

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Children's Needs Task Force**

Thursday, April 23, 2009 4:00 PM
Huntington Beach Civic Center
2000 Main Street, Room B-8
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Chair Dettloff called the meeting to order at 4:025 PM.

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Robert Dettloff, Jim Hayden; Whitney Loo, Jeannette Price, Stephanie Smallshaw, Audrey Taylor, Molly Thompson

Members Absent: Broc Coward (excused)

Staff: Janeen Laudenback; Mary Loadsman

II. Public Comments: None.

III. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of February 26, 2009 meeting. March 2009 meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum.

MOTION: Moved by Thompson, seconded by Price, that the minutes of February 26, 2009 be approved.

Ayes: Dettloff, Hayden, Loo, Price, Smallshaw, Taylor, Thompson

Absent: Coward

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Presentations: Kim Goll, Director of Program Operations and Kelly Pijl, Assistant Executive Director, from the Children & Families Commission of Orange County presented an overview of the commission and relayed specific information about funding provided to the City of Huntington Beach. They explained that the commission oversees the distribution of funds raised from Prop 10 and that Orange County (OC) is second to Los Angeles in allocated fund distribution of nearly 55 million in OC for the year 2009. Goll explained that in some years the Inland Empire or San Diego may surpass Orange County for fund allocation. Pijl detailed some of the programs serving HB including Health and Early Education Programs, Community Care, Ready to Learn, The Boys & Girls Club, Strong Families, Shelter & Support Services, Public Health Nurses and Healthy Smiles, noting nearly \$1M in direct funds allocated to programs serving Huntington Beach.

V. Focus Group Updates:

Hayden noted that Michelle Berelowitz from the Conditions of Children in Orange County attended the meeting in March and provided guidance on how Focus

Group 1 could approach the task of creating a State of the Children in HB utilizing the county report. He explained that Broc Coward had asked specific questions on how to obtain detail from the report and noted that Page 53 - Special Needs of the 14th Annual Report was a great example of how comprehensive yet simple the information is to understand. He added that between the information for Special Needs and the information on Page 63 – Mental Health Services (Children), the information directly relates for concerns of Focus Group 3. Hayden is looking forward to working with the contacts Berelowitz recommended to aid both Focus Group 1 and 3 in their efforts.

Focus Group 2 – Dettloff reported that Jim Hayden, Stephanie Smallshaw, Whitney Loo and Audrey Taylor met and reviewed the sixty-six applications for the Youth Character Award and unanimously recommend 18 candidates as Honoree's for 2009. Dettloff also noted the Focus Group has agreed that the application should clarify that individuals are eligible and not groups. He noted that the following clarification be added to the application: "Only individual nominations will be accepted. Group nominations are not eligible". Staff will update the application accordingly.

Motion:

Moved by Hayden, seconded by Thompson, to accept the recommendation of the 18 candidates to receive the Youth Character Award for 2009.

Motion passed unanimously.

Dettloff asked staff to follow up with Tim Nolan at the Boys & Girls Club to see if any of their nominee's needed assistance in getting to the recognition ceremony at Bella Terra. Laundenback confirmed she would make contact.

Focus Group #3 – No report.

Focus Group #4 – Thompson noted that she is continuing her research on the HB schools Health & Nutrition policies while refining the "Best Practices" survey she is hoping to bring to the students. Price offered to help Thompson with school contact information and Laundenback recommended starting with the school board and district offices to learn what the requirements are for posting or distributing information. Dettloff also had concerns with contacting students directly and recommended getting "buy-in" on the top level before approaching individual schools or students. Laundenback said it was important that Thompson keep in communication so staff could notify the City Council Liaisons in advance.

VI. New Business:

Youth Character Award Program Fund Status – Laudenback noted that The Robert Mayer Corp. provided \$2,000 towards a bronze plaque, the 4th of July fee's and honoree medals for this year. There were an additional \$335 dollars also received from the former Honoree's that will help support the program. She noted that two more sponsors were needed for the plaques and asked if anyone needed additional copies of the sponsor letter.

Youth Character Recognition Program – Laudenback noted the event was set for May 16th and that Bella Terra had cancelled the Community Services Day that was scheduled to take place after the recognition ceremony. She said the YCA program would still be happening as planned and that CNTF members should arrive around 9:00 a.m. to help set-up and check in the students. She confirmed that Dettloff would MC the ceremonies.

Laudenback added that the Honoree's would be honored at City Council on June 1st and ride in the 4th of July parade.

VII. Information Items: Dettloff noted that Council re-dedicated the Policy About Children and Young Adults to protect youth from potential danger such as internet predators. He also added that CNTF student representative applications were made available during Youth In Government Day.

VIII. MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Taylor asked to receive the information on the next Ethics Training. Staff will forward the July training date information.

Staff reminded the returning student-reps to put the request in writing via email.

IX. Adjournment: There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.