



King County

Children and Families Strategy Task Force

Burien Library
400 SW 152nd St
Burien, WA 98166

December 9, 2019

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

Nancy Ashley, Patti Bailey, John Bancroft, Kathleen (Kathy) Brasch, Nela Cumming, Leilani Dela Cruz, Ti'esh Harper, Wendy Harris (BSK), Karen Hart, Omana Imani, Ruth Kagi, Laura Kneeder, Theresa Leneer, Natalie Lente, James Madden, Maki Park, Denise Pruitt (Senior policy advisor, KC Dept. HR), Sarah Reyneveld, Florida Alma Reynoso, Paula Steinke, Genevieve Stokes, Dr. Debra Sullivan, Susan Yang, Miriam Zmiewski-Angelova

Excused:

N/A

Council and Executive Staff:

Calli Knight, King County Executive's Office

Also in Attendance:

Jessica Cafferty, Child Care Policy Lead, King County Department of Community and Human Services, Sheila Capestany, Division Director Children Youth and Families, King County Department of Community and Human Services, and Marcy Miller, Health Services Administrator, King County Public Health

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Jessica Cafferty called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the kickoff meeting for the Children and Families Strategy Task Force.

1. Public Comment

The following persons spoke: No public comment.

2. Introductions

Questions for members:

- *What brings you to this work?*
- *Who will you be holding as we go through this process?*
- *What would a perfect early learning system look like to you?*

3. **Equity Statement and Questions as Developed by the King County [Children and Youth Advisory Board](#):**

- Equity is an ardent journey toward well-being as defined by the affected
- Equity demands sacrifice and redistribution of power and resources in order to break systems of oppression, heal continuing wounds, and realize justice
- To achieve equity and social justice, we must first root out deeply entrenched systems of racism
- Equity proactively builds strong foundations of agency, is vigilant for unintended consequences, and boldly aspires to be restorative
- Equity is disruptive and uncomfortable and not voluntary
- Equity is fundamental to the community we want to build

Conversation about equity statement and key questions. Open question about committing to these statements and questions.

Poll: unanimous yes to move forward with these statements.

4. **Task Force Orientation, Goals, and Timeline**

Review of the legislation to establish the King County Children and Families Strategy Taskforce (Motion 2019-0336). Key components required in legislation:

- Prepare a report that makes recommendations for addressing access and affordability
- Establish a staff working group to prepare for and assist the task force
- Convene a roundtable with businesses and other identified stakeholders
 - Conversation about decisions for who is included in businesses and employers and what the intent is of this work. Representatives from the King County Women's Advisory Board and other members spoke to the gaps in employer's knowledge of the impact of child care crisis.
- Submit report to the Executive and Council by September 30, 2020

5. **Context Setting and Brainstorming**

- Context and conversation led by Jessica Cafferty around following priority areas:
 - Cost
 - HR Policies and Employer Best Practice
 - Facilities

- Workforce and Compensation
- High Quality and Culturally Competent Care
- Inclusion

- Subcommittees:

Subcommittees will dive deeper into specific topics outlined above and bring recommendations back to the group for feedback and input. This will be discussed further at the January meeting.

- Racial Justice:

The through line and common theme for all of the subcommittees will be to center King County’s commitment to equity and social justice, particularly racial justice. It will be the responsibility of each subcommittee to discuss their intent to specifically promote racial justice through their work and recommendations.

- Definition of child care:

Legislation focuses on birth to five with an emphasis on infants and toddlers. Looking at the full universe of child care providers, both licensed and unlicensed care. There will be overlap in ages, types of child care, priorities, topics, etc.

6. Public Meetings and Records Briefing

Information on the [Code of Ethics](#), use of King County email, [Open Public Meetings Act](#) and records requirements.

7. Action Items

- Scheduling: Will send out a survey to make a decision about upcoming meeting dates and times.
- Making decisions: Conversation about making decisions based on consensus and the option to move toward Robert’s Rules of Order if necessary.

Poll: Unanimous yes to move forward with decision making based on consensus.

8. Additional Items

Will follow up on proposed activities via email, including brainstorming about topic areas, scheduling, what to expect at upcoming meetings and how to access your email and information. No other additional items or conversation for consideration.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.