

Nevada Division of Public & Behavioral Health (DPBH)
Child Care Licensing Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Date: June 9, 2015
Time: 1:30 PM

Division of Public and Behavioral Health
727 Fairview Drive, Suite E
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Division of Public and Behavioral Health
4220 S. Maryland Parkway Suite 810
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Division Child and Family Services
1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 101
89801

Also available via teleconference
CALL IN NUMBER: 1-888-398-2342 Elko, Nevada
ACCESS CODE: 1530727

Committee Members Present

Carrie Paldi, Co-Chair, Creative Kids Learning Center (Las Vegas)
Sue Joyner, Dayton Valley Learning Center
Tiffany Alston, Sunrise Children's Foundation
Diane Nicolet, Co-Chair, E.L. Cord Child Care Center, TMCC (via phone)
Laurie Ciardullo, Roots and Wings (Las Vegas)
Rachel Perez, Kids Quest
Andrea Davis, Kids Kottage (Reno)
Christine Stern, YMCA

Committee Members Not Present

Austin Olson, Adolescent Treatment Center
Mary Rocha, Peas and Carrots (Carson City)

Child Care Licensing Staff Present

Latisha Brown, Child Care Program Manager (Las Vegas)
Anna Lisa Acosta, Supervisor (Carson City)
Tammy Hutchinson, Child Care Licensing (Carson City)
Rachel Netz, Surveyor (Elko)
Lisa Roberts, Surveyor (Carson City)

Elko Attendees:

None Present

Las Vegas Attendees:

Kelly MacFarland-Soloegui, Challenger School Foundation
Jared Busker, Children's Advocacy Alliance

Carson City Attendees:

Committee Members and Licensing staff only

Call to order 1:46p.m.

1. Approval of meeting minutes from March 17, 2015 meeting *Carrie Paldi, Co-Chairperson*

Motion: Carrie asks for a motion. Laurie says Abbie needs to be changed. Andrea Davis, next to KK it says LV and it needs to say Reno.

Christine puts forth a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections stated.

Laurie seconds motion

All in favor no opposed.

2. Update from Child Care Licensing. – *Latisha Brown, Child Care Program Manager*

a. Capacity Report

Current Capacity of children

35,145 Children

472 facilities total

116 FC

24 GC

297 centers

6 institution

27 accommodation

2 onsite centers

b. Update on Bills

Latisha Brown: AB152- read through the bill and let Latisha Brown know if you have any questions. HCQC has a number of bills that have passed through legislation and there are a number of meetings to prioritize and to come up with a timeline. I don't have any in depth information as far as how to implement the bills. Please know that we are working on it.

Carrie Paldi: On the bills that have passed, do they all go in effect on July 1st?

Latisha Brown: They all have different timelines and dates.

Carrie Paldi: This is the only bill that passed that affects child care?

Latisha Brown: This is the only one that affects the child care industry. There are a few that affect Child Care Licensing.

c. Update on Child Care Development Block Grant

Latisha Brown: I am not really sure what the committee is looking for as far as the block grant. We have a grant manger who delegates tasks to me or to the program. His name is Jackson Pino? There are a lot of qualifications that changed as far as the reauthorization. He will be meeting with his chief and let me know how licensing will play a role in that, as far as ratios, there may be some trainings, he hasn't been able to meet with me due to legislation but now that the legislation session has come to an end, we have a meeting set possibly in august. I will then be able to update you all hopefully at the next CCAC meeting.

Carrie Paldi: Moving forward with the regulation review, is the block grant and making sure that we...

Latisha Brown: I know that Child Care Licensing has heard a lot about the ratio piece. That will be something that will change. That's a huge amendment to our regulation that

we will have to go through. If you have any thoughts on that, you are welcome to review it.

Carrie Paldi: Licensing sent me some information. I started sorting through some stuff that I think is important for our workgroup reviews. I will go through it separately, I will start it and ask for Latisha Brown to review. We need to make sure we are on target in the areas we need to focus on for our regulation reviews and then I will share that with all of the council members.

Latisha Brown: I don't want you to think that because I am not speaking on it today that I am not going to talk about it later. I hesitate on giving you pieces of information that aren't concrete. They can still change. We are still in the process of but I will be able to update you once I talk to our grants manager.

Tiffany Alston: When you say block grant, are you talking about the 6 mil for pre-k?

Latisha Brown: No

Carrie Paldi: This is a child care block grant that was reauthorized this year since about 19 years ago when it was originally created. This grant subsidizes all of your child care programs, your subsidies, licensing arenas, etc. It's a federal grant.

Tiffany Alston: Thank you for clarifying. I saw, via email people sharing information that this group is looking for individuals to participate in the licensing regulations, like the overview, and we have our committees set up. Is that all done? I think that there are a few more people that are interested in participating in that if there is still the opportunity. Is it closed?

Carrie Paldi: I don't believe we have to vote to extend the application, correct?

Latisha Brown: All of you agreed to reach a deadline for the applications?

Carrie Paldi: We did receive a number of applications but not the number of applications that we would've liked to receive. We would like to resend out the application to licensed providers that are interested. We would ask for individuals to share with others that they feel might be interested. If you have a copy of the application and someone turns that in, we will still accept them. Some concerns that I have been receiving is if the workgroups start in the summer it's going to prove difficult. Some people travel, etc. all of our workgroups have to meet the open meeting law. However many people agree to be on the workgroups we always have to have a quorum. That could affect our ability to conduct our business. We could continue to gather workgroup applications to form the workgroups and then possibly start the workgroups later and then extend the deadline to licensing.

3. Discussion regarding the review of NAC432A.180 – NAC 432A.416 Carrie Paldi, Co-Chairperson

Carrie Paldi: We received 30-40 applications. When you divide by 5 workgroups, and there may be circumstances where individuals may not be there during the meetings there wouldn't be a quorum. We want strong workgroups. 10-15 people so we can maintain strong workgroups. We are asking to extend the workgroup applications through the end of July and the working on separating the people out into the workgroups in early August. We would contact the people who have applied, let them know which workgroups they would be on, and then start meeting in workgroups at the end of August, early September. Instead of concluding the work in March, we would conclude in May so that we can present information to licensing either shortly before our June meeting or at our June meeting which would give licensing 6 months to do what they need to do.

Latisha Brown: It's ok to move forward to that if everyone agrees to it.

Carrie Paldi: Does everyone agree?

Anna Lisa Acosta: I would note, when you resend out the application to state that if you have already applied, you are still in the process.

Carrie Paldi: We can also state in the body of the listserv as well.

Latisha Brown: I know that this regulation group is aimed for licensed providers. Please remember that this is a process. This is for the industry as a whole. There is room for public comment with the regulation reviews. You are welcome to state comments. We will start with our licensed providers and then work our way from there so that everyone is included.

Carrie Paldi: There is room for public comment at the workgroup sessions as well. There is plenty of opportunity for people to speak.

Laurie Ciardullo: At the last meeting, we passed out more applications. I will make sure to let everyone know that they have more time.

Carrie Paldi: Are you talking about the child care provider network?

Laurie Ciardullo: The Southern Nevada licensed child care provider network.

Carrie Paldi: That's good I'd like to see more Family Care providers. I encourage anyone to share with anyone you think may be interested. We are making every effort to include people. We want this to be a fair and open process.

Motion: Carrie Paldi makes a motion to change the timeline to accept applications through the end of July, workgroups established in August, workgroup meetings being conducted from September to May, with all final results given to licensing on or before the Child Care Advisory meeting in June.

Tiffany Alston seconds the motion.

All in favor no opposed.

4. Discussion of composition, focus areas and discussion of workgroup activities and workgroup schedule. *Carrie Paldi, Co-Chairperson*

Carrie Paldi: We have our appointed chair. Diane is our appointed chair. in standard operation NAC240-304 that's workgroup 1. Christine stern is chairing standard of operations NAC 306-326 workgroup 2. Andrea Davis is chairing standard of operations NAC 340-430 workgroup 3. Staffing requirements NAC 432a520-546 I am chair. 432-485 Austin is co-chairing. We have asked each council member to serve on a committee. Tiffany is #2. Sara signed up for number 3 but she has resigned. Laurie also signed up for staffing requirements which is section 4. Rachel Perez is signed up for section 5 with Austin. We still have a few council members that need to commit to their sections. I will reach out to them personally to find out which section they would like to be a part of.

Sue Joyner: I signed for one but I'm not sure which one.

Carrie Paldi: Is there a particular one that you are interested in.

Sue Joyner: I sent it to you and Diane. She stated thank you but I didn't hear anything back from her.

Carrie Paldi: Sue I do remember that email. I'm sorry it's just been a while and ill check what your email was and get you on the correct workgroup. We want to try and balance these workgroups out so that we have equal participation. I started sorting through applications. We are heavy in some areas. We will divide up accordingly and try to meet everyone's first choice as much as possible but we won't always be able to accommodate people's first choices. Focus areas and discussions will of course be the regulations in that particular workgroup. That does not mean that you can't speak to another area. Feel free to share ideas and attend other workgroup meetings if you wish. Workgroup schedule-we did talk to the chairs to see what they would like to do with their workgroup schedules. Original plan was to have the workgroup chairs say ok this is our decision on when we will be meeting. For example, the third Thursday, which we could still do or we can reach out to others to see what would work. Is there a timeframe to facility rooms?

Latisha Brown: If you were to come to me that day and say we need a room. They may say yes if it's available that day and they may say no. that could happen so I think it's good for you to go down the line with any future dates and when you plan to meet. We will do our best to accommodate. At least let us know a week in advance.

Carrie Paldi: Would your preference be to have the chair say ok this is when we are going to do it like the 4th Tuesday of every month so that there is some sort of consistency.

Latisha Brown: Yes

Carrie Paldi: What I am going to do is send out an email to the workgroup chairs to establish a date that they would like to schedule. We will send that off to licensing. That way I can tell people this is what day this workgroup meets on and then if it doesn't work for them then maybe their second choice will.

Sue Joyner: I would suggest that when the workgroups are selected, there is a fair representation on any particular group with people from the north and people from the south and outlying areas.

Carrie Paldi: I think that's very important. I am not focusing on selecting so much at the current moment since we will be accepting applications. I will focus on the individuals that get their application in first to give them their first choice vs. the individuals that are getting their applications in later. I think it's fair that the people that applied first should get their first choice. As long as the groups are diverse.

We were provided with a matrix from licensing. This will guide us in our regulation review. It breaks down the regulations, with what our concerns are and what we should focus on. It will be a global template for us to use. They do want us to use this template so that it's consistent. They won't get feedback saying oh this is how I feel they want concrete logic behind the feedback. Questions on the matrix:

1. What problem was this regulations established to address? if doesn't address a problem, what value to public?
2. Impact of regulation or benefits provided?
3. Any adverse impact the regulation had on various groups?
4. Cost of regulation including but not limited to enactment and enforcement?
5. Alternate forms of regulation that address the problem? Do other regulations address the same issue? (other regulatory authorities)
6. Are the regulations written clearly and concisely? (is it easily understandable and applicable)
7. Is this regulation necessary?
8. What is the research to support the rationale?

This template will go out to all workgroup members and chairs. Please familiarize yourself with the regulations that you will be working with. Licensing will try and provide someone at each meeting for clarification of the regulations but that may not always be the case.

Sue Joyner: The individual that is no longer a part of the committee, will there be time before the end of the meeting to discuss a possible replacement?

Carrie Paldi: She resigned after the agenda was posted so we cannot vote to replace her. We have already started the process to replace this position. If anyone knows anyone who is interested, please reach out, have them submit an application before the next meeting. We can add that as a future agenda item so we can vote this person in on our next meeting. There was someone that was interested from the Fallon area and I know there was some concern as to if Fallon was rural but it does meet the definition of rural.

Tiffany Alston: What is the criteria that needs to be met for this open position?

Carrie Paldi: It's someone that is in a rural community that is currently a licensed provider.

Diane Hardy: I would suggest it would be someone from the north.

5. Update from Council Members

Carrie Paldi: Child care inclusion conference is coming up. July 13-14. If anyone is interested contact me and I will send you sherry Hallie's contact information. There is a fee but it includes lunch and everything. I will send you the flyer if interested.

6. Future agenda items *Carrie Paldi, Co-Chairperson*

Carrie Paldi: Keep discussion of the review of the regulations, workgroup updates, updates from licensing, updates from council members, possible election of a rural representative.

Tiffany Alston: If there is someone in the rural area that is interested in becoming a member of this council what are the next steps. I don't remember there being an application. Should I give them yours and Diane's contact information? Should I give them Lisa's information?

Carrie Paldi: If you want to forward that individual on to Diane and I, we will forward them to Lisa who will provide them with an application. Lisa is going to share the application with the council members so that we can share with others as well. You can certainly give them Lisa's info as well.

Carrie Paldi: We should put a deadline on the application of not more than a month.

7. Public Comments

Sue Joyner: I'm a licensed child care provider in Dayton. We are considered rural. Last year Lyon County was the recipient of a grant for preschool in the am and pm. We have an elementary school in Dayton that provides preschool in the morning and the afternoon for children with 20 children. That would have been a total of 6 sessions, 3 schools, am and pm in each school. It impacted us a little bit but not a whole lot for half day preschool. We kept our preschool going. A lot of parents would bring their children to us in the am and then in the afternoon, they chose pm preschool in the public school. I think I had 9 children participating in that. The parents are telling me that preschool will be all day starting next school year. This will significantly impact our preschool program. I'm concerned because the children that are 4 years old, ride on school buses, they don't have seatbelts, they will be getting transportation to and from. I am concerned that they will be going to the Boys & Girls Club for before and after school which is not regulated. It's not licensed by child care licensing. The 4 year olds are combined with children up to the age of 12 yrs. I brought it to licensing's attention here in the north because its going to happen. I'm not so much concerned with the impact on my preschool as much as the impact it will have on the children. I wish that there was something we could do to have their all day preschool at our center. I obtain report cards and the children had to learn 5 academic things. Recognize the first letter of their name and write it, be able to count to 5, recognize 2 out of 3 shapes (square, circle, or triangle), and that is what was being taught all day at the preschools. At our school, we do significantly more than that. We have the pre-k standards and all these other things that we work diligently on. Along comes a grant, the public school gets money, and they have a preschool program in less than a summer. Last year, they had something called begindergarden, where they gave preschool 4 days a week for a month free for anyone interested. They are not doing that this summer because they didn't see any advantage to the children. If anyone has any ideas it would be helpful because the 4 year olds will be in all day public school, riding on public school buses, no car seats, no rules for the bus driver, and they will be in and out of the Boys & Girls Club. They currently have to be 5 to attend but not after this starts in the fall. We also have one more church in our town that is now calling themselves a camp. They do before and after school care, they drive the children to and from school, and because they are a church and they are calling themselves a camp, they're not licensed and they are taking all the way down to 3 years of age this summer. I've lost a good number of children to that program because they are a camp, they're nonprofit and they're cheaper. Anyone with ideas for me I'd sure love for you to contact me.

Anna Lisa Acosta: With regards to the camp that you are discussing, and then the Boys & Girls Club accepting kids at preschool age, those are the things we will look at. That falls into licensing. They would need to be licensed. We cannot do anything for the public school offering preschool.

Latisha Brown: It becomes a public choice and parents make the decision to send their children there, there is nothing that licensing can do about it.

Sue Joyner: How can a 4 year old be allowed to ride on a school bus without a car seat?

Anna Lisa Acosta: Kids ride on a bus without car seats, I'm not saying it's not right but...

Sue Joyner: There are laws. Do I need to call the local sheriff's office? I am concerned for the kids.

Latisha Brown: There is nothing wrong with inquiring and calling the school district to find out if they have a policy concerning the safety of the children on the bus. Of course, there are laws in place for a reason. Having a weight limit and having car seats. Maybe they have a waiver.

Sue Joyner: I did inquire and if the child has a sibling that is 7-8, they get on the same school bus, they don't have any regulations and I guess they feel they don't have to. Those are my babies and I'm sending them on a school bus. They can get up whenever they want to.

Christine Stern: I would go through NDOT. Take a look more carefully at the regulatory or the requirements say as it pertains to busing. I think you are going to find a little more meat to work there.

Carrie Paldi: Look out to the grantee and see if they can help you too. Tell them we are already set up we already have equipment and maybe it doesn't have to go into only the public schools. Maybe they can help you too, maybe it's too late, but there's never anything wrong with calling to see what you options are.

Sue Joyner: It's interesting, the 9 children that participated in the program, 5 of them have parents that are teachers and all 5 of them send their children to our center. They wanted their children in our preschool program. They know our program and they have had other children that have gone through our program. One of the teachers is a teacher for that program and she wanted her child in our program.

Latisha Brown: Was this grant only offered to the public schools? Was it a grant that was open for anyone in ECE to apply for?

Sue Joyner: I don't know.

Latisha Brown: It's important to educate the parents on the benefits on one program vs. another program.

8. Adjournment 2:48p.m. *Carrie Paldi, Co-Chairperson*