

WSFCCA Meeting

April 24th, 2010

Hosted By: SKCFCCA

The Meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by our President, Carol Wilson. The folders and notebooks we all received are a gift from SW King Chapter. Carol reminded everyone if they are going to tape the meeting, you need permission.

Additions to the agenda are under Committee Reports, we are adding a report about Grant Writing.

Sue moved to accept the minutes from the January meeting, Donna seconded her motion. The minutes were voted on and approved as is.

Roll Call: Columbia River, East King, Skagit, Sky Valley, Snohomish, South Snohomish, SW King, SWWFCCA, Thurston.

Introductions were made around the room.

Insurance Report: AFLAC Jan Hollenbeck. Jan told us about her own personal story of dealing with Breast Cancer. AFLAC has been around for 55 years, three brothers started it. They are a fortune 500 company. The policies rates are locked in once you purchase them. They are also guaranteed renewable. AFLAC pays you cash over and above your major medical.

Financial Report: Joan Aarts, Treasurer

Joan explained you'll see money coming in for a grant; this was grant money that Columbia River Family Child Care Association received for a conference. It had to get ran through the Association; WSFCCA then wrote the check to CRFCCA. This was for a trainer for their upcoming conference in May.

Joan attached an Income Expense report. It was asked what the Savings Account money was used for; Joan explained we haven't decided that yet. Joan explained on the membership list, SWWFCCA shows a plus 3, she explained those were members who were supporting SWWFCCA but, actually they are primary members in another chapter. Total members to date are 265.

Joan also asked for an updated email list as several keep getting kicked back. She sent out names of members from a few different chapters whose emails are getting sent back and asked Chapters to check with their members to make sure the address are correct.

Public Policy: Donna Horne, Sue Winn

Professional Development Consortium: DEL brought in a Specialist who reorganized them so, now they have new committees that they are working under. No one was very happy about the change as they are use to working together as a team. Sue is the only Family Child Care Provider there, now there are

two committees that have no representation for Family Child Care. Sue's group is putting in a protest about this new change. As a large group, they all had more of a voice....these smaller groups are not beneficial for providers as they are not represented for family child care. Sue asks us to go to the website and make comments.

One of the big problems coming up is that they are suggesting trainers have degrees in the future. We need to voice our concerns. The projection is that there is going to be federal guidelines coming down with big money attached to them. There may also be a requirement coming in that same package that all providers will be required to have HS Diplomas as the very least. Go to the DEL website and voice your opinions on this please! Joan asked where and when the meetings were at. Renton ESD is where the last several have been. It was asked if they were open to the public, Donna and Sue aren't sure of the answer to that question. The meetings are done during the day during the work week. They are usually from 9:00 am to 3:00 p.m.

It's suggested that we people voice concerns that we want credit for experience that providers don't need to have trainers that have degrees, etc.

ELAA: The legislative Session has ended. We were able to win the subsidy piece (for WCCC). It's a huge deal for us as providers to be able to use their public policy person to advocate for changes for providers, especially when it costs us nothing.

Negotiated Rule Making: The new Draft WAC forums have been extremely poorly attended. DEL did not have to do the forums by law, they did them to try and get feedback from the public and providers. Part of the problem is they only place to read them is on the DEL website, they are really really difficult to read them as there are so many of them. Sue encourages all of us to take **the time and make your comments**. The deadline to make comments is April 30th.

WA Kids: This is the new assessment tool that's being piloted for Kindergarten kids in the State. The goal is to inform schools of what they need to be ready, to inform parents of what their child's strengths are, the other thing is to inform childcares where their strengths are. This is a voluntary program; school districts are invited to apply.

Subsidy: STARS, it's really important to keep all your paperwork and forms. Go to the DEL website, and use their forms for your future STARS Classes. Kathy Miller will link it on the website.

The new subsidy training is available online for licensed providers started April 30th. Its online now for exempt providers.

Committee Reports:

Newsletter: Donna Horne

Articles need to be in to Donna by May 15th, 2010. Anyone is welcome to submit anything they would like to put in the newsletter. Everyone liked it being online this time. Donna is also willing to give up the newsletter so if anyone is interested in taking it over, please let us know that as well too. Tekla

volunteered for Columbia River to start doing the newsletter. Donna also mentioned maybe it's time to have a change with the logo, the newsletter, etc. Kathy Miller shared that she has a friend who is a graphic artist who did the logo for Columbia River and Pacific NW Childcare Network free of charge. If WSFCCA is interested in a new look and new logo, she could talk to their designer and see if she'd be willing to design one.

Chapter Responsibilities book was handed out to all Chapters at the last WSFCCA meeting. There were no changes or additions to it.

Insurance: Linda Ramuta asked if anyone has had to contact any of our Insurance companies for anything. One or two people on Lifewise Insurance Joan has sent information to. There have been several people interested in the insurance.

Grant Writing Committee: Rocio Gannaway is new on the Grant Writing Committee.

Conference Committee:

There have been a couple of meetings. The dates are April 29-May 1st, 2011 at the Double Tree Hotel 16500 South Center Parkway in Tukwila right next to South Center Mall. Donna is doing vendors; we are still looking for speakers. The next conference committee meeting is in May. The Rooms this time are more like suites; the rooms are 109.00 per night plus tax. Three people can sleep in a room. There are two beds and a pull out couch. The hotel has a pool that is open 24 hours a day. We don't have a fee yet for the conference.

Joan is making gift bags for all the presenters and vendors. We are also looking for more vendors to come to our conference. Cookie Lee (Jewelry) is coming, Mishi bags is coming, if you have providers who different crafts please let us know that as well so they have a year to create things to bring to sell.

Committee consists of: Sue Winn, Donna Horne, Joan Aarts, Linda Ramuta, Carol Wilson, LaVonne Counley, Sharlene Mason, Roxanne Pera.

Online Classes: WSFCCA is going to start offering STARS trainings for Non Chapter. Ten hours per year will be offered to non chapter members. Each training would be for 2 STARS hours, and over a two year period every core competency would be covered. Trainings would be held in October, November, February, March, and May.

The trainings would be put in the membership brochure under non-chapter members and would need to join by October 1st to get all ten hours of trainings within the year.

This would be a member benefit for non chapter members. Sue Winn made a motion to vote, it was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Pay Pal:

We were asked to do the research on PayPal as far as the rates for using PayPal. It would be a convenience for members to pay for their dues or the conference and make it available to pay online. Here's the breakdown:

Dues and Insurance total amount would be 125.00; the PayPal fees for that amount would be 3.05. We would not be paying this fee, the member would be aware this was an additional "service fee".

Pam Carino made a motion to approve it, Tekla seconded the motion. It was voted and approved unanimously.

Chapter Outreach: Carol went to meet with Pierce United, and had a nice breakfast at an English Tea Shop. Carol and Joan will be coming to Vancouver to meet with Columbia River Family Child Care Association for their upcoming conference on May 15th. They are looking forward to this visit.

*Joan reminds us, if people are sending in checks now and buying the insurance, the fee has dropped to 25.00 from April 1 to October 30th. They will have to renew in October again for the full amount of \$50.00 but, if they are buying the insurance now, it's discounted to \$25.00.

Linda Ramuta and LaVonne Counley went to visit Skagit Chapter; they are going to Sky Valley on May 18th.

Insurance: Elaine Hetterly from Group Health.

The rate structure for your premiums will change with your April premium (which is due by March 25th). For those who have already paid, you will need to make up the balance as soon as possible. If you decide to cancel, please let Elaine know.

Monthly health care dues until March 2011:

Subscriber: \$734.95

Spouse: \$809.56

Unmarried dependent child under age 21, first child: \$417.11, additional children \$203.87

Please remember to be a good consumer. Shop around for other plans that Group Health offers that might suit your needs better. Someone on Medicare discovered Group Health Clear Care Optional. Group Health, as well as other insurance companies, offer individual plans that might be less money. Other plans also offer a higher deductible and that will lower monthly premiums.

Old Business:

Joan tells us about a possible fundraiser making a Cookbook. The book is from Fun Craft. You can't get a definite price about what you'd pay because there are many different options to choose from when designing yours. You have to order a minimum of 200 Cookbooks. It costs \$3.10 per book about to make. You pay half up front; when the books are ready you pay the other half of the total bill. You can also re-order at a lower price. Each Chapter would have to commit to submitting 30 recopies, we need

400 recopies. We are considering doing this as a fundraiser for WSFCCA. Kathy Miller will put the recipe form up on the website for providers to be able to submit their recopies to, at the bottom of the form will be a submit button, when you click that...it will get emailed directly to Joan.

New Business:

There have been union meetings going on all over the place. Bargaining had their first meeting yesterday and the message was that this session is going to be on how difficult it will be with the deficit the way it is.

Next WSFCCA meeting will be hosted by Thurston County Chapter on June 12th.

Pam Carino spoke about the nice books that Vickie Chow made as gifts for us to take home.

Chapter Reports were given by:

South Snohomish Chapter

Columbia River

SW Wa

Thurston

East King

SW King

Sky Valley

Donna and Sue went to a meeting at WellSpring. It supports childcare in homeless community. They are currently looking for children who have been in and out of several childcares. If you know of anyone who fits that description, contact them. They are opening two new classrooms for children who aren't succeeding in other childcare settings.

Sue Winn made a motion to adjourn at 1:33 p.m.