

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

October 21, 2017, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present: Liz Niedziela (Chair) (Arrived 9:50 AM), Erin Hannigan (Vice Chair) (Arrived 11:10 AM), Dan Ayala, Marisela Barbosa, Aaron Crutison, Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Jerry Huber (Exited 1:05 PM), Scott Ingham, Nicole Neff

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

Commissioner Barbosa called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM

I. Public Comment

None

II. Welcome and Overview of the Agenda

A. Approve the October 21, 2017 Commission Retreat Agenda

Motion: Approve the Commission Retreat Agenda for October 21, 2017

**Moved by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala
Approved 7-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Ayala, Barbosa, Crutison, Estrella-Henderson, Huber,
Ingham, Neff**

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Michele Harris gave a brief overview of the goals of the 2017 Commission Retreat Meeting: bring the commission's expenditures in line with its revenue; discuss where the commission has been, where the commission is now, and where the commission is heading in the coming years as proposed by First 5 Solano staff.

Susan Brutschy highlighted some of the investments and accomplishments of the commission over the past 10 years.

III. Information Sharing Commission Activity

Commissioners engaged in an activity which revealed some unique facts about themselves as a means to get to know one another.

IV. Program Investment Planning

Staff reviewed the process that led to the 2016 Strategic Plan, the 2016-2018 funding cycle, and the direction from the Commission at that time, which included: staff communicate with funded partners that in 2018 the Commission would be bringing its ongoing budget in line with ongoing revenues; the Commission wanted a balanced budget; lastly, the Commission wanted a vehicle to fund new programs. Staff reviewed the work executed over the last 2 years to fulfill the direction of the commission.

Chair Niedziela opened the floor for public comment regarding the Commission's program investment plan and reminded the public that the Commission would be discussing this item and providing direction to staff today and will be taking action on a Program Investment Plan in December. Public comments included:

- Margaret Anderson, Board President, Rio Vista CARE, read a letter to the Commission expressing Rio Vista CARE's importance as the sole Family Resource Center (FRC) in Rio Vista.
- Lee Ann Frahle, Secretary Treasurer, Rio Vista CARE, read a letter from Linda Orrante, Rio Vista CARE board member and retired Solano County CWS Director, regarding the state of Family Support Services needs in Solano County and Rio Vista's place in answering those needs.
- Carne Latta, Vacaville resident, spoke about her experience through various programs offered by Vacaville's FRC and its impact on her life and the lives of her children.
- Ian Schmutzler, Captain, Vacaville Police Department, spoke about the relationship between crime prevention due to the efforts of the Vacaville Police Department's FRC and First 5 Solano.
- Raquel Portillo, Community Outreach Liaison, Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District (FSUSD) FRC, read a letter from Kris Corey, Superintendent, FSUSD FRC regarding the services provided by FRC staff to children and their parents.
- Dr. Brenda Tucker, Board President, Fighting Back Partnership, commented on Fighting Back Partnership's importance with regard to Vallejo's community.
- Susan Ferdinandi, Program Manager, Children's Network, commented on the effects of FRC's in communities and the importance of funds leveraged toward preventative services and handed out information pertaining to the services provided by FRCs.

Megan Richards, presented the proposed Program Investment Plan for Commission discussion, including an annual expenditure budget of \$3,400,000 of Proposition 10 tobacco tax funds, and a total annual expenditure budget (including leveraged funds) of \$4,268,000.

Commissioner Barbosa asked about the rationale for leaving the systems change line item at its current level. Michele Harris responded that, while there was discussion to increase the systems change line item to support additional resources to implement the commission's legislative platform, staff are not recommending an increase in that area at this time.

After discussion, the Commission agreed with staff recommendations for annual expenditure projections for administration, data collection/evaluation, program staffing and support, internal programs and systems change.

Staff presented recommendations for Priority 1-3 direct services areas including Health, Mental Health, Child Care, School Readiness, Family Support and Help Me Grow.

The Commission supported the staff recommendation for Health to fund at \$100,000 and increase attendance at well-child visits and with the direction to focus on geographic hotspot including Rio Vista and Vallejo. They asked to investigate hotspot investment at a more granular level than city data (such as census tract).

The Commission supported the staff recommendation for Mental Health to fund at \$350,000 annually with \$200,000 focusing on Triple P Parent Education, \$50,000 toward ongoing provider trainings, and \$100,000 toward mental health treatment. The Commission supported one-time funding of \$200,000 for integration of developmental screening in community clinics in addition to the County clinics.

The Commission supported the staff recommendation for Child Care to fund at \$90,000 including \$40,000 toward IMPACT quality improvement and \$50,000 toward the Head Start Facility and supported the one-time funding of \$20,000 for an assessment of Early Childhood Education capacity.

The Commission supported the staff recommendation for School Readiness funding to remain the same at \$200,000. They asked to focus on high risk areas, weighted by risk factors, such as poverty and 3rd grade reading scores.

Commission supported the staff recommendation for Family Support to fund at \$500,000 annually with \$150,000 toward Triple P Parent Education and \$350,000 toward Family Support Programs in geographic hotspots. Commission direction included focusing support on Rio Vista and Vallejo and supported seeking additional funding partners for a First 5 Center to be located in Vallejo, that supported services that crossed the Commission's strategic plan priorities.

The Commission supported the staff recommendation for Help Me Grow Access and Linkage funding to remain the same at \$120,000.

Staff noted the availability of \$127,000 in unallocated funds. The Commission had a discussion on how these funds may be used. The Commission requested three ideas be researched for the unallocated funds to be considered at a future meeting: dental health, special needs training for childcare providers, and early literacy.

Staff proposed an Annual Grants fund to address gaps in community needs in a more flexible way, allow the opportunity to pilot new and innovative ideas, engage with community partners, and enable the ability to address issues between funding cycles. Commission supported the staff recommendation for the Annual Grant Program of \$235,000 annually, integrating with existing community engagement and co-sponsorship grant funds, and agreed the Annual Grant Program should address all aspects of the strategic plan.

The Commission agreed with the staff recommendation of the funding cycle length of 3 years with an option to extend up to 2 additional years.

V. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioners remarked that First 5 Solano staff, along with ASR staff, has shown continued diligence and excellence in both the research for and presentation of the Program Investment Plan and related budget.

VI. Future Agenda Items

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for December 5, 2017 at 5:30 PM at 601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Program Investment Plan, Committee Reports, and Appointment of 2018 Officers

Adjourn

Chair Niedziela adjourned the meeting at 1:12 PM.

Andrew Boatright, Office Assistant III

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AB', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.