

**ASHLAND GENERAL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
February 6, 2025**

Affordable Childcare Ad Hoc Committee

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order 11:06am

Members present in person: Love, Seward

Members present on zoom: Therkluson, Keller-Hand, Verner

Council Liaison present in person: Bloom

Guest: Hyatt

1. Approval of draft minutes from 12.05.2024

Love/Seward m/s to approve minutes. Yes: Love, Seward, Therkluson, Keller-Hand, Verner. Motion passed

2. Discussion regarding selection of a Chair for this Committee

Verner/Seward m/s to table until Hyatt can be appointed to committee. Yes: Love, Seward, Therkluson, Keller-Hand, Verner. Motion passed.

**II. Regular Business**

1. Discussion regarding Request to Continue Resource Support of Early Learning and Childcare Initiatives

The committee discussed that this will be considered for inclusion in the next budget cycle. Bloom spoke about this with the City Manager who encouraged committee to explore options not dependent on the general fund. This item could be continued to next meeting.

2. Outline for business engagement work plan.

The committee discussed parameters for business engagement to best understand business needs and considered the development of a business survey. Discussion of working with the Ashland Chamber of Commerce for list of employers broken down by number of employees if possible, to start compiling requests via e-mail. Discussion of draft article with Business Oregon for outreach. Discussion of engaging Rotary as an additional resource.

3. Discussion of draft article for the Southern Oregon Business Journal.

Review and discussion on Love's draft article for Southern Oregon Business Journal. Members discussed and will continue to send edits/suggestions to Love within two weeks. Discussion of license requirements and quality care. Discussion of costs for families having vs. not having childcare. Council Liaison suggested that when this is ready to make a motion to send it to Council for approval prior to sending out.

4. Review of Committee charge

This committee was set up as an ad-hoc committee with a clear charge and limited duration. Discussion about a possible recommendation to Council for this to become a standing committee.

**III. New Business**

New licensed preschool Mountain Star Preschool and Kindergarten at Havurah can take 2.5 yr-6yr old 9-1. Suggested to add to provider list. Committee discussed resources to share if immigration services come to schools with a reference to Oregon Department of Justice sanctuary promise violations

hotline: <https://www.doj.state.or.us/oregon-department-of-justice/civil-rights/sanctuary-promise/reporting-sanctuary-promise-violations-to-the-hotline/>

**IV. Adjournment**

Verner / Love m/s to adjourn. all in favor. meeting adjourned at 12:03pm