

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday, December 4, 2012, 5:30PM
601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield, CA

Attendance

Commissioners: Dana Dean (Chair), Linda Seifert, Dan Ayala, Jay Speck, Elaine Norinsky
Aaron Crutison, Debbie Gossell, Stephan Betz.

Staff/Public: Commission staff and 11 members of the public were present

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM by Chair Dean.

I. Public Comment

Commissioner Dean took this opportunity to thank Commissioner Gossell for many years of service and dedication to the children and families of Solano County.

II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for December 4, 2012*
- B. Approve the minutes of the October 2, 2012 Commission Meeting*
- C. Approve the minutes of the November 2, 2012 Special Commission Meeting*

Moved: Commissioner Seifert

Vote: 8-0-0 Commissioner Dean abstained from Item C stating a conflict of interest regarding attorney fees in the same statute

III. A. Motion: Adopt and present a Resolution honoring Solano County Supervisor/former First 5 Solano Commissioner Barbara Kondylis for her years of dedicated service to the children and families of Solano County

Commissioner Dean presented Supervisor Kondylis with a resolution honoring and thanking Supervisor Kondylis for her long-standing and excellent service to the First 5 Commission and to Solano County's youngest children. Commissioner Dean remarked on the way Supervisor Kondylis focused her life on helping those who need the most help.

Supervisor Kondylis thanked the Commission for recognizing her and reminded the group that it is not work if you truly love what you do. The Commission has had a wonderful time and has done a lot of good in Solano County.

Moved: Commissioner Betz

Vote: 8-0-0

B. Motion: Adopt and present a Resolution honoring Kris Perry, former First 5 CA Executive Director, for her years of dedicated service to the young children of California.

Commissioner Dean read the resolution honoring Kris Perry, former First 5 California Executive Director, thanking Ms. Perry for her dedication to the children of California and their families.

Kris Perry thanked the First 5 Solano Commission for honoring the work that she has done on behalf of the children of California. Ms. Perry thanked Christina Arrostuto for their commitment together, reminding the Commission of Ms. Perry and Ms. Arrostuto's dedication and history of serving in California.

Moved: Commissioner Seifert

Vote: 8-0-0

IV. State and Federal Budgets Briefing

Patrick Duterte, Director/Health and Social Services and First 5 California Commissioner, gave the Commissioners and public a briefing regarding the State and Federal budgets. At the Federal level there are automatic cuts of 8.2% pending across the board, with exemptions to SSI, Medicaid, Medicare, SSI and Food Stamps, (entitlement programs) if the Federal government does not reach a budget agreement. (This is called sequestration.). In addition, the Federal government is approaching the debt ceiling and needs to make a decision to raise the debt ceiling. Unemployment insurance benefits are also scheduled to end on December 31, 2012 with approximately 2 million people affected. Decisions must be made before January 1, 2013

The State of California has decisions to make regarding implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act (aka "Health Care Reform"). The Department of Health Care Services just gave the allocation to the counties to transfer the medical program over to the Healthy Families Program effective 1/1/13 (a very short turnaround time). There will be three call centers set up, two by the State of California and one center in each county. If a person is Medicaid-eligible the caller will be transferred to the county call center.

V. RFQ #2012-08 Collaboration and Coordination Services – Award of Funding

A. Consider approval of award of funding of up to \$275,000 (\$75,000 for FY2012/13, \$100,000 for FY2013/14 and \$100,000 for FY2014/15) to Children's Nurturing Project for First 5 Solano Collaboration and Coordination Services (RFQ #2012-08) as recommended by the Review Panel (Source of funding: 2012-2015 Program Investment Plan)

Christina Arrostuto, Executive Director, gave the staff report. There were four worthy candidates submit proposals for Collaboration and Coordination Services. The Review Panel recommended award of funding for Collaboration and Coordination Services to Children's Nurturing Project as the top-ranked Applicant. The panel consisted of three members, M. Lynn Hoffman, Policy and Fund Development Manager, Sheryl Fairchild, Former Commission, Moira Kenney Executive Director of First 5 Association of

California, with Venis Jones Boyd, Family Support & Parent Education Programs Manager, facilitating.

Commissioner Seifert had a question regarding the process, wondering if this request would normally go through Program and Community Engagement Committee meeting. Ms. Arrostuto advised the Commissioners that this item would not go through a committee. Commissioner Seifert asked the question asking how the rankings work regarding the budget aspects of the proposals. Ms. Boyd answered the question stating that the amount of the budget did not directly affect the scores; it was the scope of work compared to the tasks and the personnel associated with the staff.

Commissioner Seifert asked how the program will operate if the applicant is awarded the contract. The Applicant agency's Executive Director, Debbi Davis, was present and addressed this question, letting the Commissioners know that CNP will build upon current collaborative structures. CNP answered the RFQ with the thought of eventually having a "one-stop shop," inclusive of all agencies that serve families with children 0-5.

Commissioner Seifert asked Ms. Davis about leveraging dollars for Collaboration and Coordination. Ms. Davis replied that the CNP proposal included matching funds for collaboration and coordination from their MHSA funds for PEAK.

Motion: Approve funding of up to \$275,000 (\$75,000 for FY2012/13, \$100,000 for FY2013/14 and \$100,000 for FY2014/15) to Children's Nurturing Project for First 5 Solano Collaboration and Coordination Services (RFQ #2012-08) as recommended by the Review Panel (Source of funding: 2012-2015 Program Investment Plan)

Moved: Commissioner Gossell

Vote: 8-0-0

VI. Election of Officers

A. Consider election of Linda J. Seifert (Chair) and Dana Dean (Vice-Chair) as recommended by the Nominating Committee

Motion: Approve election of Linda J. Seifert (Chair) and Dana Dean (Vice-Chair) as recommended by the Nominating Committee (Commissioner Gossell and Commissioner Crutison)

Moved: Commissioner Ayala

Vote: 8-0-0

(Commissioner Seifert left the meeting.)

VII. Committee Reports

A. *Systems and Policy Committee*
(did not meet)

B.1. Motion: Authorize the Executive Director to prepare and submit a response to the Request for Applications, utilizing funds currently allocated for child care

workforce development, for the First 5 California CARES Plus Program reauthorization for the period July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016.

Moved: Commissioner Betz

Vote: 7-0-0

B.2. Consider approval of an update to the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission Committee Structure Policy for the Program and Community Engagement Committee

Commissioner Speck briefed the Commission on the use of the Discretionary Fund and how the Program and Community Engagement Committee receives requests from the community for discretionary funds. The PCE committee feels that any requests for funding should be received by the entire Commission. The Committee has no mechanism to process such requests for Discretionary Funds. The Committee does oversee a small Community Engagement fund that allocates up to \$300 per event for activities relevant to children 0-5 throughout Solano County. The PCE seeks direction from the full Commission on its role with regard to the Discretionary Fund.

Christina Arrostuto briefly reviewed the current Commission Committee Structure document, the Discretionary Fund Policy and the past practice of the Commission in deploying Discretionary Funds. Ms. Arrostuto reminded the Commission that the Commission does not accept unsolicited requests for funding.

Commissioners discussed the issues and subsequently decided to continue this item to the January 2013 Commission meeting, in order to allow the PCE Committee to have a more in-depth discussion and return to the full Commission to clarify these issues.

Motion: Moved to continue item B.2. and send the item back to the Program and Community Engagement Committee for continued discussion.

Moved: Commissioner Ayala

Vote: 7-0-0

The Program and Community Engagement Committee received a report from staff on the \$30,000 Discretionary Fund deployment to the City of Fairfield that supported swimming lesson for young children. This grant was issued in memory of 4 young children tragically killed in a fire in 2010. 123 children received 482 swimming lessons. Drowning and near-drowning are top causes of injury and death of young children.

VIII. Executive Director's Report

Christina Arrostuto, Executive Director, brought forward for discussion, a report on Case Management and Data Collection Services for the system that the commission would invest funds. Amanda Hopping-Winn, Contractor, submitted a report for First 5 Solano Grantees and recommended Persimmony for case management. No grantee would be required to use Persimmony for case management and supplemental data collection.

The change would primarily impact the Family Resource Center Network, which currently receives First 5 funds to utilize the ChildNet Results Manager system for case management and supplemental data collection. It is recommended that First 5 Solano consider a commitment to continue support for information services, including data collection and case management, as a “legacy program.” This commitment aligns with the Commission’s responsibility to help build and sustain a system of early childhood development in Solano County.

Commissioner Betz is in favor of funding Persimmony for this purpose and to go forward with developing a plan for long-term First 5 support for a case management system for First 5 Solano grantees.

Commissioner Gossell spoke on what the grantees have asked for at past Commission retreats with one of those being a system that the community can access to obtain client data.

IX. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Dean remarked that it was an incredible honor to be involved in the 100 Best Community event. First 5 Solano received six awards.

Commissioners Ayala and Gossell wished everyone happy holidays.

Commissioner Crutison was happy to have made the meeting and wished everyone happy holidays.

Commissioner Speck wished everyone happy holidays and commended Christina on the wonderful 100 Best Communities event.

The next meeting will be held January 8, 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16PM

Denise Winters

Approved: _____