

CAC Special Education Committee – Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2018

In attendance:

Committee Members: Kate Thommes, Ruth Beckner, Mary Hogan, Sarah Siddiqui (via Phone), Sarah Thompson and Leticia Gonzalez.

I. Call to order:

Meeting called to order at 6:37 PM. The 8/22/17 and 11/14/17 meeting minutes were presented for review. Ruth B. made a motion to approve the 8/22/17 minutes; Seconded by Kate T. Leticia G. made a motion to approve the 11/14/17 minutes; seconded by Sarah T. Approval of minutes made by voice vote.

II. IV. Public Comment

Sarah T. called for Public Comment. None was raised.

III. New Business

Sarah T. discussed the Report draft for the 2017/2018 school year. The following discussion items were raised:

- Leatrice corrected certain titles that had changed in the Specialized Student Services department.
- Kate suggested we consider moving the presentation about benefits to the end of the order (February) so we have more time to advertise that. Sarah said it depended on Sherri Schneider's availability.
- Kate also said we should highlight programs schools offers like "Best Buddies" program.
- Mary suggested we be more specific with the topic "10 things every SPED parent needs to know" because that could be very broad. Kate stated that we would defer to our speaker's judgement on this topic.

The committee approved the report.

Sarah S. provided a summary of the program feedback from participants. She said the feedback was very limited and that we should consider going back to paper forms that we hand out during the presentation. But overall the feedback was positive. We did get a comment from a Spanish speaker that the translation needed to be improved. But that was only for the third program. Also people felt the social development program was not geared enough to special needs children and represented milestones for typically developing children with not enough adaption. But some of those participants did not stay for the Q&A session.

Next Sarah T. discussed the proposed 2018/2019 presentation topics. The committee liked the direction and agreed that the co-chairs should head up one program each. Mary Hogan said we needed to make more copies of the handouts because we ran out at each presentation.

Sarah talked about the 2018/2019 committee co-chairs. Kate Thommes is stepping down as co-chair but Sarah Siddiqui has accepted the third position of co-chair. However, she will stay active with the committee (and programs) to the extent her work schedule allows.

The current day/time of the committee meeting was discussed and it was agreed to keep the same start time of 6:30 PM but move it to the third Tuesday of the month for the 2018/2019 school year. Leatrice sent her assistant Donnie an email to reserve meeting rooms for the third Tuesday in August, September, November (2018) and March (2019).

IV. Other Business

None

Kate moved to adjourn; Leticia seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Sarah Thompson, CAC Special Education Committee Co-Chairperson.