



Meeting Minutes

2/13/2023

Presentation: What Are You Telling Me? By Dee Cox

There were 13 people in attendance, including four board members.

Donny Caudill welcomed everyone and then introduced Dee Cox as the evening's presenter.

Dee Cox shared a little bit about who she is in the field of early childhood education. She then gave a presentation on the topic, "What Are You Telling Me?". She shared that communication can come in many forms, including touch, hearing, and words. She stated that "behavior is communication". She taught us that sensory processing disorder (SPD) was first described by Jean Ayers, Ph.D. Dr. Ayers observed children that just had odd reactions to sensitivities and fell into inappropriate "labels". SPD is a neurological condition but is not officially diagnosed yet. It includes sensitivities to light, sound, taste, touch, smell, and internal conditions. People with SPD tend to seek out stimulation in settings that don't stimulate their senses. A person can be hypersensitive or hyposensitive. No one knows what causes SPD but it is known to have something to do with sensory pathways in the brain that process and organize information. It is not known whether SPD could be caused by another disorder or if it happens on its own. Conditions connected to SPD are autism, ADHD, schizophrenia, sleep disorders, developmental delays, and brain injury.

The class participated in two activities. One activity included everyone acting out a sensory issue for the group at the table where they were seated. The other activity included everyone going around the room and writing down a sensory issue they've experienced on chart paper.

Dee concluded the presentation by reminding us that "behavior is communication". Names were drawn for seven door prizes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm