

PINELLAS COUNTY LICENSE BOARD FOR CHILDREN'S CENTERS
AND FAMILY DAY CARE HOMES
Minutes for the Special Board Meeting
June 27, 2011

APPROVED MINUTES

The Special Board Meeting of the Pinellas County License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes was scheduled and properly noticed for Monday, June 27, 2011, at 6500 102nd Avenue North, Pinellas Park, to begin at 1:30 p.m.

- Board Members Present: Elise Minkoff, Board Chair; Lourdes Benedict; Anne Brooks; Judith Bruckner; Michael Bessette; Norm Roche
- Board Members Absent: Judith Vitucci
- Ex Officio Member Present: Charles Minor
- Advisory Members Present: Lynn Bittner, DaVee Henderlong
- Advisory Members Absent: Ann Hofmeister, Elizabeth Krakowski, Merlita Jones, Nina Meyers, Susan Weber
- Attorney: Colleen Flynn
- Staff Members Present: Patsy Buker, Executive Director; Kathy Krause, Supervisor Family Child Care Homes; Kim Schneider, Board Recorder, and other Health Department staff
- Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.
- I.A. Announcements: Patsy Buker introduced Sandy Barbeau and Dorothy Williams, new licensing specialists for the Pinellas County Child Care Licensing Program.
- I.B. Agenda:
Motion: A motion was made by Lourdes Benedict and was seconded to approve the June 27, 2011 agenda. Unanimously approved.
- Board Chair Request: Board Chair, Elise Minkoff, requested that Bathroom Requirements be added to Action Items.
- Public Comment: There were no public comments for items not on the agenda.
- I.C. Capacity: Colleen Flynn requested to speak prior to Patsy Buker's Capacity presentation.

I.C. Capacity

Ms. Flynn stated that the language the Board attempted to pass on May 25th was not valid, as under Option C, which maxes out the total number of children a provider can have at 10.

Ms. Buker, Executive Director, presented the Executive Director Report that included a presentation regarding recommendations for Options A, B and C of the Large Family Child Care Homes.

1. Family Child Care Home: means an occupied residence in which child care is regularly provided for children from at least two unrelated households with or without compensation. A family child care home shall be allowed to provide care for one of the following groups of children, which shall include household preschool aged children whether present or not, and household school aged children under 13 years of age when on the premises of the family child care home or on a field trip with children enrolled in care.

A) A maximum of 6 children, if no more than 3 are under 18 months of age

B) A maximum of 6 preschool aged children, if no more than three are under 18 months of age, and all are older than 12 months of age

C) A maximum of 10 children total, of which, a maximum of 8 children are in Child Care status. Of the 10 total children, no more than five are preschool age and of those five no more than three are under 18 months of age, and of those three, no more than two are under 12 months of age.

2. Large Family Child Care Home – A large family child care home for the purposes of this regulation means a home that is licensed under section 402.3131, F.S. A large family child care home means an occupied residence in which child care is regularly provided for children with or without compensation from at least two (2) unrelated households and which has at least two (2) full-time child care personnel on the premises during the hours of operation. One (1) of the two (2) full-time child care personnel must be the operator or the operator's substitute. A large family child care home must first have operated as a licensed family child care home for two (2) consecutive years, with an operator who has had a child development associate credential or its equivalent for one (1) year, before seeking licensure as a large family child care home. The two consecutive years of operation as a licensed family child care home must have been in the state of

Florida and within five years of the date of application to operate a large family child care home. A large family child care home shall be allowed to provide care for one of the following groups of children, which shall include household preschool aged children whether present or not, and household school aged children under 13 years of age when on the premises of the large family child care home or on a field trip with children enrolled in care:

A) A maximum of 8 children from birth to 24 months of age

B) A maximum of 12 children, with no more than 4 children under 24 months of age

Large family child care homes must meet and comply with all standards of this regulation at all times unless there are insufficient numbers of children in care to meet the definition of a large family child care home in which case an additional employee is not required.

For increased capacity requests, Ms. Buker confirmed that the specialists would go out and re-measure per child, inside and outside.

Public Comment:

Lynn Gibson, 8697 78th Avenue North, Seminole, FL 33777
Ms. Gibson, speaking as a group for the PCLP Yahoo Group, wanted to clarify that Option C would give providers eight slots to work out of and then give them 2 more. This would “equal out the playing field” for the provider to have 10 children, but the provider would start losing clients from this side to get to have 10 children, so when the household children “edge off,” the provider can plan up to 8 slots.

Motion:

A motion was made by Michael Bessette and was seconded to approve the change of Option C, effective July 1, 2011. Unanimously approved.

I.D. Bathroom Requirements

Ms. Buker stated that Pinellas County Standards requires homes shall have at least one toilet, one bath tub and one lavatory for hand washing purposes provided no more than a total of 8 persons are using the bathroom facilities of the home.

After much research and consultation, Pinellas County is the only entity that utilizes these bathroom requirements. The requirement probably came into effect in the '70s when there was concern about the over usage of septic tanks (septic tanks size is approved by the number of bedrooms in a residence).

Ms. Buker added that the State says each family daycare home shall provide and maintain toilet and bath facilities that are easily accessible and at a height useful by the children.

Motion:

A motion was made by Michael Bessette and seconded to include the language "Homes shall have at least one toilet, one bath tub/shower and one lavatory for hand washing purposes and striking ~~provided no more than a total of 8 persons including family and the operator are using the bathroom facilities of the house.~~ This language will be effective July 1, 2011. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Buker added that our specialists will be trained to learn what is acceptable bathroom cleanliness and what is not.

Public Comment:

Lynn Gibson, 8697 78th Avenue North, Seminole, FL 33777
Ms. Gibson, speaking as a group for the PCLP Yahoo Group, thanked the Board, stating she was very happy with the recommended change.

Motion to Adjourn:

A motion was made Anne Brooks to adjourn the meeting at 2:37 p.m. and was seconded. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Judi Vitucci, Board Secretary