

**First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission
Commission Meeting**

April 04, 2017, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present: Liz Niedziela (Chair), Erin Hannigan (Vice Chair), Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Dan Ayala, Elise Crane (arrived 5:40PM), Jerry Huber, and Aaron Crutison

First 5 Solano Staff present: Michele Harris, Megan Richards, Juanita Morales, Gene Ibe, Lorraine Fernandez, and Andrew Boatright

Members of the public present: Kathy Lago (Solano Family Children's Services), Moira Kenney (First 5 Association), Alan Kerzin (Children's Network), Debbie Peralez (Child Start, Inc.)

Chair Niedziela called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

I. Public Comment

II. Consent Calendar

A. Approve the April 04, 2017 Commission Meeting Agenda

Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for April 4, 2017

Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala

Approved 6-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Ayala, Crutison, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan, Huber, Niedziela

Nay: None

Abstain: None

B. Approve March 07, 2017 Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Minutes for March 07, 2017

Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala

Approved 6-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Ayala, Crutison, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan, Huber, Niedziela

Nay: None

Abstain: None

III. April Children's Month

- A. Juanita Morales gave an overview of several events in the community regarding April Children's Month.

Motion: Approve Resolution #2017-01 recognizing April 2017 as "Children's Month" in Solano County

Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala

Approved 6-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Ayala, Crutison, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan, Huber, Niedziela

Nay: None

Abstain: None

IV. First 5 Association Presentation

Moira Kenney, First 5 Association Executive Director, presented information regarding the First 5 movement statewide and the future of First 5s. Ms. Kenney noted a new \$2 tobacco tax has been enacted, the decline of revenue is inevitable, and a backfill from the State for the loss of Prop 10 revenue as a result of the tax. Ms. Kenney showed a comparison of dollars per child during the start of First 5 and now, and noted the amounts have not been great enough, in either time frame, to position First 5 to be solely a programmatic funding organization, but also a systems-building organization.

Ms. Kenney reminded the Commission of the directive for First 5s to build integrated systems of support for children rather than funding each part of the direct services. Ms. Kenney noted that if systems change outputs were the focus and metric of success toward the Prop 10 mandates, service to children will be increased in a measurable way across all counties in the state. Ms. Kenney highlighted the importance of First 5 Commissioners to utilize their relationships to help influence systemic and policy changes at the local and state level.

Ms. Kenney shared that stories of transformation for families as a result of First 5's interactions are most impactful when presenting to the state legislature. Commissioners discussed the systems level alignment necessary for First 5 programs and government social programs.

V. Head Start Presentation

Debbie Peralez (Executive Director, Child Start, Inc.) presented information regarding the changing regulations for Head Start programs and successes among local Head Start programs. Ms. Peralez noted three changes in Head Start: the duration of service for children has increased per day and per year, competition has increased from transitional kindergarten and expanded State pre-k programs, and an increase of evidence based practices in curriculum connected with test and monitoring of outcomes. Ms. Peralez explained the change in duration has reduced enrollment as there is not enough funding to sustain the

amount of teachers and locations necessary to serve the same amount of children previously enrolled. Ms. Peralez highlighted the planning for new facilities in Vallejo and the opening of an Early Head Start at Beck Avenue in Fairfield has increased the venues available to serve children. Ms. Peralez noted a shift in demonstrating outcomes in Head Start's 5-year plan.

Ms. Peralez invited the Commission to the Head Start facility opening at Beck Avenue April 20, 2017.

VI. Public Hearing: First 5 California FY2015/16 Annual Report

A. Gene Ibe presented an overview of First 5 California FY2015/16 Annual Report.

There were no public comments.

Motion: Consider acceptance of the First 5 California Children and Families Commission's FY2015/16 Annual Report

Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson

Approved 7-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Ayala, Crane, Crutison, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan, Huber, Niedziela

Nay: None

Abstain: None

VII. Committee Reports

A. Systems and Policy Committee
No Meeting

B. Program and Community Engagement Committee

Commissioner Ayala reviewed discussions from the last PCE Committee meeting including Compliance Action Plan status of Benicia FRC and Dixon Family Services along with recommendation for approval of a letter of support for AB377 and a position of support for AB60.

Ms. Richards presented an overview for AB377 and AB60. Ms. Richards noted the draft letter for AB377 is in the packet and AB60 is a statewide bill sponsored by First 5 California. Alan Kerzin (Executive Director, Children's Network) discussed the work with Assemblymember Frazier's Office to author AB377 as a local child care pilot. He described the flexibility of AB377 to address the gaps currently affecting children funded partially for services.

Ms. Richards mentioned that there are 3 other bills for child care pilots that, if they all passed, would nearly cover the bay area region. Ms. Richards gave an example regarding the timeframe parents have to find childcare if there was an increase in their income, which is so short that it can place a parent in a position to choose between a promotion or childcare. Both AB377 and AB60 would expand the parameters for childcare to continue.

Motion 1: Approve a letter of support for AB377.

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Crutison
Approved 7-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Ayala, Crane, Crutison, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan,
Huber, Niedziela**

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion 2: Approve a position of support for AB60.

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Crutison
Approved 7-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Ayala, Crane, Crutison, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan,
Huber, Niedziela**

Nay: None

Abstain: None

VIII. Executive Director's Report

Michele Harris noted the several events occurring for April Children's Month. Ms. Harris highlighted the upcoming training "Bridges Out of Poverty" being hosted by First 5 Solano April 18, 2017. Ms. Harris also noted the "Advancing Racial Equity" training for grantee partners May 31, 2017 and June 14, 2017.

IX. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Niedziela gave a speech to express the Commission's appreciation of Commissioner Crane's 4-year term on First 5 Solano's Commission. Commissioner Crane was presented an appreciation plaque.

Commissioner Hannigan announced an event regarding human trafficking April 22, 2017, 9:00AM-11:30AM at the JFK library.

Commissioner Estrella-Henderson mentioned two more events on human trafficking on April 25, 2017 and May 9, 2017.

X. Future Agenda Items

The next Commission meeting will be held on June 6, 2017 at 5:30 PM at 601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Committee Reports.

Adjourn

Chair Niedziela adjourned the meeting at 7:28 PM.

Andrew Boatright, Office Assistant III

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.