

Tuesday April 26, 2011

### Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Committee Members in attendance: Karen Burnside-Strack, Ranee Armstrong, Coleen Land, Maria Wynne, Tammy Dunn, Jaime Jones, Tamela Hunt, Stephanie McKinstry, Noel Hanson, Joey Scherschel, and Brenda Kennedy.

Non-Members in attendance: Melanie Brizzi, Debbie Sampson, Melissa Chalman, Mark Snyder, Angie Kohlmeyer

- A. Old Business – there was a problem with the minutes from the January meeting and none were recorded.
- B. New Business
  1. We were told that Kathy Bradley, Ann Conner, and Bill Powell are no longer on the Advisory Board. The Bureau will be looking at new members later in the year.
  2. An updated map has been sent out but will be sent out again as some members did not receive it or could not open it. A list of board members and contact info for them will also be sent out. Let Debbie or Joey know if there is any change in your contact information or e-mail address.
  3. a. A Legislative update was given by Melanie Brizzi. The session ends on Friday night April 29. This was an unusual session. The democrats “took a powder for a while” but there was no impact to the child care regulations because of this. Representative Cindy Noe refused to hear the bill. The Senate version did get a hearing but the bill was held and not voted on and so killed.

The bill did get more support this session than in the past from non-traditional sources, such as, The United Way, Home Advisory Members, Parents, and Pastors. There was a lot of interest. Senator Holdman is a strong supporter who took a point of privilege to express his disappointment on the outcome of the bill.

The interim study committee, the Committee on Child Care, agreed unanimously on the content of SB 56. There were two areas that were discussed for Registered Ministries that did not have unanimous agreement, ratios and fire regulation. These items were not included in SB56.

b. There are two more pending pieces of legislation which could impact child care within SB331 and SB88. One would define the “plus 3” rule to include full day Kindergarten children. The other would define Recreational Programs as being 90 day programs offered once a year for school age children. Melanie did not know if they would pass but will know on Friday and will let us know.

c. Melanie encouraged providers again to invite elected official into our homes and let them see what we do.

Karen informed her that she had done so with Representative Noe and for the entire committee, but had been told they do not have the time to come. Melanie said they probably really don't when they are in session and encouraged us all to try again out of session and with our representative from our district. Also to let them know we are one of their constituents.

4. There have been multiple changes to Federal Regulations for full size and not-full size cribs. The information on the changes will be sent out shortly and the information can also be found on the Carefinder website. These changes do not affect "Pac'n'Play's".

Cribs purchased prior to 7/23/2010 are not compliant. Cribs purchased between 7/23/10 and 6/28/2011 **may be** compliant but you will need to get a manufacturer's certificate of compliance to the new standards.

Retailers will be from now until this coming June 28<sup>th</sup>, trying to sell the non-compliant cribs they now have in stock. Providers should be cautious in purchasing cribs now. After June 28<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. they have to be in compliance from the manufacturer. If buying now you should ask for a "Certificate of Compliance" that says the crib is in compliance with 16 CFR 1219 or 1220. Melanie stressed that you cannot tell just by looking at a crib whether or not it is in compliance. You must have a certificate as above. Nothing else is compliant. Providers must be in compliance with the new regulations by December 28, 2012. Provider will all be receiving written information and a sample of what a Certificate of Compliance should look like and what information is required to be on the certificate. A member suggested we share the new regulations with parents when we receive them so they know. The Bureau is on the lookout for grants or other ways they can help reduce the cost of having to replace cribs for providers.

5. Interpretative Guidelines updates should have been received in the mail. They are also on the Carefinder website or you can call the Bureau if you haven't received them. If you would like a full copy of the guidelines with the changes, you can also call the Bureau to have one sent to you.
  - a. The question was asked about wading pools in the 470 IAC 3-1.1-39 section. Debbie informed us that that has not changed. The regulation still talks about wading pools but if you look in the Intent section at the last sentence, it states that the State Department of Health does not permit wading pools that do not have a filter or circulating water flow. Maria thanked her for clearing that up.
  - b. A second question came up regarding outdoor play. If the group is outside, and a child has to use an inside bathroom; He/She cannot go into the home alone to use the bathroom. It's got to be done as a group unless you have extra help that can escort them. The supervision letter states that a child may not be left alone either inside or outside except for the school age provision.
6. Tammy brought up the JoAnn Fabric & Crafts Teacher Reward. Teachers and child care professionals can get a 15% discount by showing their license. She pointed out that this 15% off is even on

most clearance prices and can be quite a savings. Colleen said that she had a problem getting signed up for it by a salesperson that thought it was for teacher's only. She called management and they were very helpful and she did get signed up.

7. Tammy also brought up the fact that May 6<sup>th</sup> is Provider Appreciation Day. You can find lots of info and flyers on [www.ProviderAppreciationDay.org](http://www.ProviderAppreciationDay.org) and encouraged everyone to pass the word because what we do is important.
8. Maria wanted guidelines clarifying what home providers are to do in the event of a power outage. She said providers were all doing it differently. She wanted a specific number of hours you can stay open if the power fails. Debbie said she would start a discussion on this at the Bureau and would get guidelines to us. She commented that it was a bigger problem for homes with wells for water, because you can't even flush the toilet if the power is out. Mark mentioned using rain barrels to help flush the toilet if it's temporary.
9. Noel mentioned a reminder about certificates for today's meeting. She is to send dates for center ones to Melanie. She also brought up that you can receive a 10% discount at Borders or Barnes & Nobel with some ID that shows you teach. It can only be used on materials that are for use in your classroom. Noel also stated that she is having a problem with recycling people because she is not a not-for-profit organization. Another member mentioned that if anyone is looking for books; Hatchette Books in Lebanon has a warehouse sale the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in June when everything is \$1. There are no children allowed in the warehouse. Scholastic books at 86<sup>th</sup> and Michigan twice monthly have books for sale for between \$1 and \$3. You can sign up at [Scholastic.com](http://Scholastic.com).
10. Noel stated that she was shocked at the cost of fingerprinting. A member stated that in another state she worked in the FBI kept them on-file and they did not have to keep paying for them over and over again. Debbie told her that the state has a contract with L-1. They do not keep them on file here in Indiana. The statute requires that they be done every 2 years at relicensure. She also informed us that L-1 while more expensive is much more efficient and quicker with results. 97 -98% go through the first time and the time it takes to process them has decreased dramatically with most coming back within 24 to 48 hours.  
NOTE: Debbie checked with the State Police Fingerprinting Division and the state of Illinois stores fingerprints not the FBI. The FBI does not currently store fingerprints which is why providers must get reprinted every 2 years.
11. Noel mentioned that she had been to a conference that was supposed to get rid of some paperwork for directors but got more paperwork instead. She recommended a checks and balances system.
12. Debbie brought up a new system they are putting into place which will track what each provider is due for such as drug tests, fingerprints, TB tests, and CPR training.

13. Stephanie asked how to get a copy of her background check for accreditation. She was told that you don't need to send that if you are a licensed provider because they know that licensing has that. Debbie also stated that according to the FBI, they are not allowed to give the results to the individual. The individual would have to request them for themselves from the FBI.
14. Stephanie also brought up a Jay County Provider who would like to be an advisory board member and asked what she should do. Debbie told her to send in her name for consideration the next time there is an opening for that area.
15. Debbie stated that the Bureau had received the National Program for Playground Safety's John Preston Playground Safety Award for 2011 for all the playground inspections and grants awarded this past year.
16. Debbie gave us some 2010 statistics. We went from 3057 licensed child care homes in 2009 to 3053 in 2010. The Bureau issued 63 probationary licenses, 91 enforcement actions, 11 cease and desist orders, revoked 44 licenses, denied 29 applications/reapplication, had 7 emergency closures, and investigated 344 complaints. Most were records violations such as children's physicals, CPR, 1<sup>st</sup> Aid renewals and conditions in the home that could be hazardous to a child.  
There are 86 accredited homes in the state.
17. Our next meeting date is July 26<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.
18. Jaime brought up the problem with HOA and zoning problems for providers. Debbie said if you live in a licensed childcare home there are laws designed to protect you. The Bureau is willing to meet with zoning boards and/or write letters to help anyone with issues on this. It was suggested that the zoning boards make it a "conditional variance" so the next person to move into the home has to reapply. Colleen mentioned that she has no problem because she is forthcoming and faxes a copy of her license to several local entities. Debbie said that East Chicago put a one-year moratorium on opening child care homes because they do not want the increased traffic or noise in their neighborhoods. The provider in Lafayette that had an issue like this which she fought and won in courts is now appeal fighting an appeal by the HOA. Tamela said she had a small issue and was made to add two new parking spaces but when she complied, she has not had any further problem. Debbie said that the zoning boards throughout the state are all varied.
19. Stephanie brought up providers that have not yet started to obtain their CDA's and asked what happens if they do not get them within 3 years. Debbie said they could request a variance as long as they are enrolled in a class and are attempting to obtain them; but if they just refuse to get them or aren't trying, then their license can be revoked.
20. Karen made a motion to adjourn. Colleen seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 2:25p.