

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 13, 2010

Meeting location: 676 Loughborough Drive, Merced, CA

Commission Members Present:

Jerry O'Banion Eva de Long Iantha Thompson Shirley Brown Ana Pagan
 Tim Livermore Patrick Bowman Ashlee Williams Manuel Jimenez, Jr.

Staff Present: Brian Mimura, Barbara Mumby, Jennifer Brooks, Michael Calabrese.

Guests: Melanie Cole, Samantha Thompson, Steve Roussos, Fernando Granados, Maria Salazar, Armida Oliveros, Christiane Traub, Stephanie Aguilar, Jennifer Mockus, Gaye Riggs, Blanca Bejarano, Candice Adam-Medefind.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

Commission Chairperson Jerry O'Banion called the meeting to order at: 5:32 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Barbara Mumby. Roll call was taken with results noted above.

2. Public Opportunity to Speak on Any Matter of Public Interest within the Commission's Jurisdiction

There were no comments from the public.

3. Approval/Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

The agenda for the Commission meeting was approved, as presented.

Motion made by: Iantha Thompson
Motion seconded by: Manuel Jimenez, Jr.

The motion was carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Approval of Minutes for the August 9, 2010, Commission Meeting.

5. Approval of First 5 Monthly Expenditures through: July 31, 2010

The Consent Agenda items were approved, as presented.

Motion made by: Manuel Jimenez, Jr.
Motion seconded by: Vice chair Eva de Long

The motion was carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. Guest Presentation: Merced County Child Care Needs Assessment, Merced County Local Child Care and Development Planning Council (Informational).

Guest presenters Samantha Thompson (Merced County Office of Education) and Steve Roussos, ACRD, provided a presentation on the recent needs assessment and its findings conducted by the Local Child Care and Development Planning Council (LPC) (see attached presentation slides). Thompson and Roussos described the LPC, the needs assessment goals, statistics on child care supply and demand, survey results, and lessons learned.

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Commissioner Thompson inquired as to whether the survey questionnaire was a multiple-choice format. Steve Roussos confirmed that it was a multiple-choice survey with available blank space for a fill-in answer.

In regard to slide #5, Commissioner Jimenez asked if the data for the Number of Children was available sorted by ethnic group. Roussos replied that it was not presently broken down by ethnic group in the report, but that the information was available.

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Vice-Chair de Long asked how long it took to complete the needs assessment. Roussos stated that the project took one year to complete.

A member of the public, Christiane Traub, commented that language used in the report such as "Early Childhood Education Workforce" and other such early learning programs may need further public education and improved awareness that these programs are working together with local child care groups toward the same goals. She suggested use of a common language is important toward working together.

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Vice-Chair de Long responded that, along this line of thought, she was aware of the need and supportive of the goal to raise public awareness about the relationship between these ECE programs, Local Child Care programs, and school programs.

Chair O'banion thanked the guest presenters for their presentation and important information.

7. Approval of Commission Meeting Locations Outside the City of Merced (Action).

Mimura presented this item, providing background on the Commission's efforts to host meetings around the County, outside of the city of Merced. He presented the recommendation that Livingston and Los Banos be identified as meeting locations for this fiscal year based on the locations of recent past meetings.

Commissioner Jimenez offered the Department of Mental Health site in Los Banos as a potential host for the Commission meeting here. Chair O'Banion suggested that it might be of benefit to utilize a school site, and also reiterated Commissioner Jimenez's offer of the newly completed Los Banos site for staff to explore.

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Motion made by: Ashlee Williams, to approve Livingston and Los Banos as the locations for the First 5 Commission meetings outside of the city of Merced for the 2010-11 year.

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Motion seconded by: Iantha Thompson

The motion was carried unanimously.

8. Approval of Funding for Coordination and Technical Assistance Services for the Parents As Teachers Home Visitation Program (Action).

Barbara Mumby presented this item, describing that based on the Commission's prior approval authorizing a Request for Proposals (RFP), staff developed and released an RFP for coordination services for the PAT Program. Proposals were received and reviewed by a committee comprised of Commissioners, staff, and a community representative familiar with the PAT program. Based on the strengths of its proposal, Merced City School District (MCSD) is recommended for funding as its proposal best aligns with the intent, goals, and deliverables provided in the RFP. If funded, MCSD would provide coordination, technical assistance, training support, and related activities for First 5's multiple contractors with parent educators implementing the PAT program.

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Commissioner Thompson expressed her thanks to First 5 staff for following through with the Commission's process.

Motion made by: Iantha Thompson, to approve Merced City School District, as recommended, to provide coordination and technical assistance services for the Parents As Teachers Home Visitation Program, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$25,000.

Motion seconded by: Manuel Jimenez, Jr.

The motion was carried unanimously.

9. Approval of Funding for the Merced County Children's Summit (Action).

Barbara Mumby presented this item to request action to approve funding for facilities costs and catering for the planned 8th Annual Children's Summit. She stated the Commission's past years of commitment to the Summit as well as its alignment with Desired Outcome #4 and the Children's Bill of Rights for Merced County. She stated the request is made at this time in order to secure facilities/caterers well in advance of the event and that the recommended action also requests advance payment provisions for these funds.

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Chair O'Banion asked which site will be used. Mumby replied that no final decision had yet been made regarding the site but that Gateway Community Church has been used in the past and may be the best site to meet the needs of the event.

Motion made by: Vice chair Eva de Long, to approve funding for facilities and catering costs for the 2010/11 Children's Summit in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00.

Motion seconded by: Ashlee Williams

The motion was carried unanimously.

10. Executive Director's Report (Informational).

Executive Director, Brian Mimura provided an update on several topics including: The upcoming First 5 TPAC meeting and Invoicing Workshops; the Joint Partnership with the Packard Foundation; upcoming grant application deadlines for minigrants programs; the new Community Engagement funds available for the Children's Bill of Rights; planned October Commission meeting action items; First 5 staff activities; pertussis updates; new reports and books on early childhood; and First 5 staffing updates. See attached presentation.

Chair O'Banion asked one of the upcoming events – the Preschool Symposium to be held in Los Banos – is the meeting scheduled to be held at Espana's. Mimura replied that yes this was the same event and that it has been successful in the past at bringing together ECE stakeholders on the west side of the County.

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11. Commissioners' Reports (Informational).

Vice-Chair de Long extended a welcome to extra-help staff member, Jennifer Brooks, and offered congratulations to First 5 staff member Barbara Mumby on her upcoming wedding.

Member of the public, Gaye Riggs, Merced County Office of Education, announced Superintendent Lee Anderson's upcoming retirement and extended an open invitation to Commissioners and the public to attend a celebration December 9, 2010, to be held at the Fairgrounds pavilion.

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O'banion announced that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2010. The regularly scheduled meeting date, Monday, October 11, 2010, is a County observed holiday.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 6:23 PM.

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Attachments to Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item 6: Guest Presentation: Merced County Child Care Needs Assessment, Local Child Care and Development Planning Council

Presentation slides -- Merced County Child Care Needs Assessment

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Presentation slides¶

Agenda Item 10: Executive Director's Report

Presentation slides

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Deliverables: Coordination and Technical Assistance Services RFP for the Parents As Teachers Home Visitation Program¶
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Addendum to Packet:¶
Approval of Funding for Coordination and Technical Assistance Services for the Parents As Teachers Home Visitation Program; MCSD Program Narrative, Budget, and Budget Narrative¶