

CHILDCARE COMMISSION MINUTES
January 14, 2019
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM 5

Commissioners Present

Iris Siegler, Chair
Samantha Tuskan
Kim Torgerson
Andy Bjurstrom
Chris Bjurstrom
Susie Freligh
Jolie Wenglikowski

Staff Present

Renata McLeod, City Clerk
Kelley Setters, Deputy City Clerk
Wes Somerton, Attorney

Commissioner Absent

Jaiden Estep
Kathleen Shriner

Call to Order -

Chairman Siegler called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call – Commissioners Kathleen Shriner and Student Rep Jaiden Estep were absent.

Approval of the Minutes from November 26, 2018 meeting (action item)

Motion by Wenglikowski second by Torgerson to approve the minutes with a correction marking Samantha Tuskan was absent; Motion carried.

Commission Comments – None.

Public Comments – None.

Continued discussion on modifications to section 5.68.100 of the code that were tabled at the November 26th meeting:

Kelley Setters, Deputy City Clerk explained that at the previous meeting the commission tabled the discussion because of several additional questions they had regarding minors charged with possession of marijuana or paraphernalia and how the current code can impact home occupation daycare if a non-provider such as their child living in the home was charged with these offenses the daycare facility would be shut down. Wes Somerton, City Attorney was available to answer any questions.

Commission discussions included: Why we would consider allowing minors to work in childcare if the law states that it is illegal for anyone to use an illegal drugs and how you would differ between home occupations and childcare centers within the code. How do we go to City Council as a Commission and say that we support a minor having a marijuana charge when we have a higher standard for an adult. Chris Bjurstrom stated that minors make mistakes and how can we as a commission take a person's livelihood away based on a minors mistake. Renata McLeod asks Wes Somerton if there is any flexibility within the appeal/revocation portion for some consideration of the commission of in-home

circumstance of a minor living in the home. Sam stated within a juvenile background check anyone under 13 years old has to complete a JJR in addition to the background check. Anyone over 13 years old would just do a normal background check only. We would have to do the minimum of what the state does for juveniles.

It was determined to bring back some language that would allow for an appeal based on some criteria and possibly a probation period to improve the behavior and if the behavior continued have the ability to revoke the license. Wes suggestion would be to separate minors and adult criteria. It was determined to bring some language back at the next meeting.

State Code Standards –Sam Tuskan stated that the commission started this process 2 years ago. It is required as a municipality that we would have to come into compliance with the new federal code requirements regarding background checks. The background check requires 8 different components (*In-state, National, Inter-State*) which are:

1. Criminal registry or repository using fingerprints in the current state of residency. (In-State)
2. Sex offender registry or repository check in the current state of residency. (In-State)
3. Child abuse and neglect registry and database check in the current state of residency. (In-State)
4. FBI fingerprint check. (National)
5. National Crime Information Center (NCIC) National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR) (National)
6. Criminal registry or repository in any other state where the individual has resided in the past 5 years, with the use of fingerprints being optional. (Interstate)
7. Sex offender registry or repository in any other state where the individual has resided in the past 5 years. (Interstate)
8. Child abuse and neglect registry and database in any other state where the individual has resided in the past 5 years. (Interstate)

In discussions with Randy Adams, City Attorney we currently do not do the CPS checks or the Interstate checks which municipalities across the state don't have access too so as a city we could not comply with the requirement. We do FBI checks and the NCIC checks. Randy's recommendation is to default the background checks to the state which is required every 5 years. The current city code requires background checks every year which we could keep in the city code as an extra check. Currently, the city has 35 facilities, 17 of which are home occupations and 460 providers.

Options to meet the requirements:

- A. Do city background check and the state background checks on initial application at a fee of \$65.00 (state fee). If you lived outside of the state in the last 5 years background checks would be require for each state you resided at a cost from \$65.00 up to \$95.00 for each state. The city fee is \$41.50 background check, fingerprints \$10.00, license \$10.00. Completed every 5 years.
- B. Do city background check and state background check on initial application and the city background check every year keeping with our current code and the state background check every 5 years thereafter.
- C. Do state background only to default to states disqualifying every 5 years and change the city code to no longer doing our own background checks.

The city will still do individual licensing the different is just the background check would come from the state which would take 3-5 days to process in state and out of state the deadline is up to 45 days. The

background check results would come back to Kelley as pass or fail; the state would not disclose the reason for disqualification.

Discussion included:

The bigger centers would be impacted financially by the additional cost to license. Some ideas in off-setting the cost increase are; the owners of the bigger centers can pay a portion of their license and the provider pays the remainder, or the center could pay for the initial license then the provider could pay each year thereafter. Sam stated there are efforts going on within the Early Childhood Education task force and United Way to look for grant/scholarships opportunities to help off-set the costs for training and CPR certifications.

Commissioner Susie Freligh prefers option B for reasons that it gives Coeur d' Alene the higher gold standard to make sure our providers are at a higher standard.

Staff will reach out to other cities to educate ourselves on how they are complying with this new requirement and bring back to the Commission at the next meeting in February.

Representative Reports

NIAEYC – Sam shared that there will be a free 8 hour training at NIC in April 13th of 2019. Registration will be in late February or early March. The topic will be on “Overall Arching Trauma Informed Care” The attendance is limited to 100 participants.

NAFCC – None.

CENTER – None.

STUDENT – None.

PANHANDLE HEALTH – Annette will be on leave and health inspection will be done by Kelsey. Tammi Quinn has put in her resignation her last day is Friday.

The next meeting will be held on February 25, 2019.

Adjournment

Motion by Wenglikowski **to adjourn, seconded by** Tuskan **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.