



## **COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, July 7, 2014, 6:00 pm  
1485 Civic Court, Suite 1200  
Large Conference Room  
Concord, CA

### **1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 pm by Vice-Chair, Maria Fort.

Commissioners in attendance were:

Maria Fort, Dr. William Walker, Belinda Lucey for Barbara Cappa, Toni Robertson for John Jones, Matt Regan for Gareth Ashley and Katharine Mason for Kathy Gallagher.

Alternates who were present were:

Mister Phillips and Wanda Session.

Absent: Commissioners Barbara Cappa, PJ Shelton, John Jones, Gareth Ashley, Supervisor Candace Andersen, and Alternate Commissioners John Mills, Joan Miller and Supervisor Karen Mitchoff.

### **2.0 Public Comment**

Angela Gattis, Family Support Specialist at Care Parent Network announced the upcoming Support group for parents and families who have kids with Down syndrome. These meetings are starting to have gatherings in Spanish as well. She also announced the annual "Congreso Familiar" on Saturday August 9, 2014 from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM at Chabot College in Hayward (2555 Hesperian Blvd, Hayward, CA). "Congreso Familiar" is a conference dedicated to promoting education and leadership skills within Spanish speaking families who have children or family members with disability.

### **3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar**

A motion was made by Dr. William Walker to approve the items on the consent calendar. Matt Regan seconded.

**AYES:** Maria Fort, Dr. William Walker, Belinda Lucey for Barbara Cappa, Toni Robertson for John Jones, Matt Regan for Gareth Ashley and Katharine Mason for Kathy Gallagher.

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

### **5.0 Annual presentation of reports from the First 5 Center Community Advisory Councils**

Early Childhood Development Program Officer Lisa Morrell opened the presentation. Each of the First 5 Centers has a Community Advisory Council, members comprised of parent volunteers from the neighborhood. Each year they conduct a needs assessment in order to solicit parent input

regarding programing at the Center. CAC members learn to devise surveys and interviews and analyze the data they gathered and prepare presentations. Recommendations this year were based on the focus of their year-long projects on the “Five Protective Factors” (the foundation of the Strengthening Families Approach: namely, parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social and emotional competence of children.) This year some of the groups are sharing their recommendations and presentation with local elected officials as well.

Each of the five Centers (Delta, Bay Point, Antioch, West County, Monument) then made five-minute presentations outlining their findings and recommendations, including more classes and workshops that highlight “me time” and stress reduction for parents, teaching children resilience, and workshops on development of social and emotional competence for children.

Commissioners thanked the CAC members for their contributions. Maria Fort suggested that centers consider pooling their findings and resources together and share information to benefit the community.

#### **6.0 Consider revising the First 5 Contra Costa 2014 Employee Compensation and Benefits Resolution**

Sean Casey reported that at the April 7, 2014 Commission meeting, the Commission established a salary range for the Executive Director. In anticipation of the upcoming 2014 fiscal audit review, he asked the Commission to accept the revision of the 2014 Employee Compensation and Benefits resolution to reflect the Commission’s previous action.

Toni Robertson made a motion to accept the revised 2014 Employee Compensation and Benefits resolution. Dr. William Walker seconded.

**AYES:** Maria Fort, Dr. William Walker, Belinda Lucey for Barbara Cappa, Toni Robertson for John Jones, Matt Regan for Gareth Ashley and Katharine Mason for Kathy Gallagher.

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

#### **7.0 Executive Director’s Report**

Sean Casey reported the following highlights within the last month:

Last month the Commission approved a letter with County First 5s and other advocates urging the legislature to consider childcare slots, quality and reimbursement in its plan for increasing childcare funding. Within days, the legislature had passed a budget that did just that. The State Preschool Program, in particular, will have funds to increase the number of slots, but also support local quality improvement efforts, similar to our QRIS program.

We recently met our target of 100 sites enrolled in the QRIS program. Our first cohort was 62 programs and we have 38 additional sites in the second cohort. The 100 sites include all the Contra Costa Head Start preschools, nearly all of the county State Preschools, and numerous private centers and family child care homes.

To carry out our QRIS efforts we have hired a quality improvement coach, Kellie Davis, and expect to hire a second coach this summer. The Child Care Council, under our contract, will also hire a coach, rounding out the team that will be working with all 100 sites on their quality improvement plans.

As of June 30 we received all the applications for the CARES professional development stipends. A total of 260 participant applications were received (up 30% over last year).

First 5 and its Sugar Bites creative contract, Better World Advertising, received a “Communicator Gold Award” for top Websites in Health for the Sugar Bites Campaign.

Sacramento First 5 has paid to put the Sugar Bites posters up on transit buses in their area. Also, an Associated Press reporter picked up a story on a California bill that require warning labels on sodas and sugary drinks, and notes that “a children’s health group recently launched a “Sugar Bites” ad campaign in the east San Francisco Bay Area and state capital depicting sugary drinks as snarling monsters with sharp teeth held by anxious children.” <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=323070860>

Sean got to attend the Father’s celebration at the West County First 5 Center. Many dads were present and actively participating with their children in a variety of activities all over the Center. The BACR staff did a great job putting on the event.

We have a new report, based on the report card on our website and detailing our funded programs and program highlights from the last year.

## **8.0 Communications**

None.

## **9.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates**

Katharine Mason announced that the 2013 Community Service Bureau Annual Report is now available online: <http://www.contracosta.ca.gov/documentcenter/view/32103>

## **10.0 Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.