

Minutes of the Meeting of the Navarro County Early Childhood Coalition

July 27, 2023 -- 1:00- 3:00 P.M.

Location of Meeting: Chamber of Commerce Meeting Room

Present at Meeting: 26 in Attendance

The meeting was opened by Rachel Gillespie, Program Director

Agenda for Meeting

The agenda for the meeting was distributed earlier through email.

Review of Previous Minutes

No minutes from the previous meeting

Rachel G. – Program Director - Reviewed the Group Agreements and led an Ice Breaker for the group

Rachel G. Program Director – Reviewed the 2023 Coalition Priorities

Rachel G. – gave an update on the PDG funds. We were able to hire a Postpartum Specialist and a Parent Groups Coordinator. Also shared some photos of the new Parent Groups space.

In regards to Moms and Babies there was a prototype shared of the baskets being made for new moms that give birth at Navarro Regional Hospital. There were also some suggestions on how to make those better including items to add to the resources guide and some changes to packaging and items inside.

There were also some suggestions on what to name the baskets and everyone voted on their favorite. It came down to Bundle of Joy and Parent Parcel. Those are being sent to the PAC who will choose their favorite.

RBA Workshop – There are RBA luncheons planned for August and a signup sheet for attendance and lunch. Each team got together and came up with some ideas for Child Safety and Development Days as well as Early Childhood Educators Appreciation Week.

Ashley P. – gave an update on the Parent Advisory Council. New staff Burgandy Poynter will be taking over this group. Ashley and Lynda were thanked for starting and supporting this group.

Consideration of Open Issues

Rachel G. – Reviewed our summer events including the Child Development Days on 7/13 “Surviving the Toddler Years.” We had 79 in attendance and 24 were parents.

Also, we had the Moana Summer Movie night at the Palace. We had about 315 in attendance and gave out backpacks with crafts and parenting tip calendars to all kids who attended. C&S Baking Co was there at the end to give out cookies and ice cream.

Some news was shared about the Bright by Text subscribers – we now have 434 signed up and getting closer to our goal of 500 by the end of 2023. The link was shared for those who might want to sign up.

Upcoming Events for the Summer:

Early Childhood Educators meet-up happening Monday, August 21st at 12:30 and 6:30. Educators have the option to attend a lunch or dinner for fellowship with other childcare providers in Navarro County.

Discussed the Little Free Libraries and celebrated the new opening of the LFL at Twilight Nursing Home. We asked for help in filling up our LFL – there is a sheet to sign up if you are interested in helping take books to refill our LFL over Navarro County.

Agenda and Time of Next Meetings

Parent Café – August 24, 2023 – 5:30-7:30 – in person

Parent Advisory Board – August 7, 2023 – 1:00 – 3:00 – in person

Navarro County Early Childhood Coalition – September 28, 2023 – 1:00 – 3:00 – in person

The meeting was adjourned by: Rachel Gillespie

Minutes submitted by: Barbara Wood
