



Commission MINUTES
Monday, February 11, 2019, 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 6:05 PM

Vice-Chair John Jones began the meeting with introductions from all attendees.

Commissioners in attendance were:

Marilyn Lucey, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, Supervisor Diane Burgis, Kathy Gallagher and Roslyn Gentry for Kathy Marsh.

Additional alternates present were: Monica Merrill, and Katharine Mason.

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

Not present were: Commissioners Gareth Ashley, Dr. Christopher Farnitano, Kathy Marsh, Alternates Matt Regan, Supervisor Candace Andersen, Lorena Martinez-Ochoa.

2.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Diane Burgis and seconded by Kathy Gallagher to approve the consent calendar.

AYES: Marilyn Lucey, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, John Jones, Diane Burgis, Kathy Gallagher, and Roslyn Gentry for Kathy Marsh.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

The consent calendar was **APPROVED**.

Dr. Rocio Hernandez arrived at this time.

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

There were no comments from the public.

PJ Shelton arrived at this time.

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

Mary Ann Mason, Chief Assistant County Counsel reviewed the updated Conflict of Interest laws and regulations that apply to the Commission and Staff.

After the presentation, Sean Casey asked if any First 5 Contra Costa consultants are required to submit statements of Economic Interests. Mary Ann replied that a consultant would be required to submit such statements only if they were so integral in the decision making capacity (such as financial decisions), in that case they ought to have the same disclosure obligation and should be designated to file.

6.0 **Continuation of Mid-Point Report on 2016-2020 Strategic Plan Indicators & Initiative Summary**

Lauren Wagner, Research Analyst, gave the presentation on the follow up to the Mid-Point Report on the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan Indicators. She reported on the following 8 indicators, identifying percentages of:

- a) Early learning professionals advance in their education & permit pathways
- b) QRIS sites improved on individual rating elements
- c) Parents who access parenting & developmental referrals given to them
- d) Parents who are aware of the importance of screening and early intervention
- e) Parents who reported improvement in parenting skills after completing parenting class
- f) Training participants (Ages & Stages Questionnaires Developmental Screening) who report increased knowledge as a result of training
- g) Welcome Home Baby mothers who reported breastfeeding six months or more after delivery
- h) Home visiting participants who showed improvement from depressive symptoms

Lauren responded to questions from the Commission. John Jones asked if any of the participant data were unduplicated. For this purpose, yes, the participants do show up in multiple initiatives.

Marilyn Lucey asked how many out of all the participants of the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) were in that sample? And what are the five parent skills? Lauren responded that 266 were in the sample and the parent skills were: knowledge, confidence, needs, quality time and connection with others in the community.

John Jones asked if participants were all voluntary. Not all were voluntary as some of the participants were mandated. We do not collect individual data on this.

Kathy Gallagher asked how the data defined the word term “less hostile” in their findings. The term is used and measured in a clinical sense in the Triple P curriculum. Parents’ score on this item would depend on how they responded on a multi-question scale.

Policy & Advocacy Report

Sean gave the report on the Governor’s Proposed State Budget for 2019-2020.

This year’s budget was like none before for us. Never has the budget included a section solely devoted to “Early Childhood.” Never has a budget stated, “Providing children in California with a healthy start is one of the best investments the state can make.” There are three main proposals:

1. Improving educational and health care access through substantial investments in child care, preschool, kindergarten and through developmental screenings and referrals.
 - Universal full-day kindergarten: \$750M for facilities and other activities to reduce districts barriers to providing FD K.

- Universal preschool: 200 additional slots
 - Long-term plan for providing Universal preschool, including possible changes to the TK program
 - \$55M to “expand” subsidized child care facilities and “make a significant investment” in the education of the child care workforce (also \$247 to CSUs for campus child care programs)
 - Strategic plan that will include a (1) “framework” for a comprehensive, high-quality child care system, including revenue options; (2) ways to simplify the subsidized child care system; (3) outline roles for government, business and parents in meeting child care needs.
2. Supporting parents with family leave, home visiting, medical screenings
 - a. Implement ACEs screenings for children and adults in the MC programs, starting January 1, 2020, at least once every three years.
 - b. \$60M to increase developmental screenings for children at 9, 18 and 30 months of age.
 - c. Support and expand recently initiated Cal-Works home visiting programs
 - d. Additional \$23M to expand home visiting programs and increase the number of home visiting models
 - e. \$7.5M to increase participation in the BIH programs
 - f. Convene a task force to consider options for a six-month paid family leave program.
 3. Easing the financial burden on parents through higher CalWorks grants and access to child savings accounts.
 - a. Increase minimum CalWorks grant to 50% of FPL
 - b. Increased administrative costs support for local child support agencies
 - c. Increase Cal grant awards for state university or community college student parents.
 - d. \$50M for child savings account programs, specifically “pilot projects and partnerships with First 5 California, local First 5 Commissions, local government and philanthropy...” to increase access to Child Savings Accounts among incoming kindergarteners.

Our Association and Network are fully engaged in this work. Sarah Crow’s work with the newly formed CA Children and Families Foundation will be instrumental in ensuring that F5 is at the table when talking about these major policy proposals, particularly in the health arena. It’s also worth noting that the Governor has appointed to key positions in his administration several noted champions of early childhood and the issues we care most about: Anne O’Leary, Chief of Staff; Giannina Perez, Early Childhood Advisor; Kris Perry, Under-Secretary of Health And Human Services and Advisor on Early Childhood; and Nadine Burke Harris, California’s first Surgeon General.

8.0 **Executive Director’s Report**

Sean gave the following Executive Director’s Report:

Several staff and Commissioners attended the Board of Supervisors annual re-org lunch, January 15, in Richmond. Supervisor Gioia, this year’s Board chair, hosted the event and made a point of promoting children and youth as his focus area for the year. Not only did he feature youth speakers, poets and musicians, but called out First 5 several times among mention of leading organizations in the county. He also referenced previous County efforts that he would like to see revived, particularly ongoing review of data regarding children, as occurred in the “children’s report cards” the County produced and other activities that brought together county leadership on children’s issues. Overall it was gratifying to see



many of our issues given the spotlight. This was followed up a couple weeks later at the Board's annual "retreat" which they held in Pinole. Again, Supervisor Gioia asked to have an agenda item on this day-long review of high-level issues affecting the county BOS retreat,

I wanted to fill you in on a new entity that we are forming in partnership with Kathy Gallagher and EHSD, the Contra Costa Children's Leadership Council. This follows very much in the model of what Supervisor Gioia and Board of Supervisors hope to restore to the county, what I hope will be the forum for issues relating to children, youth and families in the County that will generate change in all sectors. We are working with a consultant on an initial stakeholder meeting March 27, which I hope many of you will be able to attend. This will be the first of at least three to be held this year, hopefully resulting in a plan for further activities and focus areas in the next years.

The West County Regional Group held the first of two Richmond Parks assessment meetings last month, this one to go through the data they collected in December and pick two priority parks: Atchison and Boorman. They'll meet again in March to draft recommendations for park improvements. First 5 staff will also be working with City of Richmond staff to prepare an application for Prop 63 funds for the eventual park improvements.

As you may recall, we have been steadily working on training a number of agencies and providers on trauma-informed practices over the last couple of years, starting first with a basic "Trauma 101" that has been very popular. This past year, 14 "fellows" from 12 agencies serving young children and their families participated in a more intensive training effort to become change agents in their own agencies. The competencies they developed include the neurobiology of trauma, types of trauma and how it shows up in young children, strategies to support resiliency and promote healing, understanding how socio-economic and cultural influences relate to trauma, and mindfulness practices. The fellows graduated at a wonderful ceremony January 31 where they and their agency representatives were congratulated on their commitment and perseverance through the year. Supervisor Andersen provided commendations, including one for us, and a member of her staff, Lauri Byers, thanked each of them.

Tomorrow, the BOS is approving the nominees for the County's "Complete Count" Committee, which Supervisor Burgis will chair. I'm happy to say that our own Fran Biderman will be representing First 5 and FESP on the Committee. This group will be tasked with overseeing the county's combined efforts to ensure a full count of Contra Costa residents, especially young children.

The East County First 5 Center renovation is nearing completion. The walls are painted, cabinets are going in, ceilings are nearing completion, carpet is in and the vinyl flooring should be going in this week. At our construction meeting tomorrow morning we hope to go over the remaining tasks so that furniture and staff can begin moving in later in the month. It is looking wonderful!

Lastly, we've included for you in the packet this year's "dashboard" summaries of our initiatives' activities.

Marilyn asked if the County's "Complete Count" Committee would consider getting the Warriors to do a Public Service Announcement to encourage participation? The Committee Chair, Diane Burgis, informed that the committee is open to possible creative ideas. They are embarking on encouraging young students to possibly create a smartphone app. The committee has yet to figure out what the resources being



allotted by the Federal Government look like. The committee would like to remain consistent in the messaging as well as reaching out to other regions to see how they are doing it.

9.0 **Communications**

Please note that there are materials of interest for you under the item for Communications in this month's packet.

10.0 **Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates**

Diane Burgis reported on a Brentwood Library event called a "Drag Queen Story Hour" tonight. She announced also that it had over 300 participants.

John Jones reported that in his response to a published article on the East Bay Times about "if you think housing's pricey, try child care", John Jones wrote back a response to the editor and it was published online:

<https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2019/02/10/east-bay-letters-make-providing-child-care-desirable-again/>

11.0 **Adjourn**

The next commission meeting is April 8, 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.