

## COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 10 , 2018

Meeting location: 1800 Buhach Rd. Rm B-16 Atwater, Ca. 95301

### Commission Members Present:

Lee Lor       Eva de Long       Iantha Thompson       Shirley Brown       Scott Pettygrove  
 Dr. David Canton       Aaron Lequia       Marjorie Terranova       Yvonnia Brown

**Staff Present:** James Fincher, Martha Hermosillo, Kat Zimmerman, and Adam Acevedo

**Guests:** Dr. Nikko S. Da Paz, Mary Bauman, Cathie Lancaster, Jacqueline Navas

### Call to Order

Chair Lee Lor called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

Commissioner Aaron Lequia arrived at 5:46 pm.

Commissioner Shirley Brown arrived at 5:49 pm.

### Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Commissioner Eva de Long

Attendance results noted above; a quorum was present.

Tour of Lactation Room was led by Buhach Colony staff member, Angela Jackson

### SCHEDULED ITEMS:

#### **Public Opportunity to Speak on Any Matter within the Commission's Jurisdiction**

Members of the public were invited to come forward to speak. No public comment provided.

#### **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

None.

### CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 1. Approval of Minutes for the August 13, 2018 Commission Meeting (Action)**
- 2. Approval of Expenditures through August 31, 2018 (Action)**

Commissioner Dr. David Canton moved to approve Items #1-2 on the consent calendar.

Motion seconded by: Commissioner Iantha Thompson. The motion was unanimously passed with 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain Yvonnia Brown, since she was not present at the August

Commission meeting.

**REGULAR CALENDAR:**

**COMMISSION ACTION:**

**3. Approval of funding for the Children’s Summit and Hands on Heroes Program for FY 2018/19 (Action).**

This item was presented by First 5 Executive Director, Martha Hermosillo. Hermosillo informed this item requests funds to support the Commission’s current Priority Areas. The requested funds will support costs associated with the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Children’s Summit scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Hermosillo pointed out that Gateway Church is not available as a venue so First 5 will be actively looking for venues and taking suggestions from the public and Commissioners. Staff plans to work with the community based planning committee to assist with planning for the summit. This request covers all related cost for the summit, including keynote speakers, marketing, advertising, printing, venue, refreshments, and associated event expenses such as translation and interpretation services, food, facility, child care, keynote speakers travel expenses, performance contractor promotional items, design and printing of outreach materials, event supplies, marketing consultant (if necessary) to assist with planning and organizing. These funds are anticipated to be complimented from funds from others sources that are necessary to support the event. Total funds requested for Children’s Summit are not exceed \$30,000.

Hermosillo stated for the Hands on Heroes program funds are requested for 7<sup>th</sup> annual Hands on Heroes community recognition program which will identify and honor individuals from the community doing heroic work for children. Hermosillo stated this program will again be supported through a collaborative partnership including LPC, First 5 and TPAC. Proposed cost for the program includes advertising, program marketing, translation services, program supplies, honorary materials, volunteer stipends, mileage reimbursement. Total funds are not to exceed \$10,000. Both recommendations also include advance payment provisions in order to provide deposits or to reserve needed services when applicable. Funding for the recommended services and activities is available in the emerging community programs portion of the approved First 5 Merced County budget for FY 2018-19.

Commissioner Pettygrove asked what are the historical expenditures for the Children’s Summit and Hands on Heroes event(s).

Hermosillo stated that last year’s expenditures were roughly \$23,700. However, with finding a different venue it would be ideal to have a little cushion in case the venue or keynote speaker are more costly.

Commissioner Scott Pettygrove moved to approve funding for the 2019 Children’s Summit & Hands on Heroes event.

Motion seconded by: Commissioner Yvonnia Brown. The motion was unanimously passed with 9 in favor, 0 opposed.

#### **4. Approval of the First 5 Merced County General Mini-Grants (Cycle 1) for FY 2018/19 (Action)**

Hermosillo stated that at the June 2018 Commission meeting the Commission approved the Small Grants programs and components which include funding guidelines and criteria for the general mini-grants for 2018-19. Funding previously approved for mini-grants this fiscal year was \$45,000 with a maximum award per recipient of \$3,000. Based on the guidelines staff developed and released a request for applications for all three mini-grant cycles. On July 23, 2018 with the first application deadline of August 24<sup>th</sup>, the remaining deadlines to apply for mini-grants are Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. A total of five proposals for funding were received by the August deadline with the total requested amount of \$13,839. Hermosillo stated the review committee consisting of one Commissioner and First 5 staff reviewed these proposals and is forwarding recommendations for four out of the five applicants to receive funding in amount totaling \$10,839. Hermosillo informed the summary of the four proposed mini-grants is attached and the recommendation is to approve those four proposals.

Commission Chair Lor opened the meeting for questions for mini-grant proposers.

Commissioner Margie Terranova questioned Dr. Da Paz of CARES Consulting regarding how students would be chosen to participate and whether she had contacted program partners.

Dr. Da Paz introduced herself and informed she has a PhD in health psychology, and has done research with caregivers of children with autism. Dr. Da Paz informed that she also has a Board Certified Behavioral Analyst (BcBA) and she provides in-home support for families of children who have autism. Dr. Da Paz stated she designs autism intervention services.

Dr. Da Paz responded to the first question and stated that CARES offers community events, monthly movie events, also has a peer project where families of children with autism and families of children without come together and play together. Dr. Da Paz stated the idea is to use a very naturalistic environment that's already occurring and have families to do the screenings. They are not necessarily targeting children who look like they might have autism. Dr. Da Paz continued to say in her proposal she was indicating that even though the M-Chat is for screening for autism it can still detect if there are any developmental delays and it would still be a benefit whether the child is later diagnosed with autism or not. It would then give parents a more information and they can seek further advice from medical professionals.

Dr. Da Paz stated for the recruitment she has a connection with someone through Head-Start, with whom, she had a brief conversation to make sure this could happen with the idea of a hosted event, something very small like a playgroup or play projects. Dr. Da Paz said she is not necessarily looking for autism, but, there is a high probability that some children will be diagnosed through her group. Dr. Da Paz informed that she has the capacity to work with families if, they are diagnosed with autism.

Commissioner Terranova asked if Dr. Da Paz was aware of child find and Individuals with Disabilities Act 2004 (IDEA)? Dr. Da Paz responded that she was not aware. Commissioner Terranova explained that IDEA has a section that requires public agencies, local education agencies to search and find children with disabilities so that they can provide the services.

Commissioner Terranova stated it would be important in this work to work with partner agencies when children are identified with those disabilities. Dr. Da Paz informed that this was more of a feasibility study, to see what is possible, to test out the logistics with the intent to then move forward with something larger to address priority area 3.

Commission Chair Lor asked if there were any other questions for CARES Consulting, there were none.

Commission Chair Lor asked for a representative from CASA to speak.

CASA representative Cathie Lancaster stated the proposal is for hiring of a staff member to work with children ages 0-5 who will go through an assessment with ASQ. The staff member will be trained to give caregivers the skills to help children talk, read, sing. Cathie mentioned that CASA also asked for money to buy books called "Lily meets her CASA". When an advocate goes to visit their child for the first time they take them a teddy bear to explain CASA. Cathie stated this helps make the child more comfortable.

Commission Chair Lor asked if there any questions for CASA, there were none.

Commission Chair Lor asked if there was a representative from WIC.

WIC representative Jacqueline Navas asked if there were any questions before she began speaking about their program. There were no questions.

Navas stated the breastfeeding program is targeted to get women to breastfeed longer. It has been very difficult to get new mothers to come to programs, so WIC designed an activity to engage mothers, as well as cooking, and Zumba classes with mom and baby, along with a breastfeeding coach. This support is to clarify questions and/or concerns from the mother. Often mothers stop breastfeeding after four months but if they make it to six months, it is a much better outcome for the child. She stated the hardest part for mothers is the first 6 months, which is why this support group was created.

Commissioner de Long asked if the program will be in one location or will it be moved to various locations.

Navas responded that sessions will be offered in 3 locations Merced, Livingston, and Los Banos.

Commissioner Terranova asked what time of day the program will be offered. Navas stated the times will be catered to mothers and their schedules.

Commission Chair Lor asked if there any questions or comments from the public, there were none.

Commission Chair Lor asked if there any questions for the next mini-grant applicant Xi-ipal Muuk (Rosa Nuno), with Marie Pickney translating between Rosa and the Commission.

Pickney translated on behalf of Rosa Nuno "They are working with kids 0-5, and their families to have children that are healthier and to stimulate their fine motor skills and psychological development. They have families with children who are 0-5 who are all participating in the

folkloric dances. Nuno stated that her child (who is 11 months old) just by listening to the music, can see the child wants to move more and talk more due to the music." Pickney stated in Rosa's community of Delhi there are not many activities for children in the age group 0-5 and this program has increased bonding between parents and children around the storytelling which is part of the dance. Pickney stated on behalf of Rosa that the proposal would allow 4 shows of the folkloric dance(s).

Commissioner Lequia requested to confirm we are able to resolve the question about funding the Xi-ipal Muuk Folkloric dance, with regards to if a fiscal agent is needed or not.

Pickney indicated that we are working with the fiscal at the Public Health department. The majority of the costs is for the costumes for the dancers. Hermosillo stated First 5 would ensure that the proper channels are utilized for the funds. Pickney had a question for Rosa, asking what will happen to the costumes when the event(s) are finished. Pickney stated that Nuno indicated they would be re-used for children in future events.

Commissioner Yvonnia Brown asked to modify the approval that it is contingent upon the vendor information being verified.

Commission Chair Lor asked if there questions or comments from the Commission, then public, there were no further questions.

Commissioner Dr. David Canton made a motion to approve

Motion seconded by: Commissioner de Long. The motion was unanimously passed with 9 in favor, 0 opposed.

## **5. Update on First 5 California IMPACT mini-grant recipients (Informational).**

This item was presented by Mary Bauman, Merced County Office of Education. Bauman stated that a few of her team members were present Rosa Barragan and Monica Adrian. Bauman informed that there were a total of 41 providers that participated in this mini-grant. Including six family care providers in Mariposa County. In Merced County, there were four Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) providers, and three were recruited from Kaleidoscope play and learn group. Bauman mentioned that one of those providers is an aspiring licensed family child care provider. Bauman stated there were 6 private care centers, and four private faith based centers. Bauman then passed around pictures from one of the sites in Los Banos, Ca. where a provider showcased some of the materials that the children utilized, along with a thank you note from the children. Bauman went on to state that one of the lovely things about the IMPACT grant is that it reaches out to these providers or the state funded pre-schools that are getting the large dollar amounts to support their quality. Bauman stated that on behalf of all of the providers to say thank you for the mini-grants, and the monetary stipends.

Commission Chair Lor asked if there were any questions or comments from the Commission.

Commissioner de Long commented ten years ago we didn't have the quality provided, thanks to First 5, MCOE the quality is improved in which providers now have more success, especially in some of the smaller areas in the county such as Livingston, Delhi, etc.

Commission Chair Lor asked if there any questions or comments from the public, there were none.

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

First 5 Merced County Executive Director, Martha Hermosillo stated there were over 2000 kids visiting the "Kids Discovery Station" at the Merced County Library with over two-thirds of the children that attended were ages 0-5. There were multiple families that came back to visit several times as well.

Hermosillo stated she and Commissioner Pettygrove were invited to a Board of Supervisors meeting with PBS who presented Commissioner Pettygrove with a plaque for the Stop.Lay.Walk Away campaign in which First 5 and HSA partnered.

Hermosillo mentioned First 5's Facebook posts were down in the last week, but, encouraged the public to get on to First 5 Facebook to like and share.

Lastly, Hermosillo showed the Commission the lactation plaques First 5 purchased for the two funded rooms. Hermosillo stated that the next rooms funded, would get a similar plaque in recognition of First 5's contribution.

## **7. Commissioner Reports**

Commissioner Aaron Lequia stated that there was nothing to report at this time.

Commissioner Shirley Brown apologized for coming in late, as she had a little trouble finding the room location for the Commission meeting at Buhach Colony High School. She thanked the guests/speakers in attendance for all that they are doing for the children 0-5.

Commissioner Dr. David Canton spoke about importance of immunizations, specifically pertussis. Dr. Canton stated that pertussis numbers are up and Merced county had our first infant with pertussis. Dr. Canton stated that in small infants under 12 months it can be deadly, but, thankfully in this case the infant is doing well. Dr. Canton advised that the key is for the mother to be immunized in the third trimester of pregnancy. For this particular case, the mother was not immunized. Dr. Canton stated we really need to be cognizant of pushing the immunization for pertussis.

Commissioner Yvonnia Brown wanted to thank everyone for the presentations today and all of the services that are being provided for children 0-5. Commissioner Brown also stated she is happy to see the progression and how we are being strategic and creative in addressing the 0-5 child population.

Commissioner Terranova stated she is impressed with the variety in regards to the mini-grant applicants. That it is wonderful to see that we are growing in terms of our impact and First 5's focus.

Commissioner Pettygrove stated although he received a plaque for the Stop.Lay.Walk Away campaign, it was done with the help of All Dads Matter, First 5, and the HSA's Child Welfare branch, as well as PBS. Pettygrove advised that PBS was on board to do the campaign again.

Pettygrove mentioned that Public Health, First 5, MCOE will partner for another program being designed for first time parents who are CalWorks recipients that the state budgeted last year.

Commissioner Iantha Thompson stated she has been involved with First 5 for many years and it is exciting to see the creative ways to use a little bit of money to make a big difference the community.

Commission Chair Lor stated she would love to echo all of the thanks the Commissioners have already stated, and it is great to see all of the pictures, presentations. Chair Lor mentioned that the Stop.Lay.Walk away is a program that works.

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.