

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

**Minutes of Retreat – Saturday, October 19, 10:00AM
601 Texas Street, Conference Room A, Fairfield, CA**

Attendance

Commissioners: Dana Dean, Dan Ayala, Jay Speck, Elise Crane, Marisela Barbosa, Liz Niedziela, Stephan Betz

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

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:15AM by Vice Chair Dana Dean with a salute to the flag.

II. Welcome and Overview of the Agenda

A. Approve the Commission Retreat Meeting Agenda for October 19, 2013

Moved: Commissioner Ayala

Vote: 7-0-0

III. Public Comment

Adrianna Bejarano, Executive Director, Rio Vista CARE, read a letter for the record from the president of their board, Margaret Anderson. Ms. Anderson conveyed the appreciation of the Rio Vista CARE board for the funding granted to them from First 5 Solano.

IV. Public Hearing: Annual Review of the First 5 Solano Strategic Plan

First 5 Solano just finished the first year of the current three year funding cycle.

Dr. Lori Allio did an overview of the strategic framework along with a narrative of the public meetings and work that went into developing the framework. The framework is made up of four priorities, goals and results. The goals were reaffirmed through the process and one goal added, First 5 Futures. The focus was on evidence based programs, valuing coordination with an eye on maintain access.

Lisa Colvig-Amir, Applied Survey Research (ASR), presented the community indicator report to the Commission with a description of gathering the information and accumulating the data to create the dashboard presented with the results and identifying community indicator. Trends were presented and how we are doing in the community.

Commissioner Barbosa asked how ASR gathered the data for the community indicator report. Ms. Colvig-Amir let the commission know that this data was not gathered from the community and is not primary data. Christina Arrostuto, Executive Director, let the commission know that the references can be provided and would be sent out to each commissioner.

Commissioner Dean advised the Commission that at the end of the day the Commission will be discussing the Long Term Financial Plan and beginning a process of addressing funding for First 5 Solano Grantees and potential grantees.

Alan Kerzin, Executive Director, The Children's Network of Solano County, clarified data regarding the child care budget advising that the percentage may be from the year that the governor slashed the budget for child care services.

Kathy Lago, Executive Director, Solano Family and Children Services, will be able to provide information and data from 2012 when the Child Portfolio is released in the near future. She stated that a "tremendous amount" of child care settings were lost during the economic downturn.

V. Equity and Inclusiveness in Early Childhood Systems: Complexities and Challenges

Venis Jones Boyd, Family Support & Parent Education Programs Manager, introduced and welcomed Dr. Cassandra L. Joubert, Director, Central CA Children's Institute, to the Commission, staff and public.

Dr. Joubert gave a presentation on equity and inclusion in early childhood services.

Commissioner Seifert arrived at 11:05AM.

VI. Help Me Grow

Debbi Davis, Executive Director, Children's Nurturing Project, presented the Help Me Grow model to the Commission. Adopting this framework will help the early childhood community to better collaborate and coordinate through the efforts of Help Me Grow. Ms. Davis contrasted the previous collaborative structure with the new collaboration approach.

VII. Long Term Financial Plan – Status Report

Michele Harris, (serving as a consultant) presented the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) Update to the Commission. Ms. Harris provided the commission with a narrative of the assumptions as well as the known commodities that help to develop the projected summaries of the future funds that First 5 Solano will be able to allocate.

VIII. Commissioner Remarks

IX. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Tim/Date/Location

The next regularly-scheduled Commission meeting will be held on December 3, 2013 at 5:30 PM at 601 Texas St. Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Election of 2014 Officers; 2012 Pre-K Academy Services Report and 2014 Pre-K Academy Services Request for Applications.

Approved: _____
