

CHILDREN FIRST NORWICH

June 21, 2006

Attendees: Deborah Buxton-Morris, Pam Aubin, Cathy Cadavette, Jackie Jamrock, Duncan Profitt, Maureen Hogan, Debbie Poirier, Mary Broderick, Veronica Granger, Beverly Goulet, Sheila Skahan, Keith Ripley, Patricia Kornacki, Anne Krodel, Saran Dudley, Bestsy Bumpus, Kay Eyberse, Debbie Kievits, and Sherry Filiatreault

The meeting was called to order at 9:15.

1. The first order of business was to choose a new logo for CFN. Sherry Filiatreault passed around a group of approximately 10 different logos to choose from. After all members had an opportunity to vote, another vote was cast for the three most favored logos, until one was chosen and adopted as the new CFN logo.
2. By-Laws: Sherry explained that the by-laws were being worked on by a committee and that they would be reviewed at the retreat that is planned for July 6th at the Norwich Senior Center.
3. Chairs are needed for the work groups: Sherry again explained that the strength of CFN rests in the ability of workgroups to form and to complete the GMF work plan goals. Debbie Poirier agreed to chair the Child Care Work Group. Kay Eyberse agreed to be chair to the Leadership Team. The other work groups are still in need of chairs. Sherry explained that CFN members would be asked to sign an "Acknowledgement of Membership on CFN" that will also highlight the responsibilities of members serving on the committee.
4. Meeting Dates: The following are meeting dates for CFN for the remainder of 2006. Please note that this schedule of meetings does not include meetings for the School Readiness Council.
 - a. Wed. July 19th
 - b. Wed. September 20th
 - c. Wed. October 18th
 - d. Wed. November 15th
 - e. Wed. December 20th
5. Workgroup Reports:
 - a. Norwich School Readiness: School Readiness has received additional funding for childcare spaces beginning July 1, 2006. The committee decided to open an RFP to the local community.

- b. Child Care Providers Time/Training: No work group activity to report. The forum scheduled for May 11th was cancelled due to lack of participation.
 - c. Membership/Recruitment: Recruitment still going on and members are asked to bring a friend to the next meeting.
 - i. Spirit of Broadway: Plans are coming together for this event but Sherry explained that the attendance is low so far. A discussion was held on how attendance might be improved. Sherry will resend the flyer to all members. There will be food, clowns, and chalk painting. Sherry would like to see booths for each workgroup with materials to take away.
 - d. Regional Meetings: Bev Goulet spoke of the importance of regional meetings in meeting the needs of early childhood education. Members are requested to join this group, as Sherry and Duncan have been the only two members involved in this initiative. Sherry further explained that each community gets three votes, and if Norwich does not send at least three representatives, then Norwich does not receive its full representation.
 - i. Strategic Communication
 - ii. Eat Smart/Grow Healthy
 - e. Advocacy: The Advocacy Workgroup needs a chair.
 - f. Leadership: Graduation was held on Monday night, June 17th. The Leadership committee is actively recruiting for next year.
6. Open Discussion: a new member of the council who was representing the Martin Luther King Center initiated a discussion. This program coordinator shared her views regarding the lives of children that she deals with, and how she would like support from the Norwich community in helping her to meet the needs of her population. NHS indicated that they would like to get together with this representative to further the discussion and to let her know what services are available in the community to help.
7. The meeting adjourned at 10:35.