

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

June 8, 2021, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
3375 Sonoma Blvd, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present via Zoom videoconferencing: Jennifer Barton, Leneshia Anderson, Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Amy Fabi, Erin Hannigan, Jerry Huber, Marla Stuart

Chair Barton called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

I. Public Comment

Chair Barton welcomed Amy Fabi to the Commission. Commissioners introduced themselves and Commissioner Fabi shared her background and experience.

II. Consent Calendar

Motion:

A. Approve the June 8, 2021 Commission Meeting Agenda.

B. Approve the April 27, 2021 Commission Meeting Minutes.

Consent Calendar moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Huber

Approved 7-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Anderson, Barton, Estrella-Henderson, Fabi, Hannigan, Huber, Stuart

Nay: None

Abstain: None

III. FY2021/22 Annual Grant Allocations of Funding

A. Receive a Presentation on the 2021 Annual Grant Application Process.

Juanita Morales, First 5 Solano Program Manager, shared changes to the annual grant new procedure. Individual consultation meetings with each prospective applicant resulted in 26 out of 27 submitted applications meeting qualifications, and almost all the allocated funding being recommended to spend. Commissioners discussed the pros and cons of the new process, with considerable use of staff time yielding higher quality applications. Ms. Morales described the programs being recommended for funding.

Motions:

B. Consider approval of allocations of funding of up to \$159,782 for FY2021/22 Annual Grants in response to Request for Applications #2021-04 as follows:

- a. \$19,811 to Safequest Solano to provide early learning activities to children living in Safequest's temporary shelter
- b. \$19,971 to Solano County Department of Child Support Services to pilot a program that will integrate available community resources to support the needs of parents receiving child support services
- c. \$20,000 to Immersive Learning Center to increase access to quality early learning experiences through a STEAM mobile unit
- d. \$20,000 to Food is Free Solano to provide food distributions to low income families at child care provider sites
- e. \$20,000 to Matrix Parent Network to provide mental health services for families of children with special needs
- f. \$20,000 to Watch Me Grow to provide personal development support for families who have experienced trauma
- g. \$20,000 to Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano to expand its food and diaper distribution program for families with young children
- h. \$20,000 to Suisun City Recreation, Parks & Marina to provide a citywide early childhood literacy initiative utilizing Footsteps2Brilliance

C. Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$20,000 for a FY2021/22 Annual Grant in response to Request for Applications #2021-04 to Solano County Resource Family Association to pilot a resource family mentoring program for new resource families

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

Yea: Commissioners Anderson, Barton, Estrella-Henderson, Fabi, Hannigan, Huber, Stuart,

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Commissioners Huber and Stuart recused themselves and left the meeting.

Motion:

D. Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$20,000 for a FY2021/22 Annual Grant in response to Request for Applications #2021-04 to Solano County Health & Social Services, Public Health Car Seat Connection Program to strengthen and expand its car seat safety education service, including online education

Moved by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson; Seconded by Commissioner Anderson

Approved 5-0-2

Yea: Commissioners Anderson, Barton, Estrella-Henderson, Fabi, Hannigan,

Nay: None

Abstained: None

Recused: Huber, Stuart

Commissioners Huber and Stuart returned.

IV. Public Hearing: FY2019/20 First 5 California Annual Report

Chair Barton opened the public hearing.

Ms. Morales presented the FY2019/20 First 5 California Annual Report, highlighting and describing the statewide impact of First 5 services on California children between the ages of 0-5 and their caregivers. Ms. Morales shared some of the First 5 Solano Commission's contributions to the annual report.

Motion: Consider acceptance of the First 5 California Children and Families Commission's FY2019/20 Annual Report, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 130150

Moved by Commissioner Stuart; Seconded by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson
Approved 7-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Anderson, Barton, Estrella-Henderson, Fabi, Hannigan, Huber, Stuart

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Chair Barton closed the public hearing.

V. Policy and Oversight Committee Report

A. Strategic Planning

Michele Harris, First 5 Solano Executive Director, updated Commissioners on the strategic planning process and introduced Christina Branom from the Commission's Evaluation and Strategic Planning Partner Applied Survey Research (ASR.)

Ms. Branom presented a draft of the *First 5 Solano Mission, Vision and Values*, incorporating changes recommended by the Policy and Oversight Committee. Commissioner Estrella-Henderson recognized ASR for their deep approach to listening, stating the presentation captured the essence and core of what First 5 Solano is about in a succinct manner.

VI. Systems Change 4-Year Summary

Ms. Harris reminded the Commission that reviewing result 14 was tabled at the April meeting so today the Commission would review the last four years of activities in the area of Systems Change focused on Result 14: Systems are integrated with increased cross-systems resource sharing, referral and collaboration; and Result 15: Systems are sustained with legislative and policy changes.

Ms. Branom showed how First 5 Solano has utilized its unique position as a multi-sector convener to increase integration, with initiatives such as the First 5 Center, Solano Kids Thrive (SKT), and Triple P Collaborative meetings. Staff also participate in 13 collaboratives in the county. Integrated services are also provided through supporting Help Me Grow Solano and developmental screenings. Lisa Eckhoff, Solano County Office of Education Senior Director of Early Learning and SKT leadership team facilitator expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to collaborate with First 5 Solano and shared a story of the impact SKT had around advancing ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) education.

Ms. Branom presented First 5 Solano's key accomplishments in policy and advocacy. Solano County Supervisor (and First 5 Solano Commissioner) Erin Hannigan shared advocacy efforts currently in process, such as an ask for support for a First 5 Center in Fairfield. Ms. Hannigan emphasized the importance of relationships with lawmakers in advocacy work and that lawmakers should hear from all Commissioners as well as staff.

VII. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Harris reviewed areas in which First 5 Solano has received statewide acknowledgement. Ms. Harris announced that Andrea Azurdia was moving on from her position as First 5 Center Director. Ms. Harris showed and offered informational cards for the First 5 Center and book bundles from First 5 California. Commissioners were also invited to visit upcoming Pre-Kindergarten Academies.

VIII. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioners thanked Applied Survey Research for their great work and presentation. Commissioner Fabi expressed it is a privilege to join a passionate group working to impact children's lives. Commissioner Stuart gave an update on her department's service to families. Commissioners discussed if the August meeting could be in person; Ms. Harris reported that we are still awaiting direction from the Governor's office regarding Brown Act Meeting requirements and staff will update the Commission as information becomes available.

IX. Future Agenda Items

The next Commission meeting will be held on August 18, 2021 at 3:00 PM at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30 in Vallejo. Future agenda items include: Strategic Planning, Systems Change Action Plan, Committee Report.

Adjourn

Chair Barton adjourned the meeting at 7:09 PM.

Luke Winders, Office Assistant III

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'L. Winders', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.