



Commission Meeting Agenda

Monday, February 5, 2018, 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 6:03 PM

Chairman Gareth Ashley welcomed Supervisor Diane Burgis to her first Contra Costa Children & Families Commission meeting. He then followed it by introductions from everyone in the room.

Commissioners in attendance were: Rocio Hernandez PhD, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, Vice-Chair John Jones, Supervisor Diane Burgis, and CFS Director Kathy Marsh.

Also present were Deputy Counsel Keiko Kobayashi and Chief Assistant County Counsel Mary Anne Mason.

Absent were Commissioners Marilyn Lucey, PJ Shelton, Dr. William Walker, EHSD Director Kathy Gallagher, Alternates Trisha Mindel, Matt Regan, Supervisor Candace Andersen, HSD Assistant Director Wanda Session, and EHSD Division Manager Katharine Mason.

2.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

A motion was made by John Jones and seconded by Diane Burgis to approve the consent calendar.

AYES: Gareth Ashley, Rocio Hernandez PhD, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, John Jones, Diane Burgis, and Kathy Marsh.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion was **APPROVED**.

5.0 Presentation of Conflict of Interest laws pertinent to Commissioners and staff

Mary Anne Mason, Chief of Assistant County Counsel presented the updated Conflict of Interest laws, clarifying pertinent items with regards to the Commission and Staff responsibility in disclosure and reasons and processes of recusal.

After the presentation, she addressed some questions from the commissioners with matters pertaining to when or how to disclose.

Beginning this calendar year, filers will be required to file electronically. All forms due on April 1, 2018.

6.0 Presentation of First 5's Statewide Network Strategy

Moira Kenney, Executive Director of the First 5 Association of California presented to the commission the building of a network strategy for First 5 across the state.

The purpose of this strategy was for all First 5 to have a common mission, vision and strategy leading toward greater outcome for children. The association hopes that one day, California's success will be measured by the wellbeing of its youngest children.

There were no questions from the floor.

7.0 Progress Update on the East County First 5 Center Building Project

Sean Casey reported that First 5 Contra Costa is working closely with Loving, Campos Associates (LCA) architects who has been working closely with staff, with input from First 5 Center directors, and from our design consultant at WestEd.

To date, there are several iterations of the floor plan, and a final schematic may be seen in the next week. This is an extensive remodel of the building which includes a small indoor play area for children with spaces for parents to gather and network at the same time.

We also have selected a project manager, whose contract you have authorized tonight, who will be pulling together the project team and will be holding the project timeline and budget.

Additionally, Keiko Kobayashi has pulled in a public works attorney to provide us guidance on the construction contracting process. He will provide us with the contract template the County uses, which will be the basis for our contract as well.

Over the next several months, we will be working with the architect on design development, construction documents, permits and contractor selection, targeting the Commission's June 4 meeting to award the construction contract.

There were no questions from the floor.

8.0 Policy & Advocacy Report

Sean reported on the following updates:

Governor's budget

Enclosed in your packet is a short synopsis of the elements of the Governor's January budget proposal that are relevant to First 5's work, pulled from First 5 California's January meeting materials. A few highlights to call out:

- The Governor proposes to maintain early childhood education funding across many programs as agreed upon in past budget years.
- The budget provides one-time funding to increase the availability of inclusive early education and care for young children, especially in low-income areas and in areas with relatively low access to care.
- A new home visiting pilot program for CalWORKs families is proposed. The program would offer voluntary home visiting to first-time parents in the CalWORKs program.

Bills of interest

Since the Commission last met, we have submitted two letters of support for bills that align with our policy goals.

- AB 11 would codify language around developmental screenings and clarify that providers are: 1) required to adhere to the Bright Futures screening periodicity for children 0 to 3; and 2)



required to use a validated screening tool for services made available under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Program. This legislation is sponsored by the First 5 Association.

- AB 605 would create a single, Integrated Child Care Center License for child care centers serving children from birth through kindergarten entrance.

Both bills just passed out of the Assembly and are headed to the Senate.

In April, Sean will bring back a complete list of the bills the First 5 Association will be tracking. Legislators have introduced some bills we're sure we'll be tracking, like Assemblymember McCarty's bill to provide all low-income four-year-old children from working families with access to early care and education programs (AB1764) and Senator Dodd's bill to provide universal preschool to all four year olds in the state (SB837).

9.0 Executive Director's Report

Sean Casey gave the following Executive Director Report:

SIP's First 5 Contra Costa Wall Display:

Our strategic information and planning unit "surprised" staff with the posters along the corridor over the December holidays to note all of our staff accomplishments in 2017.

Upcoming Events:

First 5 California is holding its annual Summit in Glendale (SoCal) this year, April 10-12. Those of you who have attended in the past know it is a rich assortment of sessions large and small addressing the many aspects of First 5's work. The first day, April 10, is a pre-conference day devoted almost entirely to QRIS. As is our practice, we will support the registration and travel expenses for any Commissioners who would like to attend. Alex will be sending you information this week. Feel free to contact him if you have any questions.

Our staff continues to participate in public events and conferences. Later this month, Wanda Davis will participate in two panel presentations at the International Helping Families Change conference in Santa Rosa, put on by the Australian Triple P headquarters. In April, Sarah Crow will be part of a panel at the First 5 California Summit, and Wanda Davis and Liliana Gonzalez will present at the Help Me Grow National Forum in Seattle.

I was a panelist two weeks ago at the Learning Policy Institute's release of their newest report titled "Building an Early Learning System That Works." I used the opportunity to talk about Contra Costa's community college-based professional development system and its integration of QRIS standards in teacher training and development as a model that could and should be replicated in California.

Family Economic Security Partnership:

In collaboration with United Way of the East Bay and local funders, FESP produced this document describing the "Deeper Dive" process that one of FESP's member agencies, SparkPoint Contra Costa, participated in last year to broaden its scope, including advocacy for policy change to its existing client-based services. We're hearing from agencies their interest in involving their clients being part of the larger solutions in their community. The Deeper Dive project was an attempt at describing what it would take for an agency to commit itself to the process.

It's tax time again, and that means the annual Earn It Keep It Save It campaign to provide free tax services to families eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit has begun. We have flyers listing all the Contra Costa sites. Even more important this year, the CA EITC has expanded eligibility to include more tax filers, another reason to make sure low-income workers file their taxes and avoid excessive fees by going to a VITA site.

Lastly, the Ensuring Opportunity Campaign will be holding a housing forum March 26, on the state of housing in Contra Costa and potential solutions to meet local needs. Last year's forum was especially interesting and I expect this year's to be similarly so, particularly as EO staff have held housing information sessions in each of the Supervisorial districts last year.

10.0 Communications

None received.

11.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

Lee Ross announced that he signed up on the Common Sense Media's network of advocates for kids. In it, subscribers are updated on policies that matter for children and families, get notified about opportunities to organize and attend events nearby, and find easy ways to contact local legislator and make our voice heard.

On a different subject matter, Rocio Hernandez asked for suggestions for schools to obtain a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education. Ruth Fernandez volunteered to provide some information.

12.0 Adjourn

Next meeting is on Monday April 2, 2018.
Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM.