

NIH CHILD CARE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 9, 2005

Building 45 – Natcher Conference Center G1-2

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Janet Austin, Valerie Durrant, Deborah Fountain, Alisa Green, Jayne Lura-Brown, Angela Magliozzi, Barbara Murphy, Kim Plascjak, Henry Primas, Lisa Strauss, Mary Ellen Savarese

Members Absent: none

Liaisons in Attendance:

POPI: Paulina Alvarado, Patricia Blessing

ECDC: Anne Schmitz, Beth Levy

Childkind: Jaydah Wilson

OGC: Valerie Hurt

Board Staff: Joy Postell

Guest: Stephanie Kreider

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Janet Austin began the meeting by welcoming members, liaisons and guests.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** Members approved the April 2005 minutes, with edits.
- III. **Committee Reports:**

Legislative Committee: Angie, Jayne and Lisa met with Mary Ellen to review the Tribble amendment and the history of previous amendments. Because the NIH Child Care Board does not have the mandate and authority to discuss legislative issues beyond the NIH, this issue will need further discussion with an NIH legislative staff person. This will become a formal recommendation in the Annual Board Report.

All Day Staff Training: Mary Ellen spoke about the successful all day staff training for NIH Child Care professionals. The morning started with a strong keynote address, followed by morning and afternoon workshops. Certificates for completion were later awarded for continuing professional development training for all 90 participating staff.

Playground renovation: Mary Ellen spoke about the progress being made on the infant and preschool playground renovation sponsored by GSA for the Executive Child Development Center. This renovation was designed to enhance and enrich the outdoor environment and add new security features for the children of NIH employees attending the Center.

Rock Spring Park Child Care Center: Mary Ellen reported that the Rock Spring project is still under consideration by ORS. The ORS Advisory Committee is very interested in the project and ORS is currently exploring additional funding options.

Child Care Subsidy Pilot: Janet announced that the subsidy launch yielded 18 approved applications serving 15 families in the first month. Due in part to the comprehensive web information, listserv and

news article publications, the application packages are complete, resulting in a quick turn around time. However, the recent decision from the Office of Personnel Management and the Office of the General Counsel ruling Title 42 employees ineligible for the subsidy pilot program should be added to all subsidy correspondence for clarity. Although the launch of this program is a great reward to the Board's hard work, Janet asked the Board to avoid becoming complacent in their accomplishments. In order to move the pilot program to a permanent program with long term adequate funding will require much diligence since NIH is looking very closely at budgets.

Membership Committee: Small tokens of appreciation were presented to departing members Barbara Murphy, Sue Koester and Alisa Green. Henry Primas reported that there are four Board vacancies to be filled for the 2005-2006 term. Applications were coming in steadily. The Board continues to seek, promote and appoint diversity.

Parenting Festival Committee: Alisa Green reported that approximately 300 employees attended the events spaced over three days in May 2005. This was lower attendance than 2004. The format change may have been a factor in the drop in participation from exhibitors and employees. She proposed returning to the one day event with an increase in marketing and the return of shuttle bus service to the event. She challenged the Board to get back to the core meaning of the service but freshen up the event to make it new and different.

Annual Board Report: Debbie Fountain presented a draft of the Annual Report and the Board discussed recommendations and format. With some minor changes, the Board approved two recommendations. Regarding format, it was suggested that the 2004-2005 Board Report be short and concise, eliminating all of the repetitious background information from year to year. This report should start with a collage of pictures of the children served in the NIH child care centers, followed by a transmittal letter to Dr. Zerhouni, Board accomplishments, challenges and recommendations.

The Board also reviewed, revised and approved a list of Board Priorities for 2005-2006 which will be included in the annual report. A final draft of the report will be sent to all Board members for review and comment in late June. The target date for completion and transmittal to Dr. Zerhouni is mid July.

IV. Announcements:

Certificates for perfect attendance were presented.

IV. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

The new Board year will begin on Thursday, September 22, 2005

Prepared by: Joy Postell 7/27/05