



Commission Meeting MINUTES

Monday, February 10, 2020 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 6:10 PM

Chair Marilyn Lucey began the meeting with introductions from all attendees.

Commissioners in attendance were: Dr. Rocio Hernandez, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, Matt Regan for Gareth Ashley, John Jones, Supervisor Diane Burgis, Dr. Chris Farnitano, and Roslyn Gentry for Kathy Marsh.

Also present were Alternate Commissioner Genoveva Calloway, and Deputy County Counsel Keiko Kobayashi.

Absent were Commissioners PJ Shelton, Gareth Ashley, Kathy Gallagher, Kathy Marsh, and Alternates Supervisor Candace Andersen, Dan Peddycord and Katharine Mason.

2.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

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

AYES: Dr. Rocio Hernandez, Marilyn Lucey, Lee Ross for PJ Shelton, Matt Regan for Gareth Ashley, John Jones, Supervisor Diane Burgis, Dr. Chris Farnitano, and Roslyn Gentry for Kathy Marsh.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

The consent calendar was **APPROVED**.

Chair moved Item 5.0 to the end of the meeting to await for presenter Mary Ann Mason to arrive.

6.0 Presentation of Census 2020 Count Me In! Highlights and Local Work Presenters Ali Uscilka, Director, HAB45 and Fran Biderman, First 5 Special Projects Coordinator

Fran Biderman gave an update of the Census 2020 activities in the county:

- Focus on the undercounted population in the census, Children 0 – 5
- Commissioner Supervisor Burgis co-chair of the County's Steering Committee
- First 5 produced postcards, flyers and incentive hand-outs to help assure community over unease over the confidentiality of the census.
- Social Media presence available to help spread the word.

Ali Uscilka, Director at Healthy and Active Before 5 (HAB45) continued presentation informing that they are co-chairing the 0-5 Working Group to coordinate across organizations and sectors.

- We know that 1 million kids under 5 were NOT counted in the 2010 census.

- Importance of the Census: Representation as the Census determines how many seats each state gets in Congress. The government also uses census data to make decisions for communities such as infrastructure. Businesses, and non-profits also use census data for planning.
- Contra Costa receives 42% of its revenue from Federal and State resources. Each person NOT counted equates to a loss of between \$1,000 to \$2,000 in Federal & State funding a year.
- 2020 Census is challenging due to the data privacy concerns as well as distrust of government due to current political climate
- Outreach becomes critical in helping address these challenges.
- This is the first time census will be available to fill online. Option of participating by phone or on paper will be available. Questionnaire available in 13 languages for the phone and online.
- Mapping tools used to target census outreach with all use the categorization of “hard to count”.

7.0 Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director Ruth Fernández gave the following report:

First 5 staff begun discussions to operationalize the new Strategic Plan for 2020-23 within organizational protocols and future investment planning. Highlights of this work include:

- New Strategic Plan presents an enhanced “systems lens framework” for our work in the next three years. Plan includes **three essential strategies**: Systems Development + Stakeholder Engagement + Policy Advocacy AND **two priority goals**: Integration of Early Childhood Systems + First 5’s Impact and Sustainability.
- Ongoing Commission reports will align with Strategic Plan priority areas and essential strategies.

Systems Development

- First 5 Contra Costa has been involved in the planning and coordination of the recently formed Children’s Leadership Council - a cross-sector stakeholder group looking to create a healthy ecosystem that recognizes and supports resilience and well-being for children, youth, families. The CLC held three convening last year and developed a framework for collective action with broad overarching goals:
 1. Centering the CLC work around Community Voices and Partnerships,
 2. Ensuring a holistic, thriving ecosystem of prevention and
 3. Continuing to engage policy makers and systems leaders in championing data-driven agenda & outcomes for children, youth and families.
- First 5 has been fully engaged in CLC activities as a Steering Committee member along with Health Services, EHSD and CCCOE. All four agencies will continue to advance CLC goals and support ongoing facilitation of Ad Hoc working groups.
- First 5 staff continue to be fully engaged in meetings for the Potential Sales Tax Measure AdHoc Working group of the BOS looking at the feasibility of half-cent sales tax that would potentially yield \$93 million annually for the county. Currently, the focus of the workgroup is to gather data to identify needs and service gaps within the county. The results of this initial needs assessment will be instrumental in the polling for gaging public interest for a sales tax measure and identifying support for various public/social services in the community.

First 5 will contribute to this initial information gathering effort with \$5K with the end goal of assessing gaps and needs in the community and make the case for the need of additional revenue.



- Governor’s budget proposal continues to demonstrate a strong Parent agenda with a big focus on:

1) Expanding early access for children to educational and health care services, including those with ACEs; worthy to highly is the development of the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care to provide a roadmap towards universal preschool and a comprehensive, quality, and affordable child care system. Final recommendations are due October 1, 2020. First 5 Network is gathering input from all state First 5 Commissions to develop a comprehensive letter with recommendations for the Master Plan.

2) Promoting two-generational approaches that invest in parents so they can invest more in their children; and

3) Easing the financial pressures that parents face daily - escaping the cycle of poverty. One item to highlight in this category is the expansion of the California Earned Income Tax Credit for 2019 – expanded to \$640 million and the income ceiling for families raised to \$30k regardless of dependents. A Young Child Tax Credit created – available to families making less than \$30K and at least one child under the age of 6 to qualify for the YCTC (up to \$1,000 per FAMILY) – An estimated 400,000 families may be eligible to claim the YCTC.

Lastly, another bold move in the current budget proposal is the creation of the Department of Early Childhood Development under the CA Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS), effective July 1, 2021.

1. The ACEs Aware campaign lead by the Office of the California’s Surgeon General and the CA Department of Health Care Services launched a Request for Proposals to help prepare systems for trauma screening, build capacity across systems and medical and CBO providers to screen, refer, reduce AND prevent the cumulative effects of adversity.
2. Since the release of the RFA -First 5 has been in state, regional and local conversations to gauge the feasibility of drawing ACEs funding to Contra Costa. The ACES Grant as an opportunity to elevate and scale the work we have completed over the past two years on capacity building for cross-sector institutions to increase awareness of trauma-informed practices and toxic stress. First 5 developed the Building Resiliency in Early Childhood Training Modules to complement the Trauma Transformed Overview Module and to specifically relevant to providers working with young children and their families. If awarded the RFA, First 5 would be able to make adaptations to the existing modules to include the Medical elements required by ACEs Aware and to obtain certification as an approved Supplemental Training. This grant would also present an opportunity to deepen our collaboration with County Health Services, Pediatric clinics, and behavioral health, as well as other child-focused coalitions like the CLC. First 5 submitted a proposal as the lead agency in partnership with County Health Services, EHSD, Behavioral Health, and Trauma Transform. Grant award notifications announced in April 2020.
3. Early Care and Education sector - several state grants soon to be released by the CDE and First 5 California. Of highest importance, the QCC RFA that was just released last week – this RFA is aimed at streamlining the multiple funding streams that support quality improvement efforts and systems coordination for early learning. First 5 CA’s IMPACT funds will be included as one of the four state and federal funding streams for this work. The application is due April 15.

Staff Transitions



- First 5 Contra Costa welcomed Jamela Tandinco to the Communications team, as the new Communications Administrative Assistant II.
- Edirle Menezes, ECE Program Officer is now the new EL Director for the San Mateo COE. In this role, Edirle will be leading the Quality Counts – QRIS initiatives in San Mateo County. Best wishes to her in this new role!
- Soon to be released are the job posting for key roles at First 5 Contra Costa including: Deputy Director, Communications Manager, Evaluations Analyst, and the ECE Program Officer positions. Please help us disseminate job announcement through your networks. CPS Consulting, the firm that conducted the search for the Executive Director will also be conducting the Deputy Director search.

Revenue

- The First 5 Association and First 5 California have been closely monitoring Prop 10 revenue delays through the CDFTA. Prop 10 payment delays experienced due to a transition to a new fiscal accounting system. First 5 Association and F5 CA staff met with CDFTA staff to better understand the methodology used to calculate Prop 10 revenue given continued decline in revenue allocations. First 5 Contra Costa just received apportionment for the last three months - \$1million under the amount received at this time last year which is a significant decline.

LEO

- A team of 10 including our Commission Chair Marilyn Lucey began the Leadership for Equity and Opportunity program last week. We participated in the first three-day session held at the Pittsburg Marina – there are two additional sessions that will meet in March and April to complete the program. The program is based on principles of problem solving and leadership grounded on universal values of equity, dignity and compassion. First 5 LEO team is excited to dive into this process and gain new tools that support First 5’s process of operationalizing our “systems change lens framework”. At our next session we will begin designing a team project, we are looking forward to that step!

Policy Advocacy

Registration open for the 2020 First 5 Advocacy Day / Día de los Niños event. The First 5 Association staff coordinate and plan both events culminating in state-level First 5 engagement through legislative visits at the Capitol. First 5 Association meeting scheduled for April 20th and Advocacy Day on April 21st in Sacramento.

At this time, Grants & Contracts Manager, Lisa R. Johnson invited Commissioners to sign up for site visits to agencies and organizations as another opportunity to get acquainted with many of our program activities and services.

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

Mary Ann Mason, Chief of Assistant County Counsel

Mary Ann Mason was not present. In the interest of guiding Commissioners and Staff complete their annual Statements of Economic Interests due April 1, 2020, Keiko Kobayashi gave a short summary of the Conflict of Interest laws and regulations and responsibility in disclosure and reasons and processes of recusal. She encouraged Commissioners and Staff who may have questions in filling out their forms to contact their office.

8.0 Communications

“None received.”

9.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

Lee Ross gave a report on their his participation at the First 5 CA Summit in Irvine CA:

- Our team Kim Stadlander and Francisca Hernandez did a marvelous job about coaching 101 QRIS. The room was filled to capacity. They gave great practical information. The handouts provided gave informational next steps.
- He attended a meeting on a data dashboard that they are using in San Mateo and 5 other counties where data is collected from early childhood programs on health issues and DRDP child level data that can be shared with K12 and kindergarten teachers; a wonderful tool to streamline transition to kindergarten. There is great potential for the future in terms of helping kindergarten teachers be ready to receive these students.
- So many of the First 5 organizations collaborating with bigger coalitions - to see ourselves as one entity with other health groups, educational groups.

Genoveva Calloway, who also attended the First 5 CA Summit, and shared that she wanted to attend the Summit in order to get acquainted with her role in the Commission. She attended workshops that involved works with the Cities related to Child Development and workforce development. She learned about the work other cities are doing with funding from their local First 5. She also mentioned learning more about ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences).

Chris Farnitano announced that he and Dan Peddycord are going to Senate Health Committee in Sacramento on February 12, 2020 at 1:30 pm, to testify on the health impacts of vaping use, in support on SB-793 ban on flavored tobacco.

http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB793

Matt Regan who is currently on the Governor’s Paid Family Task Force gave a report on their recommendations. Ensure that all who take PFL have their jobs protected while supporting small businesses to facilitate workers to take leave. One of the leading causes of workers forgoing PFL is because the current benefit levels replace too little of a worker’s wages. The task force have also identified several other areas where current policy has left gaps in the ability to access PFL program.

Marilyn Lucey reported on a new assembly bill, AB-1914 Special Education: inclusive education. This bill would establish the Supporting Inclusive Practices project, to be administered by the State Department of Education through the provision of grant funds, upon appropriation, to department-designated lead local educational agencies, as defined. The bill would require the project to have certain goals, including increasing opportunities for pupils with disabilities to meaningfully participate in general education.

http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB1914

Marilyn Lucey asked Supervisor Burgis and Deputy County Counsel Keiko Kobayashi if First 5 Contra Costa Commission has protocol in place regarding Commission conduct when speaking out in public. What is the expectation from Commissioners if we attend functions as a Commissioner but also speak on our own behalf and identify as a Commissioner of First 5 Contra Costa?

10.0 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.