

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday, January 6, 2009, 5:30 PM Solano County Health and Social Services Center 2101 Courage Drive, Multi-Purpose Room, Fairfield, CA

Attendance

Commissioners: Norma Thigpen, Chair; Debbie Gossell, Vice-Chair; Dan Ayala; Stephan Betz; Sheryl Fairchild, Dr. Elaine Norinsky, Dr. Sharon Tucker.

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

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at: 5:37 PM by Chairperson Thigpen.

I. Greetings, Introductions, Public Comment

Commissioner Thigpen presented Commissioner Tucker with a plaque thanking her for her dedicated service as the 2008 Commission Chair.

Commissioners, staff and members of the public introduced themselves.

There was no public comment.

II. Consent Items

Commissioner Fairchild moved to approve the January 6, 2009 agenda and December 2, 2008 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Rescheduled Consent Items

There were no rescheduled consent items.

IV. Committee Meetings

A. Program Committee

There were no action items for the Program Committee.

B. Internal Systems Committee

There were no action items for the Internal Systems Committee.

C. Community Engagement Committee

1. *Motion: Adopt the First 5 Solano Discretionary Fund Policy*

Commissioner Betz moved to adopt the First 5 Solano Discretionary Fund Policy. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Thigpen informed the Commission that there is a new Commissioner, Linda Seifert. Commissioner Seifert was also newly elected to the Solano County Board of Supervisors. Commissioner Kondylis will be leaving the Commission. She will be at the February meeting for a formal "goodbye".

Commissioner Gossell commented we should keep an optimistic mind in these difficult financial times and hope that the governor comes out with a more improved budget.

Commissioner Betz informed the Commission that the governor proposed a new budget on New Year's Eve that proposed taking a percentage of First 5 funding and putting it into the state general fund.

Commissioner Norinsky commented that she will be more visible in the community that she represents this year, and is looking forward to the increased involvement.

VI. Executive Director's Report

A. Motion: Approve a one-time allocation of \$108,263 to First 5 California for the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board to expand Healthy Families health insurance coverage for children 0-5 beyond the enrollment cap established for the program in December 2008. Source of funds: Unanticipated funds for FY2008/09 resulting from the update to the Long Term Financial Plan and Program Investment Plans approved by the First 5 Solano Commission in December 2008.

Discussion: Christina Arrostuto, Executive Director of First 5 Solano, reviewed the staff report behind this motion.

Commissioner Betz informed the Commission that the reason he supports this motion is because without the insurance program, children will not be able to access the medical services they need and that are supported by other First 5 funds.

Commissioner Gossell commented that she supports this motion because the need for children's medical services she sees in her community is astounding.

Rosalia Velazquez, Executive Director of Solano Coalition for Better Health, informed the Commission that a key part of the Coalition's work is providing medical insurance premiums for children. Over the next year, various sorts of funding for these types of efforts will no longer be available. She requested that the Commission approve this funding to ensure children in Solano County have the health coverage they need.

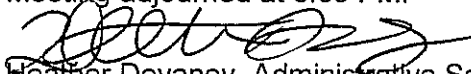
Commissioner Betz moved to approve this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Arrostuto gave an update on the SAMHSA grant that the Commission approved the application for. Unfortunately, First 5 Solano cannot apply for the grant because Solano County has already received funds from this funding agency in the past. Regulations for this grant limit it to only one award per county.

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

The next First 5 Solano Commission meeting will be a special meeting on February 3, 2009 at 5:30 PM, Multi-Purpose Room at 2101 Courage Drive, Fairfield, CA 94533. Future agenda items include: Awards of funding for First 5 Solano and Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Early Childhood Mental/Developmental Health Initiative; Awards of funding for First 5 Solano Family Support Services.

Meeting adjourned at 6:09 PM.


Heather Devaney, Administrative Secretary

Approved: *February 3, 2009*