

**Kent County**  
**Family & Children's**  
**Coordinating Council**



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**KCFCCC Meeting Minutes**

**June 3, 2008, 12:00pm – 1:30pm**

MSU Extension Offices – **Room B**

775 Ball Avenue, NE

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**Members/Alternates Present:** Susan Broman, Jack Greenfield, Bob Haight, Lynn Heemstra, Kevin Kornaska, Ron Jimmerson (Cascade Engineering), Sharon Loughridge, Carol Paine-McGovern, Diana Sieger, Dianna Baker (for Cathy Raevsky), Patti Warmington, Andy Zylstra

**Members Absent:** Candace Cowling, Tom Czerwinski, Bev Drake, William Forsyth, Judge Patrick Hillary, Cathy Raevsky, Paul Ippel, Lynne Ferrell, Debra Holmes-Garrison,

**Guests:** Dona Abott, Wayman Britt, Ben Emdin, Judy Freeman, Alena Gessner, Michael Nowik, Amy Turner-Thole, Jon Wilmot

**1 Welcome & Call to Order**

Carol Paine-McGovern welcomed everyone to the meeting. Carol asked everyone to introduce themselves.

**2 Youth Master Plan**

Carol introduced Lynn Heemstra who provided an overview of the Our Communities Children Youth Master Plan.

Lynn shared that her office received two grants earlier this year – one from the Forum for Youth Investment and the other from the National League of Cities. The grants provided support for the creation of a Youth Master Plan for the City of Grand Rapids. Part of the plan to create the youth master plan is to interview youth from the City regarding their needs. Additionally, the plan includes mapping the resources available to youth throughout the County. Ultimately, the Plan will create a set of priorities for funding and investment. Lynn requested that the KCFCCC endorse the creation of the Youth Master Plan.

KCFCCC members had several questions regarding the scope of the *Plan* including, but not limited, to the following:

- The process by which it would be conducted with countywide services included, but not the engagement of youth from the entire county
- The specific deliverables that it will achieve and how they will be implemented

- The way in which the *Plan* fits into current initiatives such as Afterschool Programming, Disengaged Youth, First Steps Early Childhood, and the Kent School Services Network
- Clarification of the definition of 'youth' (is it 0 - 21, k-12, middle/high school age, etc.)
- How may this fit into a 5 year plan for the KCFCCC
- What community partners will be involved in the process
- Who will fund this plan and who will fund the implementation of it
- The 'buy-in' of public officials and leaders of the community that can make change happen per recommendations of a *Plan*.

As a result of the questions that needed clarification, it was agreed that the KCFCCC would request a meeting with the elected officials of the County and City as well as County department directors to ensure that the community leaders were on board with the development of the Master Plan.

### 3. Early Childhood Commission Update

Ben introduced Maureen Kirkwood who is the Program Director for the Children's Healthcare Access Program and Amy Turner-Thole who is the First Steps Communications Director. Maureen and Amy gave updates on their work and announced that the launch of the First Steps Program will take place in July and the launch of the Children's Healthcare Access Program, CHAP, will also take place this summer. Ben talked about the work of the Early Childhood Steering Committee that continues to work on the big questions surrounding the structure of the oversight agency for First Steps.

### 4. Committee Updates

None

### 5. Public Comment

### 6. **Miscellaneous**

None

### 7. **Adjournment**

Carol adjourned the meeting at 1:30 PM, mentioning the next meeting would take place on September 9, 2008

**Next Council meeting:** Tuesday, September 9, 2008, 12:00pm – 1:30pm  
MSU Extension Room B