**Regular Meeting**
**Early Child Development and Early Learning Task Force**
**Wednesday, July 20, 2022**
**5:00 P.M.**

**Members**

Dr. Vera Vignes, Chair
Efren Aguilar
Geoff Albert
Toni Boucher
Lisa Clements
Lila Guirguis
Ree Harris-Hudson
Lindsay Lewis
Dr. Dianne Philibosian
Marie Kanne Poulsen, Ph.D
Tony Santilena
Blanca Siebels
Melani Smith-Hill
Susan C. Wood
Carla Hegwood (Ex-Officio)

**Staff**

Michelle Garrett, Assistant to the City Manager
Danica Borja, Recording Secretary

**Meeting Information**

Agendas and related documents are available for public review on the City website at: https://www.cityofpasadena.net/commissions/early-childhood-development-early-learning-task-force/

To request meeting materials in alternative formats or other disability-related modifications or accommodations necessary to facilitate meeting participation, please contact the City Manager's Department as soon as possible at (626) 744-4333 or rumartinez@cityofpasadena.net. Providing at least 72-hour advance notice will help ensure availability.

Language translation services may also be requested with 72-hour advance notice by at (626) 744-4333 or rumartinez@cityofpasadena.net. Habrá servicio de interpretación disponible para éstas juntas llamando (626) 744-4333.

## Public Participation

The following meeting will take place solely by teleconference/videoconference.

Members of the public may participate electronically in the open session portion of the meeting.

Access to the meeting is as follows:

**Video Conference:**
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81463426534

**OR**

**Phone:** 1 (669) 900-6833 – Webinar ID: 814 6342 6534

## Public Comment Instructions

If you wish to provide comments, you may do so as follows:

1. **Advance correspondence, to become part of the record:**
   Members of the public may submit correspondence of any length prior to the start of the meeting, at the following email address: rumartinez@cityofpasadena.net. These comments will be provided to the members of the body if received by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting, and will become part of the meeting record. They will not be read aloud. Correspondence received after that time will be provided to members of the body later.

2. **Live public comments during the meeting:**
   During the meeting, members of the public may provide live public comment on an agenda item, at the time the Chair solicits public comment, by either (a) if using the Zoom program, selecting the "raise hand" function; or (b) if participating by telephone, pressing *9 to raise your hand. Public comments are limited to 2 minutes each, and the Chair or the Commission may limit this time if reasonable under the circumstances.

   Your phone call to the Commission meeting will be recorded as part of the Commission meeting. By staying on the line and making public comment during the Commission meeting, you are agreeing to have your phone call recorded.

If you need a reasonable modification or accommodation pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act because you are unable to participate electronically as set forth above, please contact the City Manager's Department as soon as possible at (626) 744- 4333 or rumartinez@cityofpasadena.net.

**Agenda**
**Early Child Development and Early Learning Task Force**
**Wednesday, July 20, 2022**
**5:00 P.M.**

**Regular Meeting**
**Pasadena City Hall**
**100 North Garfield Avenue**

1. **Call To Order/Roll Call**
2. **Approval of Minutes – July 6, 2022***
3. **Public Comment**
4. **Panel Discussion with City Departments – Vera Vignes, Task Force Chair**
5. **Recap of Mid-Term Report to City Council – Vera Vignes, Task Force Chair**
6. **Review of Draft Policy Vision Statement & Master Plan for the Young Child- Vera Vignes, Task Force Chair**
7. **Adjournment**

*Attachments

Posting statement: I hereby certify that this Agenda, in its entirety was posted on the City Council Chamber Board S249, and the bulletin board in the rotunda area at City Hall, 100 North Garfield Avenue on or before the 14th day of July 2022, by 5:30 p.m. The agenda may be viewed at the City's website at https://www.cityofpasadena.net/commissions/early-child-development-early-learning-task-force/

Dr. Vera Vignes, Chair
ECDEL Task Force

Michelle Garrett
Assistant to the City Manager

**Distribution**:
Early Child Development and Early Learning Task Force
City Council
City Clerk
City Manager
City Attorney
Hastings Library
Pasadena Weekly
Los Angeles Times
Star News
Pasadena Journal

# ITEM #2

Approval of Minutes

July 6, 2022

**Regular Meeting**
**Early Child Development and Early Learning Task Force Minutes**
**Wednesday, July 6, 2022**
**5:00 P.M.**

Task Force Members Present: Chair Vera Vignes, Efren Aguilar, Geoff Albert, Toni Boucher, Lila Guirguis, Lindsay Lewis, Dr. Dianne Philibosian, Dr. Marie Poulsen, Tony Santilena, Susan Wood, Carla Hegwood (Ex-Officio, arrived late), Blanca Siebels, Ree Harris-Hudson, Lisa Clements (arrived late)

Task Force Members Absent: Melani Smith-Hill

Staff Present: Michelle Garrett, Charlene Chen (Recording Secretary), Pat Bowie (Consultant), Dion O'Connell, Vannia de la Cuba

1. **Call To Order/Roll Call**
   Chair Vignes called the meeting to order at 5:06 P.M.

2. **Approval of Minutes – June 15, 2022**

   In Favor: Chair Vera Vignes, Efren Aguilar, Geoff Albert, Toni Boucher, Lila Guirguis, Lindsay Lewis, Dr. Dianne Philibosian, Dr. Marie Poulsen, Tony Santilena, Susan Wood, Blanca Siebels
   Opposed: None
   Abstain: None

3. **Public Comment**

   No public comment.

4. **Discussion of Current Proposed Policy Changes – Vera Vignes, Task Force Chair**

   Chair Vignes provided a summary of the consensus reached at the previous meeting around key policy areas of health and emotional well-being, quality early childhood settings and neighborhood support. Chair Vignes proposed adding economic instability to the list of overarching themes (racism, social justice, culturally specific programs for English learners/all learners, and the impact of violence on children and families). Dr. Dianne Philibosian proposed adding health disparities to the list of overarching themes while Lindsay Lewis suggested adding access to mental health services.

   The task force then discussed the revision to the core elements during which time Chair Vignes asked the group: are the proposed revisions simple and clear; do they reflect the

systems approach of the policy; and do they agree on the revised Policy elements. The group expressed consensus concerning the revisions, but would require wordsmithing to capture the intent and accountability needed to strengthen the policy.

Efren Aguilar recommended a training requirement for Staff on how to interpret and use data to inform program development. Chair Vignes reminded the group that their current focus is to review and make recommendations to the policy. Efren's suggestion might be part of the subsequent implementation and can be part of the broader task force recommendations to the City Council.

Additional elements discussed included a reference to "inclusion," especially as it could broadly apply to families with disabled children, economic, and health disparities. Carla Hegwood suggested adding or acknowledging pathways for families that travel between partners to the 'Strengthening Families' building block. Chair Vignes closed the discussion with full consensus from the group around renaming the Building Blocks to "Core Elements" of the Master Plan.

No Public Comment.

**5. Review of Policy Vision Statement & Master Plan for the Young Child – Vera Vignes, Task Force Chair**

Chair Vignes opened the discussion by reading the policy vision statement and asking the group if it captured the full scope and intention of the policy. Dr. Philibosian stated that the vision is as relevant today as it was when the policy was adopted in 2015. Lila Guirguis expressed that the vision statement was not bold enough. Lisa Clements remarked that COVID left many children play-deprived and that play is critical to a child's growth. Both Lisa and Toni suggested that the vision statement could be modified so that it has a stronger application and connection to children/families. Lindsay Lewis offered that the "early success" phrase of the vision statement does not reflect the nurturing aspect that the community strives for nor does it lend itself to a pathway for a love of learning. Other words recommended for incorporation included "community," "thriving," "kindness," "resilience," "developmentally appropriate," and "belonging." Geoff offered that "creates" is a process-driven word as opposed to a vision or aspiration. Efren suggested that the Task Force develop a glossary to define the words and elements of the revised policy.

Efren Aguilar offered that the vision statement could incorporate "every child has a right" in the statement and referenced the Convention on the Rights of the Child, an international treaty sponsored by the United Nations. Dr. Philibosian added that this can also be folded into the vision statement, "every child has a right to thrive" and elaborate on what children's rights are in the Master Plan portion of the policy.

Chair Vignes re-introduced the Master Plan for the policy and solicited feedback from the group. Dianne Philibosian offered that the Master Plan should read like an architectural rendering and give a sense of the architecture, without the detail you'd find in a draftsman's set of plans. Lisa Clements recommended adding a second sentence stating, "The Master Plan is built on the core values of (overarching factors) to illustrate the 'Master Plan is what and is why.' Dr. Philibosian added that the additional statement of

core values could also include the additional words/phrases that the task force had wanted to incorporate in the vision. Lindsay Lewis suggested changing “service” to “supports” to show inclusiveness while Lila Guirguis proposed removal of the funding element from the Master Plan and instead incorporated as part of the action steps. Dr. Philibosian suggested adding the funding element as a recommendation to the city to “actively seek external funding”. Chair Vignes stressed the importance of keeping the funding piece as a show of the city’s commitment and support to the community and work towards achieving buy-in from leadership, stakeholders, and community members. Efren Aguilar offered that the city may attract private philanthropic dollars if the elements of the ‘Rights of the Child’ are incorporated into the policy. Chair Vignes closed the discussion and will return with a revised vision statement for the group to review.

No public comment.

**6. Update on the Interim Report to City Council – Vera Vignes, Task Force Chair**

Chair Vignes stated that the update to City Council will highlight the progress of the task force regarding the Building Blocks and over-arching themes, the agreements reached by the task force thus far, and the work plan moving forward.

No public comment.

**7. Adjournment**

Chair Vignes adjourned the meeting at 6:41 PM

X

Michelle Garrett
Assistant to the City Manager

X

Danica Borja
Recording Secretary