



A meeting of the *Granby Early Childhood Council* (GECC) was held on Monday February 5, 2008 at the Farmington Valley YMCA Community Room.

In attendance were:

Nannie Brown, Valley Preschool

Doreen Hoddinott, Small World Learning Center

Laurelyn Keenan, home childcare provider- Mountain Laurel Daycare

Karen O'Keefe, Patchwork Schoolhouse

Gary Ebersole, parent

Jodi Games, early educator, City of Hartford

Traci Tencer, child/adolescent psychotherapist

Mia Porter, Consulting Teacher K-6, Math, Science, Technology

Kate Dumas, kindergarten teacher

Cindy Guerreri, Graustein Memorial Fund Community Liaison

Janet Ford, GECC Chairperson

Joan Rogers, GECC and Discovery Grant Coordinator

Sheri Litchfield, GECC Secretary

The February GECC meeting began at 6:30 in the community room of the YMCA. Janet Ford, Chairperson of GECC, welcomed everyone and introduced two new members to the meeting. Jodi Games is a Granby resident and is a preschool teacher for the City of Hartford. Traci Tencer is also a Granby resident and is a child/adolescent psychotherapist.

Janet Ford started the meeting by asking if there were any additions, deletions or revisions to the minutes from the January 7, 2007 meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Doreen Hoddinott, and was seconded by Kate Dumas. The minutes from January 7, 2007 were unanimously approved.

Janet provided an update on the status of grant requests made locally. The initial grant request made to the Granby Education Foundation (GEF) was declined because they felt that Professional Development was an ongoing process that they didn't want to fund. GEF explained that they would consider awarding future grant money for a one-time event. The Professional Development committee will convene within the next few weeks to discuss the next steps. Janet shared that the Granby Community Fund is also a possibility for future financial support.

Janet announced that Sally Young from the CT Parent as Teachers (PAT) Program will be a guest speaker at the April 7<sup>th</sup> GECC meeting. Ms. Young will describe the PAT Program and what it offers to communities that establish the program.

Gary Ebersole shared the logo design with the changes discussed at the January meeting. Kate Dumas made a motion to accept the maroon, white and gold logo design, and Doreen Hoddinott seconded the motion. The Council unanimously approved the design.

Gary then presented samples of the Continuing Education Certificates that will be made available for those who have attended the Professional Workshops facilitated by Beth Bye and Sandra Fowler. Each certificate will have the logo, the name of the workshop, number of hours awarded and the attendee's name. In an attempt to keep printing costs to a minimum, Joan Rogers has emailed all who have attended any of the four workshops to date, and asked that they send a request to have their certificate(s) printed if they so desire. The September, October, November and January certificates will be distributed at the February workshop. Certificates will be distributed on a monthly basis thereafter. The Council greatly thanks Gary for his continued work on developing the logo design, and also for all of the work he has put into creating the certificates of attendance for the workshop participants to document their continuing education hours.

A discussion of the search process for a new Principal for Kearns Primary School took place. Janet read a draft letter stating that the GECC would like to be part of the search and interview process for a new primary school principal. A few minor language changes to the draft were recommended, and a motion was made by Kate Dumas and seconded by Nannie Brown that the letter be sent to the Granby Board of Education stating the GECC's position on this appointment.

The remaining time was spent working on task groups.

The website design group has taken the suggestions of the preschool centers and home providers about developing a template that would create some consistency in providing information on the GECC website. Joan will put together a template and email it out in an attempt to gather information for families searching our website.

The Parent Survey group continues to collect more survey responses. More information is needed, and in response, a suggestion for a Provider Survey is being developed. It is hoped that much of the information will be collected from the website template. (i.e. number of children cared for, available slots, etc.) The Provider Survey will be put on hold until the templates are completed, and all Parent Surveys have been collected from around town.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12.

Respectively submitted,  
Sheri Litchfield  
GECC Secretary