

NIH Child Care Board Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2008
Building 31 / 6C10

Members in Attendance: Valerie Durrant, Hillary Fitis, Susan Persons, Henry Primas, Heather Rogers, Lisa Strauss, Tracy Waldeck, Valerie Bonham, Angela Magliozzi, Kim Plascjak, Rachel Weinstein, Lynn Hudson, James Pickel, Conrad Farina for Robert McDonald, Mary Ellen Savarese, Tonya Lee

Members Absent: Jayne Lura-Brown, Christie Baxter-Espinoza

Center Liaisons Attending: POPI: Paulina Alvarado, ECDC: Anne Schmitz, Beth Levy, Child Kind: Amy Cliber

Guests: Joslyn Kravitz, Tammy McClure

- I. Welcome and Introductions** - Chair Durrant welcomed members and guests.
- II. Approval - Minutes for April** - Chair Durrant called for a vote to approve the minutes from the April 2008, meeting. Minutes were approved with one revision.
- III. Report from the Chair** - Chair Durrant asked Board members to review and approve proposed dates for Board Meetings FY 2008-2009. It was noted the Parenting Festival has been moved to April, the National Month of the Young Child.

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Tracy Waldeck for her many contributions during her membership on the NIH Child Care Board.

- IV. Membership Committee Report** – Kim Plascjak, Chair of the Membership Committee, reported there are three very strong candidates for the one position on the Board vacated by Tracy Waldeck. All three of the candidates are from IC's that are currently not represented on the Board. The Board Charter does not set a limit on maximum number of members. A vote was called and approved to expand the membership of the NIH Child Care Board if the Membership Committee wishes to recommend more than one candidate for appointment to membership.
- V. Child Care Board Recommendations and Priorities – for Annual Report** – Discussion began concerning coordinating the efforts of the Women in Biomedical Careers work group and the NIH Child Care Board. Chair Durrant has inquired about Board member participation and will continue that effort.

The Northwest Child Care Center remains a priority; however, there is no funding appropriated by Congress at this time.

There was also a discussion on using non-traditional ways to address the balance between work and family dilemma. Hillary Fitis mentioned the Clinical Center's efforts towards Fellows and their leave. After review of the Flexibility Act, new Fellow appointees beginning July 2008 will be able to use prior experience to increase amount of accrued leave per pay period from 4 hours to 6 hours.

Chair Durrant discussed what the Board could do to help NIH leadership make the connection between the larger issues of women remaining in science, the aging of NIH science investigators, the changes in attitude and goals of the young workforce and the issues of child care, flexible work places and other family supports.

Recommendations include: New space for child care facilities, existing Child Care programs to be fully funded to support current services; support and maximize leave, leave banks, telework, job sharing, and part-time work schedules; and have the NIH Child Care Board represented on any workgroups/committees where issues concerning the family/work balance are involved.

Priorities will be divided in to two sections: issues for the NIH leadership and issues for NIH employees. The Board will create these priorities at the September Board meeting and set the work plan for the year at that time.

Annual Report Committee – Members include: Valerie Durrant and Heather Rogers. Susan Persons, Rachel Weinstein, Jim Pickel, and Joslyn Kravitz volunteered to assist with editing and proofing.

VI. Reports and Updates –

- 2008 Parenting Festival on May 7th - 300 to 325 participants/exhibitors, thank you to Hillary for putting up posters in the parking garage of the Clinical Center, Susan for having Dr. Kington send out the global email, and to Hank who received the “You Light Up My Life” award for all the work he did to make the event a huge success.
- Lunch & Learn Parenting Seminars – As of June 2, 2008, the webcasting numbers are 155 for infants and toddler, 109 for preschool, and 72 for teen. Tonya Lee is still getting request for the information package for these seminars.
- Staff Training Day – May 9, 2008, NIH provided a six hour training day for the child care staff. There were over 100 participants. Rachel Weinstein attended and shared her experience.
- Communications Plan and Website – Tracy Waldeck reviewed the Communications Committee goal for the child care website and encouraged members to visit the website and see the improvements and enhancements. Tonya Lee stated that additional changes will be made and that she was working with Pam Jenkins and IT to have the changes in place by the end of June.
- Gateway Visitors Center – Mary Ellen Savarese reported the parents of POPI had three concerns: air quality, security, and traffic. NIH is addressing each of the concerns. Air quality concerns are being addressed by reversing the exhaust fans so air will be pulled in to the garage rather than blow air out. Security concerns are being addressed by putting up additional barriers. Traffic concerns are being addressed by reconfiguring the driveway and parking lot in front of POPI.

VII. Announcements - Adjourn

Mary Ellen Savarese presented the “Golden Star Award” for perfect attendance at Board meetings to Susan Persons and Paulina Alvarado. Mary Ellen also presented the “Shooting for the Star Award” to nine members who missed only one meeting.

Mary Ellen reminded Board members that they would be required to vote on two things over the summer: the new member(s) recommended by the Membership Committee and the final Annual Report.

VIII. Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

The next meeting will be September 11, 2008