

**Executive Committee Retreat
Monterey County Children's Council (MCCC)
July 29, 2019
1270 Natividad Road, Whitney Rooms A and B, Salinas, CA**

Executive Committee Members Present: Katy Castagna, Deneen Guss, Elsa Jimenez, Lori Medina, Marcia Parsons

Others Present: Sonja Koehler, Mayra Perez Diaz, Cynthia Holmsky, Francine Rodd

Welcome

Elsa Jimenez called meeting to order at 8:14 am. Executive members introduced themselves to new Executive Committee (EC) member and future Director of DSS, Lori Medina.

Action Items

Marcia Parsons motioned to approve the May 6, 2019 meeting minutes and Katy Castagna seconded.

Motion approved.

Discussion

- I. Review MCCC Bylaws and discuss suggest changes
 - a. Members reviewed bylaws and had a rich discussion for suggested changes. Some suggested changes were adding clarifying language of initiatives and when they are ready to spin off, term limits, adding Vice Chair to EC. Chair proposed all suggested changes be sent to Mayra Perez Diaz to include in draft document by 8/7/19. Katy Castagna, Mayra Perez Diaz and Chair, Elsa Jimenez will work on revisions, look at other Children's Council bylaws as examples and present/report back at next EC meeting.
 - b. The plan is to have new draft of revised bylaws completed to present to the council within the next two upcoming meetings for their approval and presentation to the Board of Supervisors by end of calendar year.
 - c. Members agreed to change Executive meetings to every second Monday of the month @ 1:30pm to 2:30pm. Location to meet will remain the same.

- II. Review MCCC membership and discuss recruitment efforts
 - a. Members discussed changing Kristen Lundquist as category C "At Large" member as her title with the city changed. Jose Arreola would be moved as Park and Rec member.
 - b. There are two "At Large" members to be recruited for. One potential added member would be Dr. Swick from Montage Health – Ohana. Elsa Jimenez will approach Dr. Swick to assess interest in joining MCCC. Members will continue to discuss other potential recruitment efforts.
 - c. There is transition in Category B with Hector Rico's departure. Deneen Guss will take item back to the Superintendent Council this month for a vote to fill this vacant position.
 - d. For university and college membership, Deneen Guss and Katy Castagna will reach out to see who these entities can assign as members to the council for appropriate representation of MCCC.

- III. MCCC Website Review

- a. Members reviewed new website that will be hosted by United Way Monterey County. Members liked all suggested features and approved it go live.
 - b. Francine Rodd suggested we assure website is compliant with ADA standards. Mayra Perez Diaz will work with MCOE for support in this area.
 - c. Google docs will be used for EC and General Assembly (GA) for access to resources and documents. Mcchildren.org domain will go live within the next few weeks.
 - d. Mayra Perez Diaz will then connect with County Clerk office to be sure tab website of MCCC on county page is current and has link to new MCCC website once all is finalized.
- IV. Review MCCC Priority Survey results and discuss presentation to MCCC for the year
- a. Members reviewed 18 survey results. Early Childhood Education, Mental Health and Housing were the top three topics prioritized by MCCC GA.
 - b. Members were surprised other topics didn't bubble up to the top as they anticipated. They thought truancy, drug use and census would be ranked as higher priority items. Members discussed how questions were framed could be a factor.
 - c. Members thought comments in the survey were very rich.
 - d. Members discussed and proposed having Mental Health be the overarching theme of focus this fiscal year and how it effects 0-24 year-olds. Members also discussed broadening focus to include substance use disorder or behavioral health.
 - Each organization would be invited to present on this topic and would provide a regular set of questions from MCCC goals, mission and functions.
 - Questions will be refined by Chair, Sonja Koehler and Mayra Perez Diaz
 - Have an annual matrix to have shared training amongst member organizations to connect the dots (how do members bring in their own work?)
 - There will be a Spring feedback loop:
 - For example: What are the barriers and policy recommendations to move the work forward? (i.e. Data sharing MOU)
 - e. Members agreed to have August and September as meetings to frame the discussion and set the foundation of the work and then invite members to sign up to present on their efforts in addressing mental health/substance use disorder.
 - f. Members agreed a more thorough presentation of the MCCC Annual Report needs to be made to the GA along with obtaining annual updates from spin off initiatives prior to presenting to the Board of Supervisors for receipt and approval.
- V. Bright Futures (BF) – Discussed opportunities for further alignment to MCCC
- a. Cynthia Holmsky expressed she likes the goals, and that guiding principles are being refocused, and is happy to support with the mental health focus for more alignment between BF and MCCC.
- VI. Bright Beginnings (BB) – Discuss expectations by MCCC as an initiative of MCCC
- a. Sonja Koehler will be providing BB newsletter to GA and provide regular updates.

VII. Debrief of June General Assembly meeting and plan for August meeting

- a. Members agreed the film “Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope” was power and will provide great continuum to this year’s focus on Mental Health.
- b. Debrief and discussion of the film will be part of next meeting.
- c. Next Executive Committee meeting set for August 5, 2019 will be canceled as August agenda is set. Subcommittee including Chair, Mayra and Sonja will meet to finalize planning to report out priorities and finalize questions.

General Assembly Agenda Setting

Action items:

- Approve the minutes of the June 10, 2019 Monterey County Children’s Council Meeting

Discussion:

- a. Bright Beginnings Update – Sonja Koehler
- b. Debrief and discussion on the film “Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope”
- c. MCCC Priority Results Discussion and Focus for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year

Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 12:09pm.