

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday, December 7, 2010, 5:30 PM 601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield, CA

Attendance

Commissioners: Debbee Gossell, Chair; Dan Ayala, Vice-Chair; Dee Alarcón, Stephan Betz, Dana Dean, Sheryl Fairchild, Elaine Norinsky, Norma Thigpen.

Staff/Public: Commission staff and approximately five members of the public were present.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at: 5:34 PM by Chairperson Gossell.

I. Welcome, Public Comment

The Commissioners introduced themselves.

There was no public comment.

II. Review, Amend, Adopt Agenda of December 7, 2010

Motion: Review, amend, adopt agenda of December 7, 2010.

Commissioner Alarcón moved to approve this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Review, Amend, Approve Minutes for October 5, 2010, October 29, 2010 and November 6, 2010 Commission Meetings

Motion: Commissioner Ayala moved to approve the minutes for October 5, 2010, October 29, 2010 and November 6, 2010 Commission meetings.

Commissioner Fairchild commented that she had not attended the October 5, 2010 meeting, but she had been listed in the minutes as attending. She requested her name be removed from the list of Commissioners in attendance at that meeting.

The motion passed unanimously, with the October 5, 2010 minutes amended as noted.

IV. CARES Plus Request for Applications

Motion: Consider approving submittal of the Letter of Intent to First 5 California from First 5 Solano to apply as Lead Agency in Solano County for CARES Plus program/matching funds.

Discussion: Venis Jones Boyd, Quality Child Care Programs Manager for First 5 Solano, reviewed the staff report for this item. First 5 Solano is the lead agency for Solano's CARES Plus application, which is a formula grant available in increments based on County size, with a 2:1 required funding match. Solano's Consortium partners include the Child Care Local Planning Council, Children's Network and Brandman University. The Consortium also expressed interest in applying for "Component D," which is an optional coaching component. This part of the RFA is the only part that is competitive. Ms. Boyd informed the Commission that the final draft application will be presented for Commission approval at its January 11, 2011 meeting.

Commissioner Fairchild moved to approve this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners Betz and Dean arrived at the meeting.

V. Election of 2011 First 5 Solano Commission Officers

Motion: Consider approval of the recommendations of the Nominating Committee for election of 2011 First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission Officers: Chair – Dan Ayala and Vice Chair – Linda Seifert.

Commissioner Betz moved to approve this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Betz departed the meeting.

VI. Annual Report to the Community / Parent Information Guide

Cherelyn Ellington, Community Programs Manager for First 5 Solano, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the Annual Report to the Community / 2011 Parent Information Guide.

VII. Executive Director's Report

Michele Harris, Deputy Director for First 5 Solano, reviewed the Executive Director's report.

Ms. Harris commented that for the 2011 meetings, there would be up to 90 minutes for regular Commission business, followed by a short break, then an up-to-90 minute strategic planning session. This could extend the meetings to three hours. She asked the Commission for direction as to whether they wanted to add a half hour onto the meeting time at the end or the beginning of the meetings.

The Commission discussed the options and decided to change their meeting times for 2011 to begin at 5:00 PM.

VIII. Committee Reports

There were no Committee meetings in November.

IX. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Ayala commented that there is a website with resources on how to explain losing a loved one to a child. The website is www.sesamestreet.org/grief. The site has various videos, kits and materials for helping children deal with grief.

Commissioner Dean commented that Elizabeth Edwards passed away that day. She asked the Commission to take a moment to reflect on Ms. Edwards' strength and graciousness.

Commissioner Gossell commented that going into the holiday season, she is asking everyone to step up and donate food or toys to organizations that are helping children at Christmastime.

Commissioner Gossell commented that this is her last meeting as Chair, and she stated she enjoyed being the Chair. She thanked everyone for a great year.

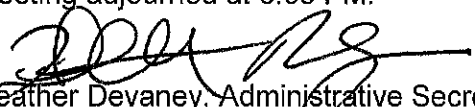
Commissioner Thigpen thanked the Commissioners and staff for working through the busy, yet productive year. She thanked Christina Arrostuto, Executive Director for First 5 Solano, for being a wonderful leader.

X. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date/Location

The next regularly-scheduled Commission meeting will be held on January 11, 2011 at 5:00 PM, First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission December 7, 2010 Minutes

601 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533. Future agenda items include: Strategic Planning, Introduction of 2011 Officers.

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 PM.


Heather Devaney, Administrative Secretary

Approved: *January 11, 2011*