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FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting of January 13, 1994, 12:15 p.m.
5454 Ruffin Road, Room 201
San Diego, CA 92123

AGENDA

I. Call to Order . . . . . Chair

II. Approval of Agenda . . . . . Members

III. Approval of Minutes of December 9, 1993 . . . . . Members

IV. Membership Status Report . . . . . Sandra Boelter

V. Items for Consideration

A. Update Reports:

FSCS Ad Hoc Steering Committee . . . . . S. Boelter/P. Boles
Community Agencies . . . . . Bonnie Feinman
Foster Parent Associations . . . . . P. Sokol/P. Boles
Foster Parent Liaisons . . . . . Becky Morrow
Relative Placement Issues . . . . . Margie Davis
Mental Health . . . . . Laura Colligan
Probation . . . . . Marie Turner
Schools . . . . . Luis Villegas
Joint Commission on Children and Youth . . . . . Patty Boles
Childrens Services Bureau . . . . . Lola Hobbs
Licensing . . . . . Grace Young
Emergency Shelter Care Sub-committee . . . . . Pam Sokol

B. Training . . . . . Nory Behana

VI. Old Business

Foster Parents Liability/Update . . . . . Rick Clark
Court Issues . . . . . Sandra Boelter

VII. New Business

VIII. Public Input

IX. Next Meeting - February 10, 1994

X. Adjourn

Foster Care Services Committee
Regular Meeting of December 9, 1993
5454 Ruffin Road, Room 201
San Diego, CA 92123

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Sandra Boelter	Margie Davis	Susan Rogers
Patty Boles	Luis Villegas	Mary Henthorne
Nadiene Sahagun	Tom Wickline	Trudie Kern
Nory Behana		Jeanne Lanzaro
Lola Hobbs		Diana Dixon
Laura Colligan		
Anne Fitzpatrick		
Eleanor Smith		
Rick Clark		
Grace Young		
Delores Stroh		
Bonnie Feinman		
Denise Kerwood		

I. **Call to Order**. The meeting was called to order by Chair Sandra Boelter at 12:20 p.m.

II. **Approval of Agenda**. Elections to be added under new business; agenda then accepted as corrected.

III. **Approval of Minutes of November 18, 1993**. Minutes were approved and accepted.

IV. **Membership Status Report**. Nominations for committee membership were due today, December 9th - no nominations were received. The deadline was extended to the end of December. Representatives for nomination need to be sent in writing to Sandra Boelter by the end of December and will be voted on in January.

V. **Items for Consideration**

A. **Update Reports:**

FCSC Ad Hoc Steering Committee

Steering committee met on December 3, 1993 and drafted by-laws for new committee structure (copies handed out). Sandra Boelter referred to the following by-laws:

- Article II, Section I (Membership): Three positions were added: 1 from foster care education and training programs, 1 from the Juvenile Court, and 2 representatives from the relative placement group (GOLD). Jeanne Lanzaro did not feel GOLD should have a total of three representatives and may file an injunction. Jeanne feels she should be allowed to be a voting member and feels Child Fair Services should definitely have one vote. It was recommended that "GOLD" be changed to "relative placement organizations" to include other organizations (not only GOLD). Applications will then have to be reviewed by nominating committee for inclusion as voting members.

- Article I (Name and Purpose): Name be changed to foster/relative care services committee to include relative placement issues more.

- Article II, Section II (Term of Office): Term of office will remain the same (4 years). There is one change that if the member represents a program or a position for the naming organization that the term may be less than 4 years. The limit of absences (to use an alternate) is to be no more than 2 times in a 12-month period. More than five regularly scheduled meeting absences in a 12-month period will constitute a vacancy.

- Article III, Section VIII (Organization): Compensation is more clearly defined - mileage reimbursement for foster parent association and relative placement group representatives for attending regular meetings; special meetings, convened by the Foster and Relative Care Services Committee, or; meetings where the member is designated as a representative of the Committee; meetings pursuant to the duties by the officers of the Committee. The Committee may appoint Foster Parent Liaisons who will be eligible for reimbursement for the cost of telephone bills/mileage incurred by the liaison in the course of his/her duties. Compensation for mileage and telephone costs will be paid by the Department of Social Services under established procedures for reimbursing volunteers.

- Article III, Section IX (Staff Assistance): DSS shall provide necessary staff assistance to the Committee.

- Article IV, Section I (Mission Statement): Members will initiate, respond and interact appropriately in dealing with foster relative issues.

- Article IV, Section II (Duties and Responsibilities): Our annual report will now be submitted no later than September 30 for the previous fiscal year (previously due in December).

- Article IV, Section IV (Election of Officers: Elections will be held in December of the odd-numbered year and the terms shall be for two years and term begin January 1 of even-numbered year and ending December 31 of the odd-numbered year.

- Article V (Amendments to Bylaws): Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership with written notification of changes 30 days prior to vote at a general meeting.

It was recommended that, wherever it was stated Foster Care/Relative Services, it be changed to read Foster and Relative Care Services.

The by-laws were accepted with changes - to be voted on in January.

Community Agencies - (Bonnie Feinman)

The Association of Foster Family Agencies continues to meet. A speaker from the California Chapter of Foster Family Treatment Association was at their last meeting asking those agencies who don't belong to join their international organization. The Association of Foster Family Agencies is still doing group trainings and they are also working on a protocol with the County on developing better working systems for referrals of children to placements.

Foster Parent Associations - (Delores Stroh)

Betty Davis, the newsletter chair, worked on volunteer projects during the holidays - provided Thanksgiving baskets for 31 Family Preservation families and will be doing Christmas for the children of those families.

Foster Parent Liaisons - No report.

Relative Placement Issues - No report.

Mental Health - (Laura Colligan will be the new representative)

Mental Health continues to work with social workers and foster parents to provide mental health services to children who are special education through Assembly Bill 3632.

Probation - No report.

Schools - No report.

Joint Commission on Children and Youth - (Nory Behana)

Nory Behana represented Patty Boles at the Joint Commission on Children and Youth meeting. The Commission will not merge with Juvenile Justice. Strategic plan for health of San Diego County's children, youth and families - another type of collaborative effort to make sure that all services (Child Abuse Prevention Foundation, Children's Initiative, Department of Health, Health Coalition for Children and Youth, Regional Perinatal Systems) work/coordinate with each other. The Child Abuse Coordinating Council shared their year end report on child fatalities.

Children's Services Bureau - (Lola Hobbs)

Lola Hobbs reported Rick Clark will be helping her out by taking more responsibility working with Chair, Sandra Boelter, on agenda, minutes, and staff issues. Steve Briggs will be focusing on the noticing issue. The Share Bear Warehouse is located at the Del Mar Fairgrounds and will be open to the public next week. SB 1125 will be implemented in December and January. SB 1125 will allow a one-case plan rather than a case plan for each program. There will also be a "one time only" supplementation for cost in foster care. CSB has been looking at developing a policy to utilize those funds: a) give some additional money to relatives; b) the target is medical. Medical costs would be those not reimbursable in other ways (Medi-Cal). A group was formed with regional representatives on how to administer this program. Approximately $360,000 is available through this special one time only augmentation from the state general fund dollars which will have to be shared with the Probation Department.

Licensing - (Grace Young)

Grace Young reported changes in licensing staff. Licensing will be down about 1.5 staff than most agencies. Effective November 15th Karen Barch has assumed the position of options coordinator and Pat Parillo will be assuming the licensing component of the options program.

B. Training - (Nory Behana)

Nory Behana passed out the Spring '94 flyer of training classes. The discipline class will also be available in Spanish this year and CPR is available for $15. A flyer will be sent out mid-spring on independent living series. The San Diego Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics requested Anne Fitzpatrick to do a training/workshop on drug exposed children.

VI. Old Business

Foster Parents Liability/Update - (Rick Clark)

Rick Clark reported there is no update and County Counsel is still working on this issue.

VII. New Business

Delores Stroh's last day as an official voting member of the committee was today and she was presented with a post-it holder. Lennie Hart (not present) will also receive a post-it holder.

Elections

Nadiene Sahagun, nominating committee chair, recommended Sandra Boelter as continuing chair for the next 2 years and Patty Boles as vice chair. The motion was voted on and passed.

VIII. Public Input

Jeanne Lanzaro sent a letter addressed to the FCSC chair and asked the steering committee to look over attendance records, term of office, constitutional items, conflict of interest in nominating members. Lola Hobbs noted, as reflected in bylaws, DSS is to take responsibility for the committee and FCSC will be a Department established committee.

IX. **Next Meeting**. The next meeting is January 13, 1994, 12:15 p.m. at 5454 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123, in Room 201.

X. **Adjourn**. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m. Happy Holidays to all☺