



COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 2, 2013,
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 6:06 pm.

Commissioners in attendance were:

Chair PJ Shelton, Secretary Maria Fort, Vice Chair Valerie Earley, Barbara Cappa, John Jones, Dr. William Walker, and Katharine Mason for Kathy Gallagher.

Alternates present were Belinda Lucey, Wanda Session, Mister Phillips, John Mills, and Kathy Lafferty.

Also present was County Counsel Keiko Kobayashi.

2.0 Public Comment

Jennifer Baha, Director of Program Services from Shelter Inc. gave an update on Mountain View house. On November 24th the facility expanded for the winter season by adding cots into community room to accommodate an additional 3 families with 4 children. The facility currently has 36 people. Thirteen of the children are aged 0 to 5. She mentioned that the agency receives much community support especially around the holiday season. This recent Thanksgiving week, they were able to provide Thanksgiving feasts for all their residents.

Angela Gattis from Care Parent Network spoke on behalf of her program. She thanked First 5's collaboration in the helping families that they serve, as a result now have better quality services, and support especially in the city of Bay Point. "We see the difference right now" she reports. "And we train families to become mentors to other incoming families".

Both Shelter Inc. and Care Parent Network announced that they each have an "adopt a family" project and made available wish/need list for those interested in.

3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

John Jones moved to approve the consent calendar.

Motion was seconded by Dr. William Walker.

Motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

4.0 Consider for discussion any items removed from the consent calendar.

There were no items removed from the consent calendar.

5.0 Recognize First 5 staff who have surpassed service milestones and appreciate the entire staff for their continuing dedication and accomplishment

Chair PJ Shelton led the Commissioners in individually thanking every First 5 staff member and providing Certificates of Appreciation in celebration of their continued service to the community.

Sean Casey recognized staff who had achieved service milestones with First 5:
Community Engagement Officer Rhea Laughlin for 10 years of service.
Deputy Director Cally Martin, Evaluation Manager Lyn Paleo, and Deputy Director & Program Assistant Randee Blackstock, each for 5 years of their service at First 5.

6.0 Recognize the contributions of Kate Ertz-Berger for the welfare of young children in Contra Costa on the occasion of her retirement as Executive Director of the Contra Costa Child Care Council

Sean Casey recognized Kate Ertz-Berger for her many contributions to the community as the Executive Director of the Contra Costa Child Care Council in the last 28 years.
As a token of appreciation, Sean presented Kate with a gift from First 5 Contra Costa.

Kate announced in her acceptance, that current commissioner for District 5, John Jones will be serving as the new Executive Director of the Contra Costa Child Care Council.

7.0 Presentation of the 2013 Year in Review

Sean Casey gave a slide show and video presentation of some of the highlights of the 2013 Year in First 5 Contra Costa in review. Highlights included:

In the last year 4,502 children, 5,374 parents/caregivers, 2,546 providers were served in First-5-funded programs.

“Developmental Screening”: Providers using the “Ages and Stages Questionnaires screened 1,558 children, and found about 1 in 5 children had a possible delay.

Pilot **“Developmental Playgroups”** served 61 children at 4 sites.

Twenty-nine providers from 11 organizations were trained and certified to teach **the “Positive Parenting Program”** a.k.a. **“Triple P”**; 229 parents attended one of 32 Triple P class series.

Launch of **“Next Steps”**, a drug and alcohol rehab for parents of children 0-5 in a residential recovery setting.

Community college-based advisors assisted 1,219 students as part of the “Professional

Development Program”.

“**Preschool Makes a Difference**” scholarships were awarded to 286 low-income children to attend one of 63 high-quality preschool classrooms.

Contra Costa’s pilot “**Quality Rating and Improvement System**” is up and running, with 64 initial sites enrolled.

First 5 Centers continued to provide at capacity, with 1746 families attending one or more of 451 classes and 193 workshops.

A **follow-up survey to the “Sugar Bites”** campaign found that parents were more likely to serve more water or milk, talk to their children about consuming fewer sugary drinks, and consume fewer sugary drinks themselves as a result of the campaign ads.

The 150 community participants in the “Community Engagement Program” park assessments in Antioch, Concord, Pittsburg & Bay Point and walkability audits in Concord and San Pablo.

The Commission pre-paid a portion of its pension liability and joined the CalPERS trust to fund retirement health benefits.

The Board Of Supervisors recognized the **15 year anniversary of Proposition 10 and First 5’s** contributions to the community.

8.0 Consider approving the Slate of Officers of the Commission for 2014: Action

Belinda Lucey introduced the Slate of Officers of the commission for 2014. She thanked the current officers for graciously agreeing to continue for another term. She also thanked Katharine Mason, who volunteered to be the new non-voting member, and John Mills, for his service over the last five years.

Chair:	PJ Shelton
Vice Chair:	Valerie Earley
Secretary / Treasurer:	Maria Fort
Additional Non-Voting Member:	Katharine Mason

A motion to accept the new slate of officers for 2014 was made by Dr. Walker. Seconded by John Jones.

Slate of Officers of the commission for 2014 was unanimously **APPROVED**.

9.0 Consider approving the employee compensation and benefits resolution for 2014. Action

Sean Casey reported that the 2014 employee compensation and benefits resolution holds no changes to the salaries and benefits. The revisions address clarity and reference to additional information only.



A motion to accept the approving the employee compensation and benefits resolution for 2014 was made by Maria Fort and seconded by Dr. Walker.
Motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

10.0 Annual Report to California First 5 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

PJ Shelton opened the hearing of the Annual Report to California First 5 for FY 2012-2013.

Sean Casey presented the report. He explained the format of the report is determined by First 5 California. It includes reports of expenditures, overviews and highlights, followed by the program data tables. He thanked Denece Dodson, First 5 Evaluation Specialist who had been preparing the report to the First 5 California since 2001.

After the report, John Mills commented on how much the report detailed the many good works that was just presented in the Year End Review earlier in the meeting. He thanked everyone for all the work.

A motion to adopt the Annual Report to California First 5 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 was made by Valerie Earley.
Seconded by Katharine Mason.
The motion was unanimously **APPROVED**.

11.0 Executive Director's Report

Sean Casey began his report with the commentary on First 5 made by Senator Mark DeSauliner and Assembly member Susan Bonilla in the November 24, 2013 Contra Costa Times. (http://www.contracostatimes.com/opinion/ci_24573515/investing-young-children-vital-our-economic-recovery?source=email) Both DeSauliner and Bonilla were former members of the Commission and in their comment congratulated First 5 for creating a solid infrastructure of critical early childhood education, health, and family support services.

Congressman Miller has introduced into Congress the "Strong Start for America's Children Act" which would provide funding for states to establish universal pre-K for 4-year-olds. Although the Obama initiative on which Strong Start is based proposed a 97 cent per pack tobacco tax, the Strong Start bill does not specify a dedicated funding mechanism. Instead the authors hope to include the initiative in an upcoming budget agreement, if one transpires.

He also reported that the California Department of Education has received an additional \$22 million for the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge. They are disbursing a portion of this to the 17 participating consortia based on projections of additional provider sites that could be included. The state wants the funding to be used for additional provider sties, some of which they desire to be in other, non-QRIS counties in a mentoring relationship with the QRIS counties. We have no interest and no staff to provide mentorship to other counties at this time. Our regional QRIS initiative has negotiated with the state to bring on San Mateo County as a Bay Area mentee with each county contributing a portion of their supplemental funds to support it.

On January 13, 2014, the Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality (CPI) will host its first annual poverty and inequality State of the Union, an event dedicated to monitoring poverty and inequality trends in the U.S. and identifying emerging problems and successes in the country's effort to equalize opportunity.

<http://www.stanford.edu/group/scspi/>

The Contra Costa Community College District will be honoring First 5 Contra Costa as part of its Unsung Hero Awards at the 65th Anniversary Showcase and Celebration on Saturday, December 7. Sean will be there to represent First 5.

<http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/65th/docs/65thFlyer.pdf>

He informed the Commission to look out for email Grants Program Manager, Lisa Johnson on upcoming annual contractor site visits. Last year we had the highest ever level of Commission participation in site visits.

12.0 Communications

None received.

13.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

Wanda Session reported on updates regarding the Affordable Care Act and announced that there will be an enrollment event on Saturday, December 7, 2013 from 9 AM to 2:30 PM at Richmond PAL (200 Macdonald Avenue). This had been an enrollment event expected 150 to 200 or more families to attend. She indicated that it would be more of an educational informational event and encouraged the public to view the information flyer at:

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0ByKWEvCbrCpfWm96UF94Tl9tRVk/edit?pli=1>

14.0 Adjourn

PJ Shelton reminded the Commission that the next Commission meeting will be on February 3, 2014.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM.