

## Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2023

### Welcome and Introductions

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions of Commissioners, Alternates and Guests**

Chair Karla Pleitéz Howell opened the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission (Policy Roundtable) meeting at 10:04 a.m. by welcoming Commissioners and guests.

#### **2. Comments by the Chair**

Chair Pleitéz Howell highlighted that May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and Sunday is Mother's Day. She also reflected on readings from Thich Nhat Hanh's book Peace in Every Step and uplifted the importance of working together.

### General Business

#### **3. Approval of Minutes – April 12, 2023**

*Chair Pleitéz Howell presented the minutes for the April 12, 2023 Policy Roundtable meeting and asked for a motion to approve these minutes. Commissioner Jennifer Cowan made the motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner Ricardo Mota seconded the motion. Chair Pleitéz Howell opened the floor for comments. The April 12, 2023 minutes passed with two abstentions: Commissioners Jessica Perea and Jennifer Hottenroth.*

### Policy Roundtable Leadership Transition

#### **4. Presentation of Leadership Slate**

Chair Pleitéz Howell shared that it has been a practice of the Policy Roundtable to elect its Vice Chair and Chair to serve two-year terms. Chair Pleitéz Howell proposed Vice Chair Alejandra Albarran Moses to serve as the Policy Roundtable Chair for fiscal years (FYs) 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Chair Pleitéz Howell noted that during the past two years Vice Chair Albarran Moses has helped the Policy Roundtable improve its promotion of equity and communication and provided excellent leadership. Vice Chair Albarran Moses proposed Commissioner Justin Blakely to serve as the Policy Roundtable Vice Chair for FYs 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Vice Chair Albarran Moses noted Commissioner Blakely's contribution to developing and promoting the Policy Roundtable's Equity Statement, his leadership as Co-Chair for the Joint Committee on Legislation, and providing policy information at Policy Roundtable meetings.

#### **5. Approval of Leadership Slate**

*Chair Pleitéz Howell presented the Policy Roundtable leadership slate that includes Commissioner Alejandra Albarran Moses to serve as Chair and Commissioner Justin Blakely to serve as Vice Chair for FYs 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Chair Pleitéz Howell asked for a motion to approve this leadership slate. Commissioner Jacquelyn McCroskey made the motion to approve the leadership slate; Commissioner Paul Pulver seconded the motion. Chair Pleitéz Howell opened the floor for comments. The leadership slate passed with no abstentions.*

## Public Policy

### **6. Legislative Updates**

Commissioner Blakely provided the status of the Pursuit of Position approved by the Policy Roundtable. He shared that the LA County Chief Executive Office's (CEO) Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Division has not moved the Pursuit of Position forward and is waiting to see what is proposed in the Governor's May Budget Revise and progress of bills, specifically Reyes AB 596 and Limon SB 380, that address issues in the Pursuit of Position. Commissioner Blakely reviewed the status of the following bills: Bonta AB 51, Carrillo AB 555, Reyes AB 596, Limon SB 380, Menjivar SB 499, and Menjivar SB 635 and opened the floor for discussion. Some of the points raised during the discussion included:

- budget projections for FY 2024-2025 might be worse than FY 2023-2024
- budget trailer bills AB 110 and SB 110 and early budget actions are important to watch because these address the Pursuit of Position
- the importance of focusing on the reimbursement rate formula

There was also a suggestion to have Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies, the consultants helping to inform the recommendations for a new reimbursement rate methodology, present at an upcoming Policy Roundtable meeting.

## Our Unified Strategic Plan in Motion

### **7. Board of Supervisors Engagement Teams**

Chair Pleitéz Howell reminded the group that Board of Supervisors (BOS) Delegation Teams comprised of Policy Roundtable Commissioners and Child Care Planning Committee (CCPC) BOS appointees were established to increase engagement and have a consistent voice with BOS. Chair Pleitéz Howell invited each Team to share the status of their engagement efforts with their respective BOS Offices.

Supervisor Hilda Solis, District 1: BOS Delegation Team Lead Chair Pleitéz Howell reported that the Team met with Supervisor Solis' Interim Child Welfare and Social Services Deputy Candice Roosjen on April 20, 2023. During the meeting CCPC BOS appointee Kelly O'Connell shared that 91% of parents recently surveyed by Options for Learning said they would not be able to or were unsure if they could afford the family fees that are scheduled to start July 1, 2023. Interim Deputy Roosjen expressed concern about this and wanted to learn more about the issues Pursuit of Position addresses.

Supervisor Holly Mitchell, District 2: BOS Delegation Team Lead Commissioner Blakely reported the Team met with Supervisor Holly Mitchell's Human Services and Child Welfare Senior Deputy Kelvin Driscoll on April 20, 2023. During the meeting Deputy Driscoll reaffirmed that Supervisor Mitchell is committed to continuing to support early care and education (ECE) and he asked the Team what are innovative opportunities to address ECE issues. It was noted that given the current economic climate the Supervisor's Office is looking to support non-financial strategies.

Supervisor Janice Hahn, District 4: BOS Delegation Team Lead and Vice Chair Albarran Moses reported that the Team met with Supervisor Hahn's Children and Human Services Deputy Maral Karaccusian on May 8, 2023. Vice Chair Albarran Moses shared that the group had an extensive discussion about ECE and

the Pursuit of Position. During the meeting Deputy Karaccusian posed the question if there is a way to support universal preschool (UPK) by using a multi-generational approach such as connecting adult care with UPK.

Supervisor Kathryn Barger, District 5: Leanne Drogin, Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) Deputy Director, reported that BOS Delegation Team is in the process of scheduling the Delegation meeting with Supervisor Barger's Family and Children's Deputy Monica Banken.

The discussion that followed included the following suggestions: 1) invite the BOS Children's Deputies to a Policy Roundtable and attend as a group; and 2) explore ways the Policy Roundtable can connect with other LA County Departments such as *Economic Opportunity* and *Aging and Disabilities*.

### Gratitude and Farewell

#### **8. Gratitude Message for Chair Karla Pleitéz Howell**

Chair Pleitéz Howell's term as Chair will conclude in June 2023. Vice Chair Albarran Moses commended Chair Pleitéz Howell for her ongoing commitment to prioritizing equity, promoting a unified voice as a Policy Roundtable, and keeping "people" first. Commissioners and the public also expressed immense gratitude and appreciation for Chair Pleitéz Howell's strategic intelligence, keeping children first, being a true advocate, and always making the work relevant.

### Wrap Up

#### **9. Announcements and Public Comment**

Vice Chair Albarran Moses opened the floor for announcements and public comment.

- Commissioner Ariana Oliva shared that the CCPC adopted the UPK Los Angeles Mixed Delivery Framework (Framework) and the information is posted on the OAECE website. Colman will co-present the Framework with Commissioner Luis Bautista, Executive Director of Head Start at Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), to the LACOE Board in June 2023.
- Zenaida Meza, OAECE Staff Analyst, shared that the CCPC has opened its membership application process and the OAECE will email the Policy Roundtable the application to share with others.
- Justine Flores shared information about Child Care Providers United's (CCPU) advocacy efforts and is asking others to support CCPU in these efforts.
- Betsy Jacoby, OAECE Staff Analyst, announced that the OAECE has launched its infant and toddler facility fee waiver program. This fee waiver program is for providers who want to renovate their facilities to serve infants and toddlers. More information about the fee waiver program can be accessed on the OAECE website under Special Projects, ECE Facilities Development.
- Leanne Drogin shared that the next Policy Roundtable meeting will be held at the Department of Public Health building on 600 S. Commonwealth Ave. 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, LA CA 90005.

#### **10. Meeting in Review and Call to Adjourn**

Vice Chair Albarran Moses adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

## **Attendance**

### **Commissioners Attendance**

1. Karla Pleitéz Howell, *First Supervisorial District*
2. Jessica Perea, *First Supervisorial District*
3. Justin Blakely, *Second Supervisorial District*
4. Jennifer Cowan, *Third Supervisorial District*
5. Amber Rivas, *Third Supervisorial District*
6. Alejandra Albarran Moses, *Fourth Supervisorial District*
7. Ricardo Mota, *Fourth Supervisorial District*
8. Jennifer Hottenroth, *Department of Children and Family Services*
9. Kanchana Tate, *Department of Mental Health*
10. Jeannette Aguirre Carrillo, *Department of Probation*
11. Ariana Oliva, *Child Care Planning Committee*
12. Jacquelyn McCroskey, *Commission for Children and Families*

### **Alternate Commissioners Attendance**

1. Paul Pulver, *Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles*
2. Debi Anderson, *Los Angeles County Office of Education*

### **Guests Attendance**

1. Cristina Alvarado
2. Justine Flores
3. Esther Nguyen

### **OAECE Staff Attendance**

1. Debra Colman, *Director*
2. Leanne Drogin, *Deputy Director*
3. Betsy Jacoby, *Staff Analyst*
4. Zenaida Meza, *Staff Analyst*
5. Meliza Hernandez, *Staff Analyst*