

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

August 9, 2016, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM  
601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA

**Minutes**

Commissioners present: Marisela Barbosa (Chair), Liz Niedziela (Vice Chair), Jay Speck, Elise Crane, Jerry Huber, Erin Hannigan, Aaron Crutison, and Dana Dean

Commissioners absent: Dan Ayala

First 5 Solano Staff present: Michele Harris, Megan Richards, Ciara Gonsalves, Juanita Morales, Gene Ibe, and Christiana Lewis.

Members of the public present: Venis Jones Boyd and Mrs. Shanklin; Susan Ferdinandi, Gloria Diaz, Alan Kerzin, Kim Thomas, Juan Cisneros, Lisa Niclai,

Chair Barbosa called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

**I. Public Comment**

Megan Richards introduced First 5 Solano's new staff: Gene Ibe, Program Manager, Juanita Morales, Program Manager, Andrea Azurdia, College Intern, Anthony Palacio, Office Assistant II, and Andrew Boatright, Office Assistant III. Ms. Richards announced that Christiana Lewis, Office Assistant III is leaving First 5 Solano for a position in Napa County.

**II. Consent Calendar**

- A. Approve the August 9, 2016 Commission Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the June 7, 2016 Commission Meeting Minutes
- C. Approve the 2017 Commission Meeting Schedule

***Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for August 9, 2016, approve minutes of the June 7, 2016 Commission Meeting, and approve the 2017 Commission Meeting Schedule.***

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Crutison  
Approved 8-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Niedziela, Speck, Crane, Huber, Hannigan,  
Crutison, and Dean**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**III. Honor Venis Jones Boyd**

**Motion: Adopt and present Resolution #2016-02 honoring Venis Jones Boyd for 16 years of distinguished service to the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission**

**Moved by Commissioner Speck; Seconded by Commissioner Dean**

**Approved 8-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Niedziela, Speck, Crane, Huber, Hannigan, Crutison, and Dean**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

A. Michele Harris announced the retirement of Venis Jones Boyd. Commissioner Barbosa read Resolution #2016-02 honoring Venis Jones Boyd for 16 years of distinguished service to the First 5 Solano Commission and invited her to the podium to receive recognition.

Chair Barbosa called a 5-minute intermission to honor Ms. Boyd and reconvened the meeting thereafter.

#### **IV. Vallejo Pre-Kindergarten Academy**

*Original Motion:* Consider approval of a sole source award of funding of up to \$20,000 to Vallejo City Unified School District for Pre-K Academy services in Vallejo for FY2017/18 (2 sessions)

A. Ms. Richards reported that item IV is in response to Commission direction to revisit and approach Vallejo City Unified School District, per the discussion that took place at the April 5, 2016 Commission Meeting to ask if they (VCUSD) were interested in hosting Pre-K Academies. Ms. Richards reported that FY2016/17 Pre-K Academy was held by Child Start. Staff worked with VCUSD to ensure that they were interested in providing Pre-K Academy services in the future and VCUSD agreed. Therefore, the FY2017/18 will be hosted by Vallejo City Unified School District (VCUSD).

Commissioner Speck asked if this decision would create 2 additional sites in Vallejo and Ms. Richards clarified that no additional sites will be allocated and essentially the provider is what is changing.

Commissioner Dean asked Commissioners to consider giving future direction to staff to move forward with bringing forward something later on that would allow VCUSD to put more 'packages' together, especially since we historically hosted more sites in Vallejo.

Commissioner Niedziela asked why both Child Start and VCUSD cannot host Pre-K Academies in Vallejo and Ms. Richards stated that the Commission funding is already allocated in the Program Investment Plan.

Commissioner Speck stated his concerns with revisiting the Commission Program Investment Plan and approaching the fiscal cliff faster and by which subcommittee this topic will be discussed in the future and/or what the options are for this program moving forward through Systems Change. Ms. Harris suggested Commissioners consider the motion at hand and bring future discussions forward through PCE regarding potential to expand, implications on the Program Investment Plan, Long Term Financial Plan, and how LCAP conversations with the school districts may impact these conversations and come back with a recommendation.

*Amended Motion:* Consider approval of a sole source award of funding of up to \$20,000 to Vallejo City Unified School District for Pre-K Academy services in Vallejo for FY2017/18 (2 sessions) and direct staff to bring future recommendations forward through PCE regarding potential to expand, implications on the Program Investment Plan, Long Term Financial Plan, and how LCAP conversations with the school districts may impact these conversations.

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Crutison  
Approved 8-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Niedziela, Speck, Crane, Huber, Hannigan, Crutison, and Dean**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

## **V. Solano Fund for Children Sales Tax Measure**

- A. Consider taking a position of support on the Solano Fund for Children Sales Tax Initiative for the November 2016 ballot

Ms. Harris introduced Alan Kerzin (Children's Network), Kim Thomas (retired), and Juan Cisneros (Chair, Children's Alliance) to present information on the local children's sales tax measure scheduled to be on the November 2016 ballot.

Mr. Cisneros thanked the Commission for providing funding for the public opinion poll. Ms. Thomas presented the process that led up to the decision of selecting a sales tax measure and key information from the public opinion poll results. Mr. Cisneros reported that both measures (sales tax measure and advisory measure) were approved by the Board of Supervisors to be placed on the November 2016 ballot.

- B. Discuss Commissioner and staff roles in ballot measures

Dan Wolk provided facts about the legalities of Commissioner and staff involvement in political activities.

***Motion: Approve Commission taking a position of support on the Solano Fund for Children Sales Tax Initiative for the November 2016 ballot***

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Crutison  
Approved 8-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Niedziela, Speck, Huber Ayala, Hannigan,  
Crutison, and Dean**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

## **VI. Foundation Study Report (information)**

Ms. Harris shared that the Foundation Study update was commissioned and funded by the Solano County Board of Supervisors. The presentation by Lisa Colvig-Niclai (Applied Survey Research) covered the philanthropy landscape in Solano. The purpose of this Foundation Study update covers how foundation funding trends have changed since the first study, by James Irvine Foundation in 2006.

## **VII. Committee Reports**

**A. System and Policy Committee  
(No meeting)**

**B. Program and Community Engagement Committee  
(No meeting)**

## **VIII. Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Harris informed the Commission that Debbi Davis resigned from Children's Nurturing Project (CNP). As the lead of the Solano Kids Thrive Collective Impact initiative, CNP terminated this contract with First 5 Solano. Ms. Harris reported that more information will be brought forward for the Commission as things develop.

Staff showed a picture slideshow of children who visited the First 5 Solano Giant Sandbox at the Solano County Fair while providing an update of how the fair turned out. First 5 Solano is also partnering with many partners at the Food Oasis event on August 27, 2016.

Mary Bird Early Learning Center is having an open house on August 16, 2016, highlighting the full inclusion classrooms available to many children in multiple classrooms.

Mental Health Services Act is undergoing its 3-year planning process over the next month.

**IX. Commissioner's Remarks**

None.

**X. Future Agenda Items**

The next Commission meeting will be held on October 4, 2016 at 5:30 PM at 601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Committee Reports.

**Adjourn**

Chair Barbosa adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Ciara Gonsalves, Program Manager

Approved: 