

Minutes of the Acadia Road Combined Daycare Communicare Society

April 10, 2008, in the Administration Building

In Attendance (in bold; absent members are not in bold):

Infant Center		3-5 Centers	
Little Goslings:	Lisa Sundstrom (VP Advocacy, faculty) Christina Conati (regrets)	Acadia:	Katherine Todd Millar (VP Advocacy, student)
Toddler Centers		Little Raven:	Ben Pfeiffer Maria Ezhova
Sitka:	Laura Wheeler	Pacific Spirit/ S7UMUX Kindergarten	Cristina Conati Reuben Ford
Huckleberry:	Leslie Paris John Pitcher Brenda Wessel	Tillicum:	Paul Pavlidis (Webmaster) (regrets) Megan Riter
Canada Goose:	Jeff Terry	Lluvia:	Jessica Irwin (Co-Secretary) (regrets)
Discovery:	Brenda Wessel	Barish:	Jessica Irwin (Co-Secretary) (regrets) Brit Lampe (Fundraising, Treasurer)
Lilliput:	Julie Bettinger (Co-Secretary) Jim Salzman	Summer of '73:	Julie Stitt (President) (regrets) Kristin Loheyde (VP Advocacy, staff) Kelli Kadokawa (Fundraising)
Chuva:		Kids Club:	Annie Moradain
Staff		Other	
Director	Darcelle Cotton Bev Christian		

Please ask your council rep or senior staff members for contact information if you have any questions.

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1. Review of the Minutes

Minutes: The minutes from the **March 13, 2008** meeting have been approved.

2. Introductions

See attendance of board members in bold on first page.

3. Administrators Report (Darcelle)

Darcelle shared the draft operation budget for 2008-2009 with the council. Key points: the infant and toddler programs lose money. The majority of costs is staff salaries and benefits and the wage for staff remains low, only \$16.88/hour and only started receiving a pension on the last contract. The costs for the playgrounds at the new centers is not reflected. Each playground will cost around \$50 - \$100,000, so about \$300,000 will be needed.

Subsidized fees will be increase \$10/month for full time and \$5/month for part-time starting July 1, 2008. There will be no increase in kids club, kindergarten and the weekly rate of the summer program.

Board of governors acknowledge the \$1.3 million funding gap for construction at the last meeting and recognized it has to be financed from somewhere.

Construction is on schedule. Bev had another meeting with licensing and is still waiting for approval on mixed aged groupings for new centers.

Enrollment: Part-time pre-school programs that run Sept-June are filling quickly. Kinder care is 80% full. Pacific Spirit 3-5 program has 10 spaces committed, plus another 4-5 potentially filled. Bev will continue to enroll, hold about 5 spaces to fill over the summer months with our internal children and siblings as needed. Next year they may not be able to meet kindergarten needs of all internal families with the addition of Pacific Spirit 3-5. Only confirmed withdrawals of 5 year olds are for August 30 and July 31 in 3-5 programs. There will be about 50 kids going into kindergarten. They will need extra staffing to handle the transition of so many children into 3-5 and toddler programs at the same time. Parents should not expect any spaces to open up in 3-5 or toddler programs before July or August.

NOTE: Bev is assuming if families are currently in a full-time spot they want to stay in a full-time spot and the same for families in part-time spots. If families want to change status with a transition to the next center they need to let Bev know. Any families considering Barish (1/2 day 3-5) or Lluvia preschool for Sept should let Bev know ASAP as those positions are being filled now.

Changes are being made to the waiting list to accommodate students and UNA residents (UNA is covering 1.3 million of construction costs).

Action Items: 1) Ask AMS to define full-time student. Does it mean 24 credits?
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4. Open Executive Positions

Julie Stitt is stepping down as president, Paul Pavlidis is stepping down as webmaster and the VP advocacy for students is open. These positions and any others will need to be filled at the AGM in May. It was agreed to send a description of all the positions around to the parents to raise awareness and see if anyone is interested.

Action Items: 1) Reps should let their parents know positions are available and any interested parents should attend the AGM in May and let Julie Bettinger or Kristin Loheyde know. 2) Julie will get a description from Paul about the software required for the position.
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5. Swap Meet Update

The swap meet will be held Saturday May 10 in the Acadia Commons Block. 5 out of 20 tables have been filled. Staff at centers can rent a table too if they want to clear out old center toys. Volunteers are needed to help with set up. Parking is available around daycare and at the high school. They will need extra tables because only 14 available at the Commons. Centers with an extra daycare council rep or a "special events" parent duty should ask those individuals to help with set up and clean up.

Action Items: 1) Reps should let their parents know about the event 2) Centers with an extra daycare council representative or special event representative should enlist those individuals to help with the event.

6. Fall Events

The following fall events will be held again in the fall: 1) Stong's and Safeway grocery store fundraiser 2) Parent information night (to provide information on local kindergartens and enrollment), 3) Loveable Labels fundraiser. Kelli and Brit are willing to organize the grocery store fundraiser. Maria is willing to organize Parent info night. We need at least one more parent to assist her with this. If Chris would like to hold the concert again in the fall the council is willing to organize it.

Fundraising tiles for new building can be defined and organized in the fall.

The 40th anniversary event/block party will need to be organized in the fall as well.

Action Items: 1) We need volunteers to help with parent information night, the fundraising tiles and the 40th anniversary event (to be held summer 2009).

7. Advocacy Update (Lisa and Kristin)

The Childcare toolkit will be linked to the website.

Action Items: 1) Ask Paul to post a link to childcare toolkit

8. Miscellaneous

Kristin had breakfast with UBC President Toope and brought up daycare issues. Lisa Castle VP of Human Resources will be sending out invitations in the next week or so to various groups on campus, including the Daycare Council, to get representatives for a task force to look at family cycle issues (retention and recruitment issues) as per the *Focus on People* framework. Let your rep know if interested.

Solicit wish list ideas from centers for fall fundraiser.

Action Items: 1) Let parents know about the task force for family life issues 2) Reps should ask parents and staff for wish list ideas for the fall fundraisers

9. Confirm next meeting

Our next meeting the Annual General Meeting (AGM) has been scheduled for **Thursday May 22, 2008 at 7:00 pm** at the Main Office.