019 Needs Assessment and timeline. Slides used are enclosed as official part of the minutes.

7. Public Hearing: The State of Early Care and Education in Marin County

Participants were divided in two groups to discuss the 2018-2019 Needs Assessment key findings: Quality & Workforce and Access & Coordination (Key findings enclosed and considered official part of the minutes). The discussion was guided by two questions: 1) Why is this happening?. 2) What are potential solutions/strategies? Below are the notes from each group:

Quality & Workforce

Why is this happening?

- ✓ The cost of living is too high
- ✓ Teachers are not being offered medical benefits
- ✓ Education is expensive (not making a lot of money and not enough time)
- ✓ Parents do not understand what it means to be ready for kindergarten
- ✓ Kids can make \$20/hr making coffee without any education

What are potential solutions/strategies?

- ✓ Tax breaks for local businesses to help offset childcare costs
- ✓ Preschools could come together to be a buying group for benefits
- ✓ Offer TK throughout Marin (keep it developmental appropriate)
- ✓ Structural changes so ECE is under education, not Healthy & Human Services
- ✓ Need a long term coordinator to support ECE potential teachers to complete training
- ✓ Push to increase certificate (12 ECE units) attainment in community college (for stronger workforce)
- ✓ Unionize to bind together benefits
- ✓ Pre-K / K-12 Parity

Access & Coordination

Why is this happening?

- ✓ Not enough slots/spaces available for families of infants
- ✓ Cost of providing Infant and Toddler care

- ✓ High demand for services for children with special needs
- ✓ Disproportionate funding available to centers vs. family child care providers
- ✓ Lack of story/data about care provided by family, friends, and neighbors
What are potential solutions/strategies?
- ✓ Provide more finding to family child care homes to support general operations and professional development
- ✓ Count infants who are in license-exempt/informal child care (e.g. provided by family, friend or neighbor)
- ✓ More funding for existing Title 22 programs from state
- ✓ More funding to increase family eligibility

8. Member Announcements

Commissioner Andrade-Wolf shared information about SB 234 (Skinner) – Family daycare homes and asked commissioners to support the bill.

9. Adjourn

M/s/c Lombardi/Aldana; the matter passed 7-0 to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 P.M.

These draft minutes were approved by the Marin County Child Care Commission at their regular meeting held on Tuesday, May7th, 2019.