

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

Thursday, December 17, 2009 4:00 PM
Junior Lifeguard Headquarters
21073 Pacific Coast Highway
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Chair Coward called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM.

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Craig Bartlett; Ian Collins; Broc Coward, Robert Dettloff, Jacob Evan; Jim Hayden, Amy Le, Marlene Mclroy, Jeannette Price, Stephanie Smallshaw

Members Absent: None

Staff: Janeen Laudenback; Mary Loadsman

II. Public Comments:

III. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of October 22, 2009 meeting

MOTION: Moved by Dettloff, seconded by Collins, approve the minutes of October 22, 2009 as presented.

Ayes: Bartlett, Collins, Coward, Dettloff, Evan, Hayden, Le, Price, Smallshaw

Abstain: Mclroy

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Presentations: Chair Coward thanked Dave Simcox, Program Coordinator for the Junior Lifeguard Program for hosting the meeting and holiday social. He welcomed new member Marlene Mclroy and asked everyone to introduce themselves; say a few words on who they are and what interest they have in the CNTF. He explained that Simcox would present an overview of the Junior Lifeguard Program after the immediate order of business.

V. Focus Groups :

Focus Group 1 - Advisory/Policy/Local Government Issues: Coward presented a State of the Youth and Families in Huntington Beach report sample with completed Table of Contents and Introduction sample. He reported on the different sections that each of the focus group members are working on and added that he had been in contact with Golden West College for assistance with a resource that could help compile the final report. He reported that the 15th Annual Report of Children in Orange County has been posted to the web and that the group would incorporate the new data into the report. Collins

commended the group on their efforts noting that the changing data was a challenging target.

Focus Group 2 – *Children Recognized and Valued*: Dettloff provided an overview of the Youth Character Award program explaining that each year approximately 60 to 70 nomination applications are received and 15 to 20 students are chosen to receive the award. He said the recognition ceremony takes place at Bella Terra Huntington Beach and that the “Wall of Fame” is located by the Century Theatres. The honorees are recognized at the first City Council meeting in June and honorees are invited to participate in the 4th of July Parade.

Focus Group 3 – *Child Welfare/Domestic Violence Prevention/Families with Special Needs*: Hayden reported the purpose of the focus group is to help support those families who are victims of domestic violence, or parents of children with special needs, obtain information about the programs and support services that are available.

Proposed – Focus Group 4 – Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Drive. Laudenback reported that the focus group met and developed a recommended distribution list for those groups who had been nominated as Barnes & Noble Book Drive recipients. She added that nearly 1,000 books had been distributed to nine of the thirteen groups, and that everyone was welcomed to help sort the remaining books for distribution in January after the holiday break.

Motion:

Moved by Evan, seconded by McIlroy to approve the recommended distribution of the Barnes & Noble Holiday book drive books to the recipients as presented, allowing Focus Group #4 to make adjustments as needed, due to a variance in the number of books collected.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Presentation: Dave Simcox, Program Coordinator for the Junior Lifeguard Program prepared a slide show and overview of the program. He explained that he had been working part-time for the city since 1964 and that the program was in its 50th season. He said it was not like work, but more of a lifestyle. As a retired educator having taught high school for 34 years, as well as the long involvement in the Junior Guard Program, he relayed the great joy it is to be involved in such an important program and how many young people the program has benefited throughout the years. He explained the program follows a defined structure offering tools that young people are able to use throughout their life. He said that so many of the participants continue to come back to the program year after year, some eventually moving on to positions working in Marine Safety.

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