



## MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Child Care Advisory Council  
Minutes  
April 26, 2013

### Council Members Present

Marjorie Nobles-Chair  
Deloris Suel  
Sandra Ziegenhagen  
Colleen Smith  
Phyllis Kitchens  
Sallie West  
Judy Prine  
Shea South  
JoAnn Kelly  
Dean Bobo  
Jill Dent

### Council Members Absent

Laurie Smith

### Staff Present

Vickey Berryman  
Chiquita Nichols  
Ellen O'Neal  
Festus Simkins  
Donna Speed  
Wendi Warfield  
Julie Hamilton  
Ida Dixon  
Cora Rodgers

### Public Present

Beverly Poole  
James Kitchens  
Lana Boatman  
Latoya Atkins  
Eulonda Gray  
Heather Kelly  
April May  
Julianna Swinney

### Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

The April 26, 2013, meeting of the Advisory Council for Child Care Licensure was called to order at approximately 1:05 p.m. by Marjorie Nobles, Chair. A quorum was established.

The Council approved the minutes from the January 25, 2013, meeting.

### New Business

- A. Mrs. Beverly Peden presented an informative PowerPoint Presentation regarding Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA) Natural Playgrounds. Ms. Peden encouraged the Council and visitors to visit the website.
- B. Vickey Berryman, Director for the Office of Licensure, reported that the Mississippi State Board of Health, at its the April 10, 2013, meeting, approved for final adoption the Appendix C - Nutritional Standards of the *Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities and Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities for 12 or Fewer Children in the Operator's Home*. Ms. Berryman reported that prior to the April Board meeting, the Department withdrew the request for approval of all other components of the prior submitted *Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities and Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities For 12 or Fewer Children in the Operator's Home* (with the exception of Section C - Nutritional Standards) due to objections to the proposed regulations by the Mississippi Early Child Care Association. Objections were as follows:
  - They proposed that the draft regulations be modified to prohibit the use of electronic media for children younger than the age of two.
  - The proposed regulations failed to define "light physical activity".
  - They proposed that any reference that would allow a mobile infant to sleep on a sleep mat be deleted and that each child be provided a crib or other commercially purchased bed unit, approved and designated for the purpose of sleeping.

- They proposed an increase in the requirements for a Child Care Director Designee to a high school diploma or GED plus four years of paid experience instead of the proposed two years paid experience; plus an increase in the number of required “educational/training hours for Director Designee from 15 training hours to 24, thus making it consistent with national standards.

C. The Council discussed each of the referenced items and voted as follows:

- The Council made the motion to further revise Rule 1.9.6 and Rule 2.9.6 of the proposed regulations to prohibit the use of electronic media for infants and toddlers. Ms. Smith requested replacing the words “CD player” with “audio player,” and to further define toddler as a child under the age of two. Colleen Smith made the motion and JoAnn Kelly seconded the motion. After a vote, the motion passed.
- Colleen Smith made a motion to not add a definition for “light physical activity” to the regulations and requested that, instead, the Department place examples of such activities on the MSDH child care licensure webpage. Sandra Ziegenhagen seconded the motion. After a full vote, the motion passed. Donna Speed volunteered her Intern to work on this project and to submit their work to the Council for approval at the July 2013 Advisory Council meeting.
- Sallie West made the motion that the Council again approve Rule 1.10.7 and Rule 2.10.7 proposed language as drafted during the January Advisory Council meeting and reads “The facility shall provide a crib or similarly commercially purchased bed unit, approved and designated for the purpose of sleeping. Mobile infants, at a minimum of eight months, may be placed on a mat during the transition period of crawling to walking. If such mats are used, it must be a flame retardant, minimum of two (2) inch commercially purchased sleep mat, especially designed for the purpose of sleeping. All cribs, sleep units and mats must be maintained clean, in sanitary condition and without chips, holes, fraying, tears and stains.” Delores Suel seconded the motion. Per unanimous vote, the motion passed.
- In regard to the request to increase the qualification and educational requirements of the Child Care Facility Director Designee, Colleen Smith made the motion to allow the language to stand as had previously been approved at the January Child Care Advisory meeting which was that the Director Designee must have two years paid work experience and 15 hours of education/training annually. Sandra Ziegenhagen seconded the motion. After vote, the motion passed.

The proposed amendments with the noted changes will be refilled with the Secretary of State and brought before the State Board of Health for final adoption on July 10, 2013.

- D. Donna Speed provided an update on nutritional services. She provided handouts that she had prepared for placement on the MSDH webpage and for distribution. Ms. Speed also discussed the use of fresh produce in child care facilities, clarification of “fried foods,” the need to limit fried foods to once per week and also encouraged Child Care Advisory Council members and/or providers submit her suggestions for menu items/recipes via email.

Further suggestions from the Council were handouts that would raise caregiver’s awareness of student allergies/anaphylaxis and the use of larger pictures/watermarks.

- E. Jill Dent provided an update on The Mississippi early Childhood Legislation- SB 2395. Dr. Dent stated that the legislation created a grant program to give early childhood education during the early childhood years more focus. The law requires collaboration between several state agencies/organizations in an

effort to create more classroom areas. An RFP may be available in July. Ellen O'Neal, MSDH Legal Counsel, stated that she had a copy of the Bill, should anyone wish such.

F. Child Care Advisory Council Reappointments

- Individuals eligible for reappointment are Jill Dent and Deloris Suel. Both expressed the desire for reappointment for the upcoming term.
- The terms of Phyllis Kitchens and Marjorie Nobles expires June 30, 2013. Each will continue to serve until new members are appointed. The Department is now taking applications for these two new appointments. The deadline date for submission of such applications is May 15, 2013.

Old Business - None

Public Comments

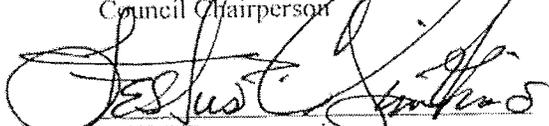
- April J. May, Interim Director, Mississippi Building Blocks (MBB) informed the council of the availability of openings for the Mississippi Building Blocks program. MBB is now accepting applications to enroll in the program.
- Mrs. Suel stated that The Black Institute Pilot Program with Donna was a success. Mrs. Suel thanked Ms. Berryman and Ms Speed for the support of the Black Institute at Jackson State University. The Council requested to be informed of upcoming Institutes. Mr. Simkins suggested that such events be placed in the quarterly Child Care Information Memorandum.

The next Child Care Advisory Meeting was set for July 19, 2013, at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Reviewed and approved:

  
Council Chairperson

  
MSDH Representative

18 Oct 13  
Date