



November 17, 2006, 1-2:30 PM  
Early Childhood Center, Main Street School  
**Meeting Minutes**

*Congratulations Kathy Blomquist on your re-election to North Branch City Council!*

- ❖ Introductions Present: (9) Jodie Maher, Linda Prince, Sue Monroe, Lisa Isaacson, Rachel Fercho, Lanay Webb, Pam Pignato, Karin Ihnen, Sally Nault-Maurer
- ❖ Open Announcements/Updates 3 minute limit please.
  - Voices for Children, Advocacy Day at the Capitol, Thursday, March 29, 2007. For more information go to [www.voicesforchildrenmn.org](http://www.voicesforchildrenmn.org)
  - From Karin:
    - Work Day to End Child Abuse – Turn on Your Porch Light, November 19, 2006. Shine a light of hope for children by turning on your porch light or lighting a candle as a symbol of your commitment to make a difference for kids. Also, on November 19, 702 organizations in 119 countries are uniting their voices to do what they can to end child abuse within their communities. Locally, organizations are hosting the World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse event at the Neighborhood House in St. Paul. For more information contact Rolanda DelaMartinez at 651-523-0099 ext. 14 or at [rdelamartinez@pcamn.org](mailto:rdelamartinez@pcamn.org)
    - Minnesota Council of Family Relations (MCFR) Annual Conference, “The Impact of Media and Technology on Parenting: What’s our Role as Educators and Family Practitioners?” on Friday, December 1, 2006 at the U of M Continuing Education and Conference Center in St. Paul. Keynote speaker: David Walsh. For more information contact Linda Vukelich at 651-407-0950 or [l.vukelich@comcast.net](mailto:l.vukelich@comcast.net)
    - Linda Prince shared an email of congratulations she sent to State Representative elect Jeremy Kalin. In her message Linda highlighted not only the successes of this area’s early childhood programs, but also the need for increased resources and support. She mentioned the coalition and invited Jeremy to attend one our meetings. He responded with interest. Sally will contact him, but others are also encouraged to send him, Rob Eastlund, and Rick Olseen similar messages. Contact information:

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    - Karin passed our copies of *Lessons Learned 2003-2006 Minnesota’s Early Childhood Initiative*. Sally has extra copies if you’d like one.
    - Kathy Blomquist will request assignment to the coalition again. Kathy also shared the City Cable station #10 as another resource for marketing upcoming events and meetings of the coalition. This is available for any non-profit agency.
- ❖ From last meeting:
  - Web site: No Boundary Marketing, Kathy Blomquist. We discussed this service and Jodie presented the Chisago County Press as another possible web development option (they designed the chamber website). Lisa has some experience and may also be able to help. Jodie, Kathy, Lisa, and Lanay will explore possibilities with a budget of \$1000, meet with Jeff, and make a decision to move ahead with either the current web site or a new design. We brainstormed what we’d like to include on our web site as a large group. That list is included at the end of these meeting notes. Members are encouraged to continue to think of useful links and jot down specific addresses. Discussion also included how to use existing or future coalition funds to cover these expenses. Karin offered some suggestions for this and for the next application period.
  - Transportation: We decided to discuss this as a possibility for the next grant period
  - Coalition gathering for area communities. No discussion at this meeting

Task Teams:

1. Improve Communications: What do we want on a website? List follows

2. Educate Young Parents
3. Promote Early Literacy: Concerts in the Park? A concert?
4. Advocacy
5. Indoor/Drop-in recreation
- ❖ Transportation

❖ Our next meeting:

Friday, December 15, 2006, 1:30-3:30 PM. *Lunch provided. Jodie will invite businesses via chamber listing. Sally will invite newly elected officials.*

Notes on brainstorming session: Ideas for website:

We'd like:

- Ability to make updates/changes
- Calendar of events
- Links to community resources
- Vision statement/who we are
- Pictures of recent events; articles
- Contact information of coalition coordinator

Categories for links to more information:

- Educational
- Resource agencies/organizations
- Health related (note: all should be contacted before listing to ensure accurate information is shared)
- United Way
- First Signs (ECSE)
- Marti Erickson's articles/ MN Extension Services
- Recreational

Possible links:

- Children's Home Society
- Chisago County
- City
- Schools
- Chamber
- Social Services/Law Enforcement
- Community Partnerships
- Ready 4K
- Initiative Foundation
- Family Pathways
- Friends of the Library
- All local early childhood related businesses, services, programs, etc. to include child care centers, Child Care Resource & Referral, private preschools, district programs, MOPS, etc.