

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2007, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
MSU Extension
775 Ball Avenue NE – Grand Rapids

Members/Alternates Present: Susan Broman, Bev Drake, Jack Greenfield, Lynn Heemstra, Debra Holmes-Garrison, Jackie Klinestecker (for Paul Ippel), Kevin Konarska, Sharon Loughridge, Carol Paine-McGovern, Diana Sieger, Patti Warmington, Andy Zylstra

Members Absent: Tony Campbell, Candace Cowling, Tom Czerwinski, Lynne Ferrell, Lynn Heemstra, Paul Ippel, William Forsyth, Judge Patrick Hillary, Arlen-Dean Gaddy, Cathy Raevsky

Guests: Wayman Britt, Kathy Freberg, Matthew VanZetten

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Carol Paine-McGovern welcomed everyone to the meeting. Carol noted that Tony Campbell, Candace Cowling, Judge Hillary, and Cathy Raevsky notified Matthew VanZetten that they were not able to attend today's meeting.

Carol welcomed Kevin Konarska as the new Superintendent of the Kent ISD and Jack Greenfield to the Council.

A motion was made by Diana Sieger to accept the meeting agenda and the November 7, 2006 minutes. Debra Holmes-Garrison supported. **UNANIMOUS**

2. Kent County Senior Millage Update

Sandra Davis shared information regarding the passage of the Senior Millage this past August.

The millage originated in 1999 and was for 8 years at .25 mills. The recent passage was for another 8 years at .33 mills. Key to its success was the fact that two years ago, the Senior Advocates began planning for its passage. This was done primarily through direct communication with past/potential critics of the millage, presentations to as many organizations as possible and service providers sharing with their constituents.

The script for the presentations were developed based on the needs of the organization and primarily done through the sharing of stories and FAQs. Over 90% of the presentations were conducted by volunteers. Because the campaign did not have significant funds, direct mail was limited and use of the media was intentional through editorials and press releases. At this time, the Advocates are beginning to plan for the passage of the millage renewal.

Sandra shared that over the years there have been discussions regarding a children's millage. The Seniors have developed a process that could hopefully be replicated by others as needed.

3. KCFCCC Future Direction

Carol Paine-McGovern shared that the Executive Committee has discussed the future direction of the Council considering the fact that the Early Childhood Group is functioning well, the Kent School Services Network has its own infrastructure, and the Mentoring Collaborative is running on its own.

One area that continues to be discussed surrounds funding streams and how mainstream funding can be better directed to key issues as well as braided more effectively for use by non-profit service providers. To that point, the Executive Committee believes that in 2007/08 it needs to discuss strategies to make this occur. As a result, the nominations for the 2007/08 Executive Committee are directed toward funding organizations – whether public or private – with the intent that they discuss ways to make their funds more effective and flexible.

4. Nomination Committee for 2007 Executive Committee

Matthew VanZetten provided an overview of the Nomination Committee report for the 2007/08 Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee recommends the following individuals:

Name	Representing
Carol Paine-McGovern (Chair)	Consumer/Advocate
Savator Seldon-Johnson (Vice Chair)	Public Service Provider
Susan Broman	Funding Agency
Bob Haight	Funding Agency
Paul Ippel	Public Service Provider
Kevin Kornarska	Public Service Provider
Sharon Loughridge	Private Service Provider
Judge David Murkowski	Public Service Provider
Diana Sieger	Funding Agency

The slate of nominees will be voted on at the February Council meeting to begin serving in April 2007.

5. Ongoing Family Support Committee Update

Jack Greenfield shared that the Ongoing Family Support Committee has been working on two issues – the continued training of Early Impact workers in substance abuse identification and treatment and creating a more efficient and effective way to get families household goods.

In February the Committee will be holding a meeting regarding the household goods issues with various thrift stores as well as potential corporate partners. More information will be forthcoming in the months ahead.

6. Upcoming Meeting Announcements

It was shared that upcoming meetings announcements will be forthcoming via emails.

7. **Public Comment**

There was none.

8. **Miscellaneous**

There was none.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Next Council meeting:

Tuesday, February 6, 2007, 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Room B