

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

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

August 22, 2012

**Commissioners Present (all)**

Penny Borenstein, M.D.	SLO County Public Health Department
Don Dennison	Children's Services Network
Bruce Gibson	SLO County Board of Supervisors
Mary Kern	Community at Large
Michael McNerney, M.D.	San Luis Obispo County Medical Association
Janet Murphy	Community at Large
Tracy Schiro	SLO County Department of Social Services
Melinda Sokolowski	Child Care Planning Council

**Commissioners Absent**

Julian Crocker	SLO County Office of Education
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**Staff Present**

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

**Call to Order**

Vice-Chair Dennison called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM.

**Adoption of Agenda**

Commissioner Gibson made a motion to adopt the revised Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

David Lichti, CAPSLO, spoke about the "Innovation Play Therapy" program, a multi-modality attachment play therapy program, which aims to provide families with innovative ways of approaching behavior issues in children 0-6. He noted he has received 30 referrals since starting in January, and he is currently meeting with 12 children throughout the county.

Lee Collins, Director, SLO County Department of Social Services, spoke about the Healthy Families program and noted that due to action by the legislature and governor, all children in that program will be moved to the Medi-Cal program starting January 1, 2013. In SLO County, approximately 5400 children will be affected and about 1200 of them are ages birth to 5. He stated that he hopes First 5 partners will provide outreach so that more children are enrolled. (As a side comment, Mr. Collins also noted that he is looking forward to returning to the Commission.)

**Consent Agenda**

- 1) Approval of June 27, 2012 Minutes
- 2) Amendments to the Commission's Conflict of Interest Code
- 3) Approval of the resignation of Tracy Schiro as the designated member from the Department of Social Services effective August 23, 2012.

Patricia Gomez, First 5 SLO counsel, provided background on some of the changes to the Conflict of Interest Code.

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

### **Hunger Free Community Plan**

Carl Hansen, Executive Director, Food Bank Coalition of SLO County and SLO Food System Coalition member, presented information on the locally developed Hunger Free Community plan: *Paradox of Plenty: A Community Roadmap for Overcoming Hunger in San Luis Obispo County*. He provided background on the USDA planning grant the county received, the three assessments that followed, and the Hunger Free Plan that was developed as a result. He also provided more information on the Food System Coalition. He asked the Commission to consider endorsement of the Hunger-Free Community Plan.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Commissioner Gibson asked who would be responsible for reviewing the plan annually. Mr. Hansen explained that the Food Bank is the lead agency because they were awarded the grant and had to administer it, but the SLO Food System Coalition will be continuing to work together and will review the plan annually. He said they would not be receiving a federal implementation grant because the money is no longer available; however, the Coalition is actively seeking other sources of funding in order to support future activities of the Coalition.

Vice-Chair Dennison noted the efforts of the SLO Food System Coalition are clearly in line with First 5's goals. Commissioner Murphy moved the Commission sign a declaration of support. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schiro and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Sokolowski asked if the data that was collected was available online. Mr. Hansen noted that it was available online at the Food Bank website.

Carl Hansen noted that the Hunger Free Communities Plan is not the strategic plan and indicated the next step is to develop a Strategic Plan.

### **Fourth Quarter Financial Statement**

Susan Hughes, Executive Director, reviewed the fourth quarter Financial Statement (June 30, 2012, unaudited). She compared the operating statement and fund balance for both fiscal years 2010-11 and 2011-12. She noted that the annual audit would be presented for approval at the October Commission meeting.

Commissioner Gibson made a motion to approve the Fourth Quarter Financial Statement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sokolowski and passed unanimously.

### **2011-15 Strategic Plan Review**

#### **1) 2011-15 Planning Activities**

Jason Wells, Program Officer, continued an update from the June 27, 2012 Commission meeting regarding the development of strategies and activities for which funding was allocated but not contracted.

Commissioner Schiro noted that DSS still sees a great need for treatment for children with suspected exposure to perinatal substance exposure. Commissioner Gibson indicated that he preferred supporting existing programs over training to build capacity.

## 2) Financial Plan Review

Susan Hughes and Jason Wells, First 5 staff, led a review and discussion of options related to unspent funding from the three-year contracts ending fiscal year 2010-11. Ms. Hughes reviewed historical information as well as three possible spending options for the 1.8 million that was unspent at the end of fiscal year 2010-11.

Commissioner Gibson indicated that he supported a more level funding approach. He also spoke about establishing an annual and ongoing review process of the financial plan, assuring it covered a full 10 years of projections, with the final 2 years of revenue set at zero to create a final fund balance of zero.

After discussion of various options, Vice-Chair Dennison noted there appeared to be consensus that there shouldn't be a quick spend-down of unspent funds. In addition, he stated the Commission should establish an end target and an ongoing review process.

Jason Wells reviewed the program funding reductions that occurred as a result of the 2011-15 strategic planning. He also listed some continuing, new and/or emerging needs that might be considered for future funding.

Commissioner Murphy noted the Children's Bill of Rights effort might benefit from future funding.

Mr. Wells noted that First 5 could do a needs assessment internally before opening opportunities for funding to the public.

Commissioner Dennison noted that any possibilities for funding would need to match up with the strategic plan as well as not create supplantation issues.

Ms. Hughes noted an online survey using Survey Monkey could be developed to gauge preferences for funding choices for the unspent funds.

Commissioner Borenstein said that in regards to the Oral Health Coordinator position, the Public Health Department wasn't aware that the funding for the Oral Health Coordinator wasn't going to continue, although it has been included in the current year county budget.

### **Commissioner Comments and Announcements**

During commissioner comments and announcements, Vice-Chair Dennison said goodbye and expressed thanks to Commissioner Schiro for her service as the designated representative for Social Services and also to Anne Collins for her five years of service as Administrative Officer.

### **Closed Session**

The Commission conducted a closed session starting at 6:39 (pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b)) for the performance evaluation of the Executive Director.

### **Meeting Reconvened**

The meeting was reconvened at 7:07 PM.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM.