

**Stratford School Readiness and Child Care Advisory Council
Promise Leadership Work Group****Meeting Minutes ~ May 19, 2009**

Members present: LaSandria Boyd, Tom Coakley, Melissa Daskam, Christina Dina, Susan Gottlieb, Priscilla Long, Denise Nalezynski, Pat Naylor, Abel Padro, Alix Semanchik, Martha Simpson, Myra Watnick, Elaine Watson, Alice Williams

Guest: Linda Smith

Members Absent: Nell Barrett, Trina Carr, Priscilla Choquette, Diana Dilorio, Melanie Georgalas, Kathy Giordano, Christina Kazanas, Robert Landis, Ellen Michaels, Abel Padro, Greta Roberts, Carolyn Ross

Consultants: Sonja Ahuja, Maria Mojica

- I. **Welcome** – Sue Gottlieb and Alix Semanchik, Co-chairs, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- II. **Approval of Minutes and May Agenda** - Alix asked if there were any additions to the May 19th agenda. Myra Watson MOTIONED to approve the March 17, 2009 Council Minutes; SECONDED by Martha Simpson, APPROVED.
- III. **By-Laws Amendments** – At the May 1st Executive Steering Committee (ESC) a motion was made to amend the by-laws to include wording about Vice Co – Chairpersons. Sue expressed her's and Alix's concern about the enormity of becoming Co-chairs, and believes that the by-laws should reflect Vice Co-chairs to move up into the Co-chair positions with more leadership under their belts. Priscilla Long questioned that the new by-laws that were put forth do not show this ascension of power, but state: *The Co-Vice-Chairperson(s) shall preside at Council meetings, act as the official spokesperson(s) for the Council, appoint committees as needed, and act as a liaison between the Council and officials, as well as other agencies in Stratford in the absence of the Co-Chairperson(s).* Priscilla suggested that we change the wording of the by-law to reflect the intent. Pat Naylor made a “process point” stating that a by-law could not get changed until it was voted on – then another wording might be put forth. After further discussion, the motion was tabled due to a lack of quorum. It will get taken up at the next meeting where a quorum is present.
- IV. **Governance Update** – Sue reported that Paul Vivian would lead the group through an exercise on Management and Governance on the June 5, 2009 meeting of the ESC, from 9 a.m. – 12 noon.
- V. **Nominating Committee Report** – Pat Naylor presented the Nominating Committee report. (See attached.) Two new parents will join the Council, and Ty Sims will become the Standing Member from the Recreation Department. The only retiring member is Carolyn Ross. The vote on this report was not conducted due to a lack of quorum present. Greta will send out the report for an online vote prior to the next meeting.
- VI. **Strategic Workgroup Break Out Sessions** – Members of the PLWG broke into groups to complete work in their strategic areas.
- VII. **Partner Updates** – Priscilla Long announced that there are two upcoming events that are available to members of the PLWG/SRACCAC. Both events are on June 9, 2009 – Graustein Memorial



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PARENTS'
PLACE

Fund (GMF) is conducting a program on Governance and Sustainability from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at their Hamden office. The second event is at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford and is entitled ***Are All the Children at the Table: Looking at your Community***. Sponsored by the Early Childhood Cabinet, DDS birth to Three System and the SDE Bureau of Special Education, this program is inviting one leader from each community to attend, and will feature Libby Doggett, of Pre-K Now as the Keynote Speaker.

Sue Gottlieb also announced that there is an additional PLWG/SRACCAC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, 2009, and the focus of the meeting is the GMF Assessment that is in lieu of a mid-year report.