



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Children's Needs Task Force

Thursday, May 24, 2007 4:00 PM
Huntington Beach Civic Center
2000 Main Street, Room B-8
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Chair Carey called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Alison Baskin; Adam Buttons; Shirley Carey; Ian Collins; Robert Dettloff; Tanya Hoxie; Phyllis Lembke; Cathy McGough; Stephanie Morely, Nicolette Schlinder

Members Absent: Susan Davidson (excused); Robert Hart (excused); Carol Kanode (excused)

Staff: Janeen Laudenback; Mary Loadsman

II. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of April 26, 2007

MOTION: Moved by Collins, seconded by Dettloff, that the minutes of the April 26, 2007 meeting be approved.

AYES: Baskin, Buttons, Carey, Collins, Dettloff, Lembke, McGough, Morely, Schlinder

ABSENT: Davidson, Hart, Kanode

ABSTAIN: Hoxie, Lembke, Guidotti

Motion passed.

III. Introductions and Opening Comments: Carey commented she had just returned from the City Facility Tour and immediately deferred to the Focus Group1 update.

IV. Public Comments: No comments.

V. Presentations: No presentations.

VI. 2007 CNTF Focus Group Updates:

Focus Group I: Advisory/Policy/Local Government Issue – Carey remarked how wonderful it was to tour the facilities and meet with the agencies that serve the children of Huntington Beach. She mentioned that at one of the stops was the Boys & Girls Club on Delaware Street, however, they were not able to tour the Family Resource Center. Carey commented how impressed she was with the Oakview Library and in particular, the success of the homework club. Lembke provided comment on the tour, noting that she was surprised to learn that there was youth group camping available at Central Park off of Gothard, near Shipley Nature Center. Carey and Lembke both commented on how much they appreciated touring the Youth Shelter and other amenities at Central Park and shared that Disc Golf is available for free to children under 16. They discussed where the new Senior Center would be located and the amenities of Shipley Nature Center and the Therapeutic Riding Center. Carey noted that it would be beneficial for the new CNTF members tour the various facilities and amenities the community supports to benefit its youth. The members all commented on the various ways in which the community supports programs to benefit its youth. Guidotti expressed appreciation to Boeing employees for their participation in the chess club tournaments, sponsored through Central Library.

Focus Group II: Support Families and Promote Independence – no report.

Focus Group III: Children Recognized and Valued – Guidotti thanked Collins for his contribution as the Master of Ceremony service at the Youth Character Award (YCA) recognition ceremony at Pier Plaza. She noted that only two representatives from the CNTF attended and that ten representatives did not. Guidotti commented that the ceremony only takes one hour and that is not much time to ask of the members to participate. She pointed out that it is nice for the children.

Carey confirmed she would be attending the City Council YCA certificate presentation scheduled for the June 4, 2007 council meeting. Laudenback confirmed staff would contact YCA Inductee's to determine how many would be attending the City Council award presentation scheduled for June 4, 2007.

Discussion ensued on how to generate more involvement from the schools, agencies and youth groups to gain greater participation in the YCA program. Collins volunteers to go to the schools and meet with senior staff in an effort to get staff to assign an individual to spearhead the program.

Laudenback noted staff would send thank you letters to the Three and Three Quarter Quartet thanking them for their participation, and to the Duck-A-Thon for their support.

Collins provided an update on YCA Nomination grading / evaluation meeting and thanked Bob, Carole, Pat, Nicolette and Allison for their participation. He noted that the group agreed on the following four items and asked those who participated to make comments on each topic:

- The nominations must be by an adult but not an immediate family member

Collins noted the group mutually agreed that this be part of the criteria. Schindler commented the group agreed that nominations should be by an adult that has an unbiased opinion.

- The time frame for the acts of good character should be in the past year

Baskins noted that sometimes when a child is younger, that they will “do what they are told” and that as they grow older, the acts of good character are a more conscious choice. Group discussion ensued with some members agreeing and other’s pointing out that a collection of actions, or “good deeds” should also be considered.

- The Nominees should be Third Grade through High School

Guidotti noted that children are more likely to be aware of actions involving “good character” at this age versus the kindergarten through second grade age level.

- Given that the nominee possesses the characteristics of good character, they should demonstrate an individual strength of character or deeds.

Collins stated they were looking to promote those children who have done “something extra” and not just the typical organized youth activities.

Carey asked if the group was ready to move to accept the recommendations for nominations as presented by Collins. Additional discussion included limiting the number of youth awards per year, individuals who are nominated each year and multiple award issues. Laudenback will add this to the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

Focus Group IV: Safety for Children and Families –

Focus Group V: Student Representative Issues – Collins reported that Toastmasters will be at Dwyer School in the fall of 2007 and that the group would look to expand the program to other schools.

VII. **Staff Report:** Laudenback reported that thanks to Shirley Carey, donations for the wall of fame were starting to come in. She said she would send thank you letters on behalf of the CNTF group to all donors.

VIII. **Unfinished Business:** None.

IX. **New Business:** Carey requested that each focus group provide a list of accomplishments for the year to share with group for next year.

Collins offered to host the Christmas party at his home and asked that the outgoing student reps be invited if the group had no objection.

Lembke noted that detectives had been investigating pedophiles at the Starlight Motel and commented that there are locations within the city housing pedophiles that are not in compliance. She updated the group on the details of Jessica's law stating that not more than two persons could be housed within the same location and that the police department was working diligently to keep the community safe. Lembke informed the group that she had wrote a letter to the Chief of Police thanking them for their efforts and that she will keep the group updated on any new information as it is learned.

X. **Items to agendaize for the next meeting:**

- Review grading criteria for Youth Character Awards.
- Review of CNTF name.

XI. **Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

The next Children's Needs Task Force meeting is scheduled for:

***4:00 PM Thursday, August 23rd, 2007
2000 Main Street (lower level City Hall) in Room B-8.***