

Minutes

February 6, 2006

6:00 pm

50 Douglas Drive, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Martinez, CA

Item 1.0 – Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:12 p.m.

Item 2.0 – Roll Call

Commissioners in Attendance:

Doris Denson-Belcher, Dr. Michael Zwerdling, Cheri Molnar, Joan Means, John Jones, Mark De Saulnier for Federal Glover, Mary Foran for Dr. William Walker, Joe Valentine, John Cullen

Alternates in Attendance.

Susan Wittenberg, Belinda Lucey, Linda Kochly, Toni Robertson, Edward Lerman, Danna Fabella

Item 3.0 – Consent Items

Item 3.1 – Approve minutes from the January 9, 2006 meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2006 meeting. **Approved.**

Item 3.2 – Executive Committee Report:

The Executive Committee did not meet in January 2006, therefore no report was given.

Item 4.0 – Acting Executive Director's Report

Sean Casey updated the Commission on the following items:

- The draft report of the countywide Preschool Makes a Difference (PMAD) Plan has been released and will be posted on our website. Staff has collaborated with the

County Office of Education and the Child Care Council in this planning process that has involved over 80 stakeholders throughout Contra Costa. Work on this issue will lessen until after the June election, which has a ballot initiative for universal preschool. This plan was worked on by Fran Biderman and Lisa Hayle.

- The Monument Community First 5 Center held its grand opening on January 21, 2006. The center is a modular building, paid for by the Commission, which is located on the City owned property. Sean attended the grand opening as did numerous City and County officials. A large number of families from the community also attended.
- The Commission's FY 2004-05 Annual Report to the community will be mailed out this week and is already posted on the Commission's website. Tracy Irwin did an excellent job on the report.
- Grantee site visits are continuing to take place. If Commission members would like to attend a site visit, please contact Monica Nevarez.
- The Executive Committee meetings for 2006 have been scheduled for third Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. and will be held in the Commission's offices.
- The annual statewide conference for Commission members and staff will be held May 24-26 in San Diego. This is an excellent opportunity for Commission members to learn more about First 5.
- Joan Means has been reappointed to the Commission by Supervisor De Saulnier.

Sean then thanked Doris Denson Belcher for serving as Vice Chair of the Commission for 2005.

5.0 – Grantee Presentation.

Sean Casey reminded the Commission that It augmented the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Strategy two years ago to address the quality of entire child care sites, including their physical site, curriculum, and materials, with the goal of bringing on more accredited child care sites in Contra Costa.

The Commission then received a presentation from Rosnina Ruggieri about the Early Learning Demonstration Project (ELDP).

The Commission also received presentations from Karen Burnhardy and Kelly Tharp, recipients of ELDP grants.

6.0 - Committee and Program Updates.

6.1 – Nominating Committee.

Linda Kochly stated that the slate of officers for election for 2006 is before the Commission for approval.

Vice Chairwoman Doris Denson-Belcher called for any nominations from the floor.

No nominations from the floor were offered.

Consider the following recommendation: To approve the Slate of Officers for Election for 2006:

Chair:	Joe Valentine
Vice Chair:	Cheri Molnar
Secretary/Treasurer:	John Jones
Ex Officio Member of the Executive Committee:	Mary Foran

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Slate of Officers for Election for 2006 as stated. **Approved.**

Vice Chairwoman Denson-Belcher requested the newly elected Chair, Joe Valentine, lead the remainder of the meeting.

Joe Valentine then led the remainder of the meeting as the newly elected Chair.

Public Comment:

Liz Callahan introduced Mariana Moore, the new Director of the Contractors Alliance. Liz informed the Commission that she has taken the position of Executive Director of the CBO Center.

Item 6.2 - Search Committee.

Mary Foran updated the Commission on the work of the Search Committee. She stated that the Executive Director job description has been announced. It is posted on various websites including First 5 Contra Costa, First 5 Association, and First 5 California, and has also been posted in various publications including the Chronicle of Philanthropy, MBA – Non Profit Connection, Community Network on Youth, Idealist/Executive Searches, Philanthropy News Digest, the Foundation Center, and California Grant Makers.

Mary then reviewed with the Commission a summary of the executive director profile 'must haves'. The list includes:

- Success in highly visible/highly accountable public funding environment
- Political savvy
- Strong operations experience
- Strategic grant making experience
- Strong people management skills
- Clear understanding of metrics and data collection
- Passion for children and families
- Cross-cultural experience
- Familiar with changing demographics of Contra Costa

Mary stated that the closing date for the position is March 3, 2006.

Danna Fabella requested the item of an understanding of disproportionate need be added to the list.

Mary replied that she will note that for the Search Committee, but it was not included because it is integral to the mission of this Commission.

The Search Committee will meet again to define each of the items listed, and will update the Commission at its next meeting.

Item 6.3 - Early Childhood Education Family Child Care Association Grants.

Sean Casey informed the Commission that this request is to provide funding for six (6) Family Child Care Association to provide outreach to early childhood educators in their movement toward, and attainment of, higher levels of education. Sean then reviewed the staff report with the Commission.

Consider the following recommendation: To approve funding up to \$48,000 for six (6) Family Child Care Associations (up to \$8000 per Association) for the period of February 2006 through June 2007.

A motion was made and seconded to approve funding up to \$48,000 for six (6) Family Child Care Associations (up to \$8000 per Association) for the period of February 2006 through June 2007. **Approved.**

Item 7.0 – Communications.

The Commission acknowledged receipt of recent press articles.

Item 8.0 - Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates.

Doris Denson-Belcher informed the Commission that she will be resigning her position with the Commission since she will be moving out of state. March will be the last meeting she will attend.

John Jones informed the Commission that We Care will be holding a children's health fair in May at its Concord center.

Item 9.0 – Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.