

**FIRST 5 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
December 7, 2011**

Commissioners Present

Penny Borenstein, M.D.	SLO County Public Health Department
Tracy Buckingham	SLO County Department of Social Services
Julian Crocker	SLO County Office of Education
Don Dennison	Children's Services Network
Michael McNerney, M.D.	San Luis Obispo County Medical Association
Janet Murphy	Community at Large

Commissioners Excused

Bruce Gibson	SLO County Board of Supervisors
Melinda Sokolowski	Child Care Planning Council
Vacant position	Community at Large

Staff and Consultants Present

First 5 staff: Susan Hughes, Jason Wells, Anne Collins; Commission Evaluator: Tom Keifer.

Call to Order

Chairperson Crocker called the meeting to order at 4:11 PM.

Public Comment

Lee Collins, Director, San Luis Obispo County Department of Social Services, spoke about the United Nation's *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, an international treaty setting the civil, political, economic, social, health and cultural rights of children. He noted only two countries, Somalia and the US, have not ratified it. He suggested First 5 SLO County adopt the *Convention* as our Children's Bill of Rights and urge all other First 5's to do so as well. He also suggested First 5 ask state legislators to consider passing a resolution that endorses signing of the *Convention* by the US, in addition to asking our federal legislators to support it.

Anne Quinn introduced herself as a member of the SLO County Health Commission. She explained that each Health Commissioner is asked to attend meetings throughout the county and report on them to the Health Commission, and she has volunteered to attend First 5 SLO County meetings.

NOTE: Lacking a Quorum (until 4:20), the order of agenda items was shifted at this time.

2010-11 Outcome Evaluation Report, Review and Approval

Tom Keifer, First 5 Evaluator, presented a second installment of highlights of the 2011 Outcome Evaluation Report. In addition to reviewing the past year, he provided historical perspective from previous years. He reviewed highlights of the Health Initiative, Oral Health Initiative, Perinatal Substance Abuse Prevention Initiative, and School Readiness Initiative. He also provided an errata sheet covering corrections to the Draft Evaluation Report.

Susan Hughes, First 5 Executive Director, noted that Commissioners could take additional time, if needed, to review the Outcome Evaluation Report prior to approval. Staff was asked to bring back the report for approval at the January Commission meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Approval of October 26, 2011 Minutes
- 2) Approval of a letter to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors supporting smoke free outdoor areas surrounding county buildings, including a request to extend smoke free areas to county parks in the future

Commissioner Dennison made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and passed unanimously.

Oral Health Initiative Update: Pediatric Dental Services at CHC

Susan Hughes and Jason Wells, First 5 staff, reported on a November 28 meeting with representatives of Community Health Centers (CHC) and Children's Health Initiative (CHI). Mr. Wells noted the meeting was the result of the Commission's request for more information about the funding of CHC, in light of CHC having moved their pediatric dentist to Santa Barbara County clinics (except for one day per week). He also noted that First 5's funding of CHC has been both direct (in purchasing supplies and equipment for CHC to use with pediatric patients), and indirect (in funding insurance for dental services through CHI).

Mr. Wells reported that CHC explained it was a business decision to move their pediatric dentist to Lompoc and Santa Maria, due to high need there. When First 5 staff expressed concern that the pediatric dentist was no longer spending enough time in SLO county, CHC indicated they would provide transportation to the pediatric dentist, for high need children. He also said CHC was willing to come to a future First 5 meeting to speak about the issue.

Commissioner Borenstein noted she would like to receive more information about CHC's intent to hire a new dentist in 2012, to work with children ages 0-6.

Commissioner Buckingham asked about the pediatric supplies and equipment purchased with First 5 funds for the Nipomo CHC clinic. Mr. Wells noted that children are still being seen in Nipomo, so the supplies and equipment are still being used on pediatric patients, but not by a pediatric dentist as might have been expected.

Commissioner Borenstein noted that although it isn't First 5's role to make business decisions for CHC, she wanted to know how the data which was gathered by the Oral Health Coordination Team (in regards to need and utilization) fits with CHC placing their pediatric dentist primarily in Santa Barbara County.

Kena Burke, CHC's government relations officer, confirmed that pediatric patients are still being seen in Nipomo, by general dentists, and that CHC would be glad to come back to discuss the matter at a future Commission meeting. She also reported that CHC is starting to establish a co-location model through which children can be seen for medical and dental screenings at the same time.

Staff was asked to request that CHC staff come to the January Commission meeting to provide information around two issues: access for children 0-5 and appropriate care for children 0-5.

Commissioner Dennison asked for clarification on our funding commitment to CHC and our expectations of CHC, specifically what we are funding and what we are getting.

Commissioner Borenstein noted it was especially important that all partners involved in the issue of pediatric dental care countywide be on the same page, and that First 5 should facilitate that, while making sure there is forward motion in accomplishing objectives.

San Luis Obispo County Food System Coalition Update

Joel Diring, Diring & Associates, reported that he is the project director for an 18-month Hunger-Free Communities planning grant obtained by the Food Bank Coalition from the USDA (one of only 10 in the country). He noted there are several aspects to the grant: 1) conducting assessments, 2) convening a broad range of local stakeholders, and 3) development of a plan to improve food security and healthy nutrition for low-income residents.

He reported on three research pieces being done to look at the extent and causes of hunger and poor nutrition: 1) Cal Poly nutrition classes did a food source survey, 2) Cal Poly STRIDE did a survey of 800 low-income individuals throughout the county, and 3) The Central Coast Ag Network did a survey of food production resources. He noted that all three surveys will feed into the development of a Hunger-Free Communities Plan, which should be done by September, at which point they will seek implementation funding.

Mr. Diring also noted the grant required that they work with a local food policy council or establish one if none exists, so they have also been working to establish the SLO County Food System Coalition, which includes a very broad spectrum of those involved with food. He also explained they have had some difficulty getting some key stakeholders to the table, including growers and education representatives. Chairperson Crocker noted he would check with school district food service directors to help make connections and Commissioner Dennison noted that Linda Hogoboom would be a good contact for LMUSD.

Transitional Kindergarten Update

Brad Schultz, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Support Services, San Luis Obispo County Office of Education, provided information about the Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010, which changes the required birthday for admission to kindergarten from December 2 to September 1 (by the 2014-15 school year, allowing a three-year phase-in). He explained that Transitional Kindergarten (T-K) is the first year of a two-year age-appropriate kindergarten program for students born between September and December and that it is voluntary for anyone who is age-eligible. He reported that preparing for T-K has been a collaborative effort between the ECE community and K-12 community, and that some schools already have T-K programs.

Early Learning For All (ELFA) Overview

Shannon White Bond, Senior Program Coordinator, San Luis Obispo County Office of Education, provided an overview of Early Learning For All (ELFA), including its history. She noted the goal of ELFA is that all 3- and 4-year-old children will have access to high quality preschool. She reviewed the history of ELFA and reported on its many accomplishments. She also noted that prior to the creation of ELFA, the many entities involved in Early Education were working separately, rather than together.

Susan Hughes praised the work of ELFA and noted that First 5 staff has recently realized that ELFA could provide some of the quality preschool components of First 5's SLO County's strategic plan. She noted a small amount of money had actually been earmarked for the

activities EFLA currently provides, such as training and building capacity. She noted the importance of continuing ELFA's work when their current grant funding ends (December 2011) and explained that although the Community Foundation and United Way were very interested in ELFA, neither was able to provide funding at this time. She suggested that First 5 staff could develop a proposal for partial funding of ELFA, in hopes that additional funding might later be acquired. First 5 staff was directed to bring a proposal to the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Comments and Announcements

There were no Commissioner comments or announcements.

Staff Report: The Year in Review

Susan Hughes provided a staff report which covered the accomplishments of First 5 San Luis Obispo County in 2011. She also provided an update on AB 99, noting the judge ruled in the counties' favor, but there is the possibility of an appeal. She also reminded Commissioners of upcoming events: the *First 5 California and the Water Cooler Joint Conference* on February 8 and 9, the *Children's Oral Health Summit* on February 24, and the *Hands-On Heroes Awards Dinner* on April 19.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM to a thank-you celebration honoring Rita Rodriguez for her many years of service at the First 5 Preschool in Oceano.

All materials referred to in these minutes are available at the First 5 SLO County office. For a more detailed account, recordings of the meeting are available by calling (805) 781-4058.

The next Commission meeting will be:
Wednesday, January 25, 2012, 4:00-6:30 PM
Dept. of Social Services, 3433 Higuera Street, Room 115, San Luis Obispo, CA