

FIRST 5 COMMISSION OF SAN DIEGO
1495 Pacific Highway, Suite 201 MS A-211
San Diego, CA 92101-2417
(619) 230-6460

Commissioners Present:

Dianne Jacob, Chairwoman
Carol Skiljan, Vice Chair
Dr. Wilma Wooten

Staff Present:

Barbara Jiménez, Executive Director
Lynn Eldred, Program & Evaluation Manager
Grace Young, Contracts and School Readiness Program Manager
Naomi Chávez, Fiscal Manager
David Smith, Sr. Deputy County Counsel
Janice Downs, Policy Advisor

Members Excused:

Nick Macchione
Sandra McBrayer, Secretary

Minutes for December 13, 2010

Call to Order and Introductions

Chairwoman Jacob called the meeting of the First 5 Commission of San Diego to order at 2:02 p.m.

Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes - November 1, 2010

ON MOTION OF Commissioner Wooten, seconded by Commissioner Skiljan, the Commission approved the minutes of November 1, 2010.

AYES: Jacob, Skiljan, Wooten
ABSENT: Macchione, McBrayer
ABSTAIN: None
NOES: None

Opportunity for Public Comments

No public comments received.

Commissioner Recusal Reminder

Chairwoman Jacob reminded the Commissioners to recuse themselves from voting on any agenda item that has a real or perceived conflict of interest.

Consent Calendar

ON MOTION OF Commissioner Skiljan, seconded by Commissioner Wooten, the Commission approved formation of the consent calendar with items 1, 3, and 4 approved on consent.

AYES: Jacob, Skiljan, Wooten
ABSENT: Macchione, McBrayer
ABSTAIN: None
NOES: None

1. Technical and Professional Advisory Committee (TPAC) Membership

ON MOTION OF Commissioner Skiljan, seconded by Commissioner Wooten, during the formation of the consent calendar, the Commission:

- 1) Approved the proposed appointees to serve on the Commission's Technical and Professional Advisory Committee for a two year period commencing January 2011.**
- 2) Approved the proposed appointee for District 1 to complete the current term that ends in December 2011.**
- 3) Appointed Commissioner Skiljan to Chair the Technical and Professional Advisory Committee for the 2011 calendar year.**

AYES: Jacob, Skiljan, Wooten
ABSENT: Macchione, McBrayer
ABSTAIN: None
NOES: None

2. Preschool for All Contract Extension

Executive Director Jiménez reported that over the last five years the San Diego County Preschool for All Demonstration Project (SDCPFA) has developed an innovative preschool service delivery model. The PFA Demonstration Project is scheduled to end on June 30, 2011 and a new Preschool for All Initiative and a Request for Proposal (RFP) is under development.

Executive Director Jiménez reported that as a result of local and State developments, Commission staff have re-examined timelines for the new initiative and recommend extending the current services and funding level for up to one year. This would permit completion of the full 5-year Demonstration Project and allow staff to: complete a thorough program analysis of the demonstration project in which First 5 San Diego could examine and incorporate community outcomes and best local, state and national practices into the program design of the new RFP; maximize leveraging opportunities by aligning our program design with First 5 California and other State-mandated Early Care Education (ECE) program requirements; incorporate the California Department of Education recommendations for Early Learning Quality Improvement System guidelines into the RFP; and give the Commission an opportunity to solicit community input utilizing the expertise of an ECE program consultant.

San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) is the current contractor and has met or exceeded all contract requirements and project objectives to date. In addition, SDCOE and First 5 would continue to work together to strengthen the consistent messaging regarding PFA outcomes and how First 5 funding supports early learning and Preschool for All in San Diego.

Public Comments:

The following people spoke on support of the San Diego County Preschool for All Demonstration Project:

Michelle Soltero – Advisory board member of the San Diego County Preschool for All Demonstration Project.
Denise Meek – San Diego County Office of Education.
Sheridan DeWolf – Grossmont Community College.
Lori Renstrom – University of California Corporative Extension.
Sandy Silverman – San Diego County Office of Education.

ON MOTION OF Commissioner Wooten, seconded by Commissioner Skiljan, the Commission:

- 1) **Found that the proposed contract amendment with the San Diego County Office of Education contract to provide San Diego County Preschool for All services is consistent with the Commission’s Strategic Plan, furthers the support and improvement of early childhood education within the County and provides a public benefit.**
- 2) **Approved a one year contract extension with the San Diego County Office of Education for up to \$14,400,000 as a project length budget from July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012.**
- 3) **Authorized the Executive Director or her designee to negotiate and execute a contract amendment with the San Diego County Office of Education.**

AYES: Jacob, Skiljan, Wooten
ABSENT: Macchione, McBrayer
ABSTAIN: None
NOES: None

3. Contract Management and Evaluation Data System Contract Extension

ON MOTION OF Commissioner Skiljan, seconded by Commissioner Wooten, during the formation of the consent calendar, the Commission:

- 1) **Found that the proposed contract extension with Persimmony International is consistent with the Commission’s Strategic Plan, furthers the support and improvement of early childhood development within the County and provides a public benefit.**

- 2) Approved a one year contract extension with two option years with Persimmony International for up to \$277,584 for FY 2011-12, up to \$277,584 for FY 2012-13, and up to \$277,584 for FY 2013-14. Each amount will come from that years approved budget as a project length budget.
- 3) Authorized the Executive Director or her designee to negotiate and execute a contract amendment with Persimmony International.

AYES: Jacob, Skiljan, Wooten
ABSENT: Macchione, McBrayer
ABSTAIN: None
NOES: None

4. Evaluation Contract Extension

ON MOTION OF Commissioner Skiljan, seconded by Commissioner Wooten, during the formation of the consent calendar, the Commission:

- 1) Found that the proposed contract amendment for the evaluation services contract is consistent with the Commission’s Strategic Plan, furthers the support and improvement of early childhood education within the County and provides a public benefit.
- 2) Approved a one year contract extension with three option years with Harder+Company Community Research for up to \$1,000,000 for FY 2011-12, up to \$1,000,000 for FY 2012-13, up to \$1,000,000 for FY 2013-14, and up to \$1,000,000 for FY 2014-15. Each amount will come from that years approved budget as a project length budget.
- 3) Authorized the Executive Director or her designee to negotiate and execute a contract amendment with Harder+Company Community Research.

AYES: Jacob, Skiljan, Wooten
ABSENT: Macchione, McBrayer
ABSTAIN: None
NOES: None

5. CARES Plus Program Participation

Executive Director Jiménez reported that the CARES Plus (*Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Educational Standards*) program is a First 5 California statewide professional development program for early childhood educators designed to improve the quality of early learning programs by focusing on increasing the quality, effectiveness, and retention of early childhood educators. First 5 San Diego participated in CARES from 2001-2010.

In April 2010, First 5 California approved up to \$34 million for CARES Plus through July 31, 2013, and officially acknowledged it as the First 5 California Teacher Signature Program. On November 4, 2010 First 5 California released its Request for Application (RFA) for the new CARES Plus Program. The deadline for all county commissions to submit to First 5 California a “Letter of Intent” to participate in the CARES Plus Program is December 13, 2010. The First 5 California RFA states that a Local Public Entity (LPE) may be eligible to apply for the CARES Plus Program’s “match funding” from First 5 California if the San Diego First 5 Commission does not apply to be the Lead Agency to administer the program.

On December 1, 2010 an inquiry was sent out by Executive Director Jiménez to 55 entities regarding interest in becoming the Lead Agency for the CARES Plus program if the First 5 Commission of San Diego were not to become the lead entity. No responses were received.

Executive Director Jiménez noted that there are a number of the same program requirements in the San Diego County Preschool for All (PFA) Demonstration Project and the CARES Plus program. Additionally, professional development is an integral part of the PFA Demonstration Project. Mentoring, coaching, professional development plans, and research-based approved trainings (all identified in the CARES Plus program) are key elements of the current PFA Demonstration Project.

Executive Director Jiménez noted that the funding for the CARES Plus program would come from the following: Up to \$150,000 from the Contributions to Community Projects account the approved FY 2010-11 budget, and up to \$2,400,000 from the Preschool for All line item in the Commission’s 5-Year Program Allocation Plan for FY 2011-12. Additionally Executive Director Jiménez identified the potential workload impact on First 5 San Diego if participation in this new State program is approved.

Public Comment

The following people spoke in support of the CARES Plus Program:

Michelle Soltero – WestEd Program for Infant & Toddler Care
Debbie Macdonald – YMCA Childcare Resource Services
Karen Shelby – YMCA Childcare Resource Services
Sheridan DeWolf – Grossmont College
Denise Meek – San Diego County Office of Education
Sandra Silverman – San Diego County Office of Education
Clair Crandall – San Diego County Office of Education

Chairwoman Jacob asked Executive Director Jiménez to report at the next Commission meeting on what additional resources are needed to manage this program.

ON MOTION OF Commissioner Wooten, seconded by Commissioner Skiljan, the Commission:

- 1) **Found that CARES Plus Program is consistent with the Commission’s Strategic Plan, furthers the support and improvement of early childhood education within the County and provides a public benefit.**
- 2) **Authorized the Executive Director to submit a letter of intent for CARES Plus to First 5 California.**
- 3) **Approved up to \$150,000 to be designated for consulting services to assist with the Phase 1 planning and development for CARES Plus.**
- 4) **Authorized the Executive Director or her designee to negotiate and execute a contract with a consultant(s) for these services.**
- 5) **Authorized the Executive Director to submit an application to First 5 California no later than January 18, 2011.**

AYES: Jacob, Skiljan, Wooten
ABSENT: Macchione, McBrayer
ABSTAIN: None
NOES: None

6. Report on the Status of Funding Stage 3 Childcare¹

Senator Christine Kehoe provided an update to the Commission on State 3 Childcare. She stated that the State’s position remains the same. Two bills were introduced to restore funding to Stage 3 Childcare--AB 1 (Pérez) and SB 12 (Corbett). She indicated that the Governor-elect is working diligently on the budget. There are many challenges including a \$20 million overall budget deficit. The governor-elect has made no commitment on the issue of Stage 3 Childcare funding and will most likely be calling a special session of the legislation in January, shortly after he is inaugurated.

Senator Kehoe reported that there will be additional cuts, and the option of using these cuts to restore a portion of the Stage 3 Childcare funding is being proposed by some members. There is serious concern that if the State 3 Childcare remains zeroed out, the State would spend more on welfare and required childcare for those families than they would have saved by implementing the cuts. Senator Kehoe assured the Commissioners that Legislators are committed to restoring Stage 3 Child Care Funding.

Debbie Macdonald, Executive Director of the YMCA Childcare Resource Service (YMCA-CRS), stated that the court stipulated that Stage 3 Childcare would run through the end of December. At the end of December, the Alternate Payment Providers (APPs) are required participate in a lottery that will not be enough to restore services for all Stage 3 families. Starting in January, the First 5 funding for Stage 3 Childcare will be used for the zero to five population, but there will still be some school age families without care. Ms. Macdonald noted that the court required the APPs to serve those families for the months of November and December without requiring the State to pay for services provided.

Executive Director Jiménez reported that the First 5 San Diego contracts with the two Alternate Payment Providers are pending execution.

¹ With the consent of the Commission members present, this item was taken up as the first item on the agenda.

7. Change to the Commission's By-Laws

Executive Director Jiménez notified the Commission of a recommended by-law change. The proposed change to the Commission's by-laws will change the terms of membership for the Finance Committee to match the terms for the Commission members in that any member can be re-appointed for additional terms. The Commission will vote on this measure at its January meeting.

8. 1st Quarter Dashboard Report

Executive Director Jiménez reported that staff worked with Harder+Company Community Research to create a quarterly dashboard tool that will be used to provide the Commission with more frequent updates on the performance of First 5 San Diego projects. The tool will increase contractor accountability, increase monitoring capabilities, thread the indicators in the Strategic Plan along with the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) performance measures and contract targets, and at-a-glance provide the community with the status of each project on a quarterly basis.

Leslie Clarke from Harder+Company Community Research reviewed and discussed the dashboard with the Commission.

9. TPAC Report

Executive Director Jiménez reported that TPAC received a presentation on the Status of the Pertussis (Whooping Cough) epidemic in San Diego from Dr. Mark Sawyer, Medical Director of the San Diego Immunization Partnership.

TPAC also received a presentation from MJE that provided an overview of the First 5 San Diego parent and public education campaign.

TPAC continued to review and discuss recommendations for the Commission's new smoking cessation initiative which is currently under development. TPAC approved specific recommendations for the initiative which will be brought to the Commission for their approval in early 2011.

A new TPAC group will be starting in 2011. Enhancement of the orientation and incorporating TPAC members' feedback so there is continuous evaluation and refining of their role will be a focus for staff in 2011.

10. Executive Director Monthly Report

Executive Director Jiménez updated the Commissioners on: the Targeted At-Risk Home Visitation, 211 San Diego, and the Learning Communities meetings.

11. Future Agenda Items

- ◆ Election of Commission Officers
- ◆ Change to the Commission's Bylaws
- ◆ Finance Committee Membership Appointments
- ◆ Change to the Finance Committee Membership Policy
- ◆ Evaluation Presentation
- ◆ Presentation to the Board of Supervisors

12. Adjournment

Chairwoman Jacob thanked Executive Director Jiménez and staff for their work over the past couple of years, and acknowledged David Smith for all the support he provided her and the Commission. Chairwoman Jacob also thanked the public for their contributions. She announced Supervisor Pam Slater Price will be next year's Commission Chairperson.

The Commission acknowledged Chairwoman Jacob's last Commission meeting and thanked her for her leadership and support in the Community. Commissioner Skiljan read a letter from Commissioners Macchione and McBrayer.

Chairwoman Jacob adjourned the meeting of the First 5 Commission at 3:20 p.m. to reconvene on January 10, 2011.

Respectfully submitted for your review and approval:

Sandra McBrayer

Date

Notes by: Rosa Lemus