

County of Santa Clara  
Child Abuse Council

Friday, April 11, 2008  
Minutes

**Regular Meeting**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call.**

The regular meeting of the Santa Clara County Child Abuse Council (CAC) is called to order by Chairperson Cathcart at 7:40 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Government Center, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose. A quorum is present.

**Voting Members Present**

Leslie Alexander  
Lance Beizer  
Stacy Castle  
Peggy Carthcart  
Melanie Daraio  
Betty Garcia  
John Herlihy  
Linda Martinez

Daniel Nishigaya  
Andrew Pane  
Margaret Petros  
Debra Pinck  
Gale Simmons  
Ron Soto  
Heather Vogel  
Dennis Wyatt

**Voting Members Absent**

Sarah Scofield  
Barbara Valdez  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
Vacancies: 5

**Community Advisory**

**Members (CAM) Present**

Ken Borelli  
Ann Whyte

**Community Advisory**

**Members Absent**

Anne Carlson

**2. Approve Consent Calendar.**

On motion of Member Soto, seconded by Member Herlihy, it is unanimously ordered that the Consent Calendar be approved to include Items 4, 5, 6(a)1, and 6(c)1.

**3. Public Comments.**

There are no public comments.

**\* 4. Approve minutes of February 8, 2008.**

On motion of Member Soto, seconded by Member Herlihy, it is unanimously ordered that the minutes of February 8, 2008 be approved, as submitted.

**5. Accept Treasurer's Report.**

a. Discuss/Approve fiscal report and current committee budget summaries.

The Council reviews the Fiscal Report, which includes summary of expenses from July 1, 2007 through February 29, 2008, indicating a grand total balance of \$720,724.05.

On order of the Chairperson, there being no objection, it is ordered that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, as submitted.

**6. Accept Committee Reports:**

a. Accept Executive Committee (EC) verbal report.

\*1. Accept EC February 26, 2008 minutes.

On motion of Member Soto, seconded by Member Herlihy, it unanimously ordered that the EC February 26, 2008 minutes be approved, as submitted.

2. Accept Facilitator Report on Annual Council Retreat held on March 14, 2008.

The Council reviews the Facilitator Report on the Annual Council Retreat. Chairperson Cathcart reports that many organizations were represented at the Retreat and the Council will attend the first phase of the strategic sessions today at 9:00 a.m. in the Isaac Newton Senter Auditorium.

On order of the Chairperson, there being no objection, it is ordered that the

Facilitator Report on the Annual Council Retreat be accepted, as submitted.

3. Discuss/Approve Council work plans for Fiscal Year 2008/09.

Chairperson Cathcart reports that she did not receive Work Plan information from all the Committee Chairpersons. The Council reviews the Work Plan, and Member Petros requests that the reference to the "Disproportionality Task Force" be changed to "Children of Color Task Force."

On motion of Member Petros, seconded by Member Soto, it is unanimously ordered that the Council Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2009 be approved, as amended, and forwarded to the Children, Seniors and Families Committee.

4. Discuss/Approve forwarding a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to appoint Lauren Creevy to the Council.

Member Vogel reports that Lauren Creevy has withdrawn her application for appointment and is unable to serve on the Council due to health reasons.

5. Discuss/Appoint members of Ad Hoc Nomination Committee.

Member Nishiyaga reports that he was appointed to the Ad Hoc Nomination Committee by the Executive Committee for the last two years. He advises he intends to apply for a Council officer position and is unable to serve on the Ad Hoc Nomination Committee this year. Members Petros, Beizer, Pane, and CAM Borelli volunteer to serve on the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee to recommend a slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2009.

Chairperson Cathcart reads the Month of April Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation of the Board of Supervisors presented by Chairperson Pete McHugh at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2008. CAM Borelli recommends that the Proclamation be posted in the County building lobby, and Member Pane suggests that it be displayed on the CAC web site.

6. Accept Administrative Vice-Chairperson verbal report.

There is no report

7. Accept Program Vice-Chairperson verbal report.

Member Beizer advises that he and Member Soto are working on a list of the Council funded agencies possible presenters at the CAC meetings for Fiscal Year 2009. He adds he is will retire and returned to New England in Summer 2008.

b. Accept Allocations Committee verbal report.

Member Soto reports that the Allocations Committee process is on time and will conclude the allocation recommendations procedure soon. The next Committee meeting is scheduled on May 8, 2008, and the proposed By-laws changes will be discussed.

c. Accept Disproportionality Committee verbal report.

Chairperson Cathcart advises that the Council will change the name of the Children of Color Task Force to Disproportionality Committee in July 2008.

Jaime Lopez, Deputy Director, Family and Children Services, Social Services Agency, explains that the Children of Color Committee of the Social Services Agency coordinates efforts with the Social Services Advisory Commission. The last meeting was held on April 8, 2008.

Member Simmons notes that the Disproportionality Committee efforts will complement the work of the Children of Color Committee in the Social Services Agency. Members Beizer and Soto discuss briefly the Council's responsibility to improve the lives of children and the Council's accountability for allocated funds to the Council.

\* d. Accept Interagency Collaboration Committee (ICC) January 9, 2008 minutes.

On motion of Member Soto, seconded by Member Herlihy, it is unanimously ordered that the ICC January 9, 2008 minutes be accepted.

e. Accept Legislation and Policy Committee verbal report.

CAM Borelli reports that the Committee, at its March meeting, planned the first part of the Immigration workshop presented at the Symposium, and the next meeting is scheduled on April 30, 2008 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

He advises that the Committee has been tracking the progress of Assembly Bills (AB) 2190, AB2353, AB2618 and AB3051, which relate to children who witness domestic violence, child obesity as a child abuse allegation, the child abuse index, and mandatory court appearances for juveniles in the Juvenile Dependence System.

He adds that the Committee has been conducting focus groups regarding immigration and domestic violence. He comments that his focus is immigration issues.

Member Soto questions if the Legislative Bills help or harm the children and comments that foster care can be a negative experience for foster children. Member Petros advises that the job of the Council is to protect children and notes that children who witness domestic violence are being abused.

f. Accept Membership Committee verbal report.

Member Vogel commends Members Beizer, Whyte and Garcia for assisting with the Membership Committee duties.

Alicia Newton, Medical Social Worker, Social Services Agency, expresses interest in serving on the Symposium Committee and the Student Educational Needs Committee.

John Sterling, Pediatrician, Santa Clara County Valley Medical Center, and Foster Care Center, is interested in the Education Student Committee and the ICC.

g. Accept Public Awareness Committee (PAC) verbal report.

Member Castle advises that the Committee will participate in two fairs for children, and the fliers will be distributed electronically. She encourages Members to volunteer. She concludes by stating that she will make arrangement for display of the proclamation.

h. Accept Student Educational Needs Committee verbal report.

Member Herlihy advises that the Committee did not achieve quorum at its last meeting, and the next meeting is scheduled on May 22, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. He reports relating to an upcoming Spring training program for social workers and school personnel.

i. Accept Symposium Committee verbal report.

Member Petros reports that 430 people attended the Symposium on April 4, 2008, which started and ended on time. She notes that the workshops received wonderful reviews, however, the keynote speakers did not. She advises that the online registration is preferred over mail registration, because the process is quick and efficient and information can be sorted in different categories, whereas the mail registration is slower. She informs the Council that the cost of the Symposium was \$6,000, and the income received was \$15,000. She reads a positive evaluation from a nurse.

Member Petros concludes by stating that she is stepping down as the Symposium Chair after four years. Chairperson Cathcart commends Member Petros for the excellent job she has done on the Symposium during the last four years. Members Nishiyaga and Vogel volunteer to serve on this Committee.

On Commission consensus, it is ordered that the reports be accepted.

**7. Accept By-laws Task Force verbal report.**

Member Nishigaya reports that the By-laws Task Force has accumulated substantial

proposed revisions to be reviewed by the Deputy County Counsel, and he adds that the current By-laws reflect a two-term maximum appointment and the Committee will recommend a three-term maximum appointment. He encourages all members to provide input in the revision of the By-laws and states that the next Task Force meeting is scheduled at the Santa Clara County Administration building located at 70 West Hedding Street, West Wing, in the Office of the District Attorney on Monday, April 14, 2008 at 12:30 p.m.

**8. Accept Special Interest Reports:**

a. Accept Greater Bay Area Child Abuse Council (GBACAC) verbal report.

Chairperson Cathcart reports that the GBACAC has an excellent web site, provides excellent information relating to child abuse prevention, co-sponsors the Symposium, and focuses on alignment and collaboration within the organization. Continuing, she notes that the CAC and the GBACAC are the only two local non-profit organizations working to address issues of child abuse. She advises that the Council is currently in the process of hiring a coordinator. Further, she concludes the reports by stating that the GBACAC provides materials for the Public Awareness Committee.

b. Accept Child Abuse Prevention Community Collaborative (CAPCC) verbal report.

There is no report.

c. Accept Child Death Review Team verbal report.

Member Martinez reports that the Child Death Review Report will be distributed to the Council when the report is completed.

**9. Announcements:**

Quin Vaun, member of the public and Executive Director of "I Can", reports that this agency receives funding from the CAC to provide parenting workshops in the Vietnamese Community, and she invites the Council to its 6th annual outreach event celebrating the birth of the founder of Buddhism, in front of the City of San Jose City Hall, on Saturday, May 10, 2008, 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. She concludes her comments by advising that 3,000 people were in attendance at the event last year, and that postcards regarding this event will be mailed electronically.

Chairperson Cathcart commends those who worked with Member Vogel on the

Membership Committee presentation at the Retreat on March 14, 2008.

In response to a question from a member from the public regarding possible hidden child abuse in affluent families as a result of the current economy, Community Advisory Member Borelli refers her to the Disproportionality Committee and the Public Awareness Committee.

Community Advisory Member Borelli explains that affluent communities and Asian communities are under-represented in the services provided by the County. He adds that mandated reporters in child allegations of child abuse and neglect have been under-reporting in certain neighborhood and that the major reporter is the school system.

Chairperson Cathcart announces that the CAC Strategic Planning meeting is scheduled on this date in the Isaac Newton Senter Auditorium from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

10. **Adjourn.**

On order of the Chairperson, there being no objection, the meeting is adjourned at 9:05 a.m. The next regular meeting of the Child Abuse Council is scheduled on Friday, May 9, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose.

Respectfully submitted,

Hortencia Herrera  
Deputy Clerk