



CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL
OF
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, INC.
Champion for Children Advocacy Center
1968 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870

MINUTES
January 16, 2013

Members Present: Sandra Bass, Susan Buelow, Judge Angela J. Cowden, Ruth Handley, Nancy Hensley, Julia Hermelbracht, Donna Howerton, Nasseam James, MaryAnn Lewis, Marlen Martinez, Darlene Phypers, Kevin Roberts, Jeff Roth, Micah Scanga, Karen Wright, and Annette Yunck.

Others Present: Gail Escobar, Lt. Greg Pearlman, Gabe Read, Russ Sharp

The meeting was called to order by Darlene Phypers, Chairman, at 7:35 AM.

Agenda Item 1: Welcome by Darlene Phypers.

Agenda Item 2: Introduction of Guests: Angel Wiggins from The Oaks at Avon, Kristin Handley - United Way Director, Joyce McInerny from Central Florida Behavioral Health, Naseem James – Healthy Start Director, and Katie Pippin and Brenda Heston, both with Champion for Children Foundation

Agenda Item 3: Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance & Motivational Moment led by Kevin J. Roberts.

Agenda Item 4: Volunteer for next meeting's motivational moment: Micah Scanga will provide the motivational moment at the next meeting. The next meeting is Wednesday, February 20, 2013 – 7:30 a.m. at the Champion for Children Advocacy Center.

Agenda Item 5: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2012. After a review of the minutes, Judge Angela Cowden made a motion and Karen Wright seconded the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Motion approved.

Agenda Item 6: Election of Officers

Micah Scanga made a motion and Susan Below seconded the motion to accept the Nominating Committee’s proposal of Darlene Phypers as chairman and Karen Wright as vice-chairman for the 2013 year. Motion approved.

Agenda Item 7: 2013 Children’s Services Council Calendar

The calendar was included in the agenda packet. Kevin Roberts confirmed the Champion for Children Awards Gala date as Thursday, September 26, 2013 at 6pm.

Agenda Item 8: Emotional Regulatory Healing (Recap): Kevin Roberts stated that the training for “Understanding and Responding to Children Who Have Experienced Trauma Through Emotional Regulatory Healing” was fabulous and beneficial. It presented a new way of healing for children who have experienced trauma.

Agenda Item 9: Christmas Gifts for the children at RCMA (Highlands Ave. site) (Recap)

Jeff Roth and Scott Crutchfield (along with Santa Claus) provided 37 children with Christmas gifts sponsored by the Champion for Children Foundation.

History: Prior to RCMA, the facility was named Fairyland Daycare, Inc. The location was the first community daycare center in Sebring began by a church in the Washington Heights neighborhood for the children of grove workers at that time. Then it became a beneficiary of the George S. Buck Foundation, who was an individual who gave money for children and wanted education for the underprivileged. It then became a project of the Caraway Sunday School Class at the Methodist Church, then adopted by individuals of the Rotarians, which ultimately assisted with the financing of the facility. The school board then took over before the Fairyland Day Care Center, Inc. was incorporated. Fairyland facilitated the sale of the property to RCMA.

Agenda Item 10: Presentation - Central Florida Behavioral Health:

Joyce McInerny, Community Consumer Family Liaison, gave her personal testimony of her life experiences as a consumer in the mental health arena that began at the age of 8 years of age. She was part of the Peace River FACT Team for many years, and is a prior board member of NAMI, and founded the Peer Employment Recovery Company. She is a certified peer specialist, a certified peer to peer mentor, and is recognized as a leader in the mental health community,

Agenda Item 11: 2013 Priority Discussion: Jeff Roth stated he would like to hear from the membership as to the topics that they would like to see the Council address in 2013. He would like to present a state of the council to the County Commissioners before the budget season begins.

The remaining agenda items were tabled as the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 AM

Agenda Item 12: Update on Pet Shelter for Sebring Safehouse:

Agenda Item 13: 211 & Resource Guide Update

Agenda Item 14: New Business:

Agenda Item 15: Adjournment – 9:00 AM

(Next meeting Wednesday, February 20, 2013 – 7:30 A.M. at the Champion for Children Advocacy Center)

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffrey L. Roth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Jeffrey L. Roth, Executive Director
Children's Services Council of Highlands County

Respectfully submitted: Gail Escobar