

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

Thursday, February 28, 2008 4:00 PM
Huntington Beach Civic Center
2000 Main Street, Room B-8
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Chair Collins called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Alison Baskin; Adam Buttons, Ian Collins; Broc Coward, Robert Dettloff; Robert Hart, Phyllis Lembke; Erica Salisbury, Nicolette Schindler, Kecia Van Mechelen

Members Absent: Stan Cohen, Pat Guidotti, Cathy McGough

Staff: Janeen Laudenback; Mary Loadsman

- II. Presentations:** Mary-Pat Gonzalez and Nanci Williams, City of Huntington Beach Library Services, presented the concept for expansion of the Banning Branch Library in Eader Park. The library expansion is intended to serve residents in south Huntington Beach and would include meeting rooms, a café, internet service, and traditional library amenities. Williams introduced the Library Board Chair, Richard Moore to answer member questions. She noted the project is unfunded and library staff would seek financial support from Council and the community to continue development.

- III. Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of January 24, 2008.

MOTION: Moved by Hart, seconded by Baskin, that the minutes of January 24, 2008 be approved.

Ayes: Baskin, Collins, Dettloff, Hart, Lembke, Salisbury

Abstain: Buttons, Coward, Schindler, Van Mechelen

Absent: Cohen, Guidotti, McGough

Motion passed unanimously.

- IV. Public Comments:** No comments.

V. Discussion Items:

Focus Group #1 (FG1) – Coward reported the group was making progress on preparing the State of the Children Report for Huntington Beach. He noted the group had set goals, completed research, and determined the format for the report noting the outline would include; health, economic, educational achievement, program participation at the local level and safe homes comments. The group also discussed the idea of transportation and mobility. Coward responded that subtopics would be included under the outlined topics. He mentioned statistics had been gathered from several resources and that through evaluation of the material felt that the group may be ready to present a rough draft to the task force and the next meeting. The goal would be to present the information to the members to evaluate whether the needs had been properly identified and to continue to develop ideas for presenting the information to City Council.

Lembke added the focus group discussed presenting information on a printed pamphlet to help raise awareness and disseminate information to the community.

Coward added the intent of presenting the State of Children in Huntington Beach Report to council may assist in obtaining funding or grants for children's needs.

Focus Group #2 (FG2) Update – No report.

Focus Group #3 (FG3) Update – FG 3 met and reviewed the modifications for the nomination letter, Youth Character Award application and timeline for 2008. Chair Collins asked to sign the nomination letters planned for mailing the week of March 3, 2008. Focus Group members will continue to support the activities as outlined in the revised timeline.

Focus Group #4 (FG4) Update – Baskin presented that the group had no emergency issues to address. She noted there was nothing out of the ordinary needing special attention that wasn't already being investigated. She advised that the traffic issues had been addressed, that check-points had been in place for the homecoming events at the high schools and that most of the issues from a student standpoint were being regularly addressed. She mentioned that Focus Group 4 would meet and bring forward any items of importance as the opportunity presented itself.

Chair Collins mentioned the group would brainstorm on what to work on when the student representatives bring forward issues, stating the group would provide verbal contribution at that time. He mentioned discussion amongst the group the new cell phone laws for youths.

VII. Unfinished Business:

- Status of 2008 Focus Group Goals and Action Plans – Collins noted that a more feasible approach would be for the focus groups to meet and compile a two year action plan vs. one year. Focus Group 1 has completed their plan and Focus Group 4 would provide verbal input for issues as they presented themselves. Focus Group 2 will wait for Focus Group 1 findings and supports the pamphlet approach for dissemination of resources. Focus Group 3 timeline is in place with ongoing activities. Item is closed.
- Conditions of Children in OC “Quick Guide” – Staff distributed copies of the “Quick Guide” to those in attendance. Item is closed.
- YCA Bronze Plaque Sponsors – Staff provided copies of sponsor letters to members to help facilities funding the 2007 and 2008 bronze plaques.
- The next Mayors Roundtable meeting is schedule for Wednesday, April 9, 2008 – 4:00 p.m. in Room B-8 lower level of City Hall.

VIII. MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Laudenback update the CNTF on the impending loss of the Huntington Beach High School Skate Park and subsequent alternatives the city is pursuing. She noted she will keep members updated with any progress.

Collins reported that as a volunteer coach for Toastmasters, that Westminster had won the Orange County decathlon and would represent the OC in Sacramento for the state finals. He also reported the governor is looking to rescind Prop 98 and that he will participate in a lobby effort set for April and keep members informed.

IX. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

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

March 27, 2008
4:00PM – 5:30PM
2000 Main Street (lower level City Hall) in Room B-8.