



California Children and Families Commission Meeting

July 22, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

Agenda Item 1 – Opening Remarks

Dr. Nadine Burke Harris called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Nadine Burke Harris
Molly Munger
Monica Fitzgerald
Shana Hazan
Jackie Majors
Elsa Jimenez

Ex Officio Member Present: Kris Perry

Announcements:

Chair Burke Harris opened the meeting by reviewing the agenda with Commissioners.

Camille Maben, Executive Director, First 5 California

Chair Burke Harris informed Commissioners that in an effort to streamline the meetings, Ms. Maben would not be presenting the Executive Director's report, but that the full report is included as an attachment to Item 1. She asked if Commissioners had any questions regarding the report.

Commissioner Hazan asked if First 5 California (F5CA) is fully staffed, aside from the noted vacancies. Ms. Maben responded that there are currently around 40 people on staff, and that the agency has "felt full" with around 44 people on staff. Commissioner Hazan asked about how IMPACT 2020 and Hubs will look different now that there are plans to move forward with an emphasis on equity. Ms. Maben responded that the difference will be the focus on equity as a foundational part of training.

Chair Burke Harris mentioned the Child Health Interview Survey report stated households with more socio-economic advantages were more likely to report their children received

developmental screenings, and that the report concludes with support for universal developmental surveillance and screening. She noted more needs to be done since there are persistent disparities in the system and efforts should be spent targeting challenges.

Advisory Committees

Commissioners stated they would report out during item presentations.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment

No public comment.

Action Item 3 – Consent Calendar

Item 3c was pulled from the Consent Calendar by Ms. Maben in order to have a discussion with the Commission.

MOTION/ACTION: Commissioner Jimenez moved to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Majors.

VOTE: The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Item 3c – 2022 Commission Meeting Dates

Ms. Maben introduced the idea of moving back to having at least 2 in-person meetings in 2022 if it's considered safe to do so and no state restrictions are in place.

Discussion:

Commissioners were interested in the idea but noted they would like the meetings to have an online element to maintain accessibility to the public.

Public comment:

Hugo Morales, Commissioner, First 5 Fresno, emphasized his support for maintaining a virtual option for the Commission meetings.

MOTION/ACTION: Commissioner Hazan moved to approve the 2022 Commission meeting dates as follows and directed staff to plan for two hybrid meetings and two virtual meetings, beginning in January. The motion was seconded by Chair Burke Harris.

- January 27
- April 28
- July 28
- October 27

VOTE: The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Action Item 4 – Adoption of a North Star Statement and Audacious Goal

Ms. Maben and Jackie Thu-Huong Wong, Chief Deputy Director, F5CA, opened the presentation by introducing Catherin Goins, Division Director from WestEd. Ms. Goins began her presentation with a reflection on F5CA's equity work in the past and present, and a future that she sees for the agency. Ms. Wong discussed the Theory of Change that describes the levers, actions, and outcomes of F5CA's work. She described the monitoring and goal-setting framework that will be used to inform F5CA's path forward. Ms. Wong concluded the presentation by showing Commissioners the proposed North Star Statement and Audacious Goal.

Discussion:

As members of the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee, Commissioners Jimenez and Hazan began the discussion by thanking staff for the hard work that went into the creation of the North Star Statement and the Audacious Goal, and explained the process staff went through to get to this point. Commissioners generally agreed they wanted the North Star Statement to include mention of cultural competence. Some Commissioners felt those ideas were captured in the phrases "healing-centered" and "trauma-informed."

Commissioners were split on whether the statement should be more child-centered or more focused on dismantling oppressive systems. Chair Burke Harris made an amendment to the North Star Statement to include at the end: "...necessary for children's development *and to eliminate inequities.*" She also added to the Audacious Goal: "...all children 0-5 will have *the safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments necessary to achieve healthy development.*" David Dodds, Deputy Director, Evaluation Office, explained how the data will work in the framework of the Audacious Goal.

Public Comment:

- Francine Rodd, Executive Director, First 5 Monterey, expressed she is hoping the SMART goals will be developed alongside counties, especially in terms of specific investments.
- Scott Waite, Executive Director, First 5 Merced, noted both proposed statements do not include the word "family," only "environment," and that it seems as though the focus is on environments where children grow.

MOTION/ACTION: Chair Burke Harris moved to ask staff to continue development of the North Star Statement and adopt the First 5 California Audacious Goal as follows:

Audacious Goal: *"In a generation, all children 0-5 will have the safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments necessary to achieve healthy development."*

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Munger.

VOTE: The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Information Item 5 – Race, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Reflection

On behalf of the First 5 Network, Executive Directors Melissa Stafford Jones and Camille Maben presented an overview of the Race, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) reflection and learning effort to build REDI knowledge and practice among and across all partners of the First 5 Network. Shiree Teng, REDI Consultant for the First 5 Association, talked about the initiative, the consultant partners approach, and the work they have embarked on together as a network.

Discussion:

Commissioner Jimenez stated she appreciates the First 5 Network moving toward becoming a more “REDI system.” Commissioner Majors noted she is eager and excited to see what comes from this work and asked about the demographics of the stakeholders. Ms. Stafford-Jones responded that they included both internal First 5 leaders and staff, as well as external partners from all six regions of the state.

Public comment:

No public comment.

Closed Session

The Commission met in closed session pursuant to Government Code section 11126(e)(1) and (2) to confer with and receive advice from its legal counsel regarding: In the Matter of Rescue Agency Public Benefit, LLC, Protestant v. First Five California, Awarding Agency; pending before Department of General Services, State of California, Protest No. 21-036.

Information Item 6 – Financial Update

Marcia Thomas, Director of Fiscal Services, F5CA, provided an update on F5CA’s financial status.

Discussion:

Commissioner Jimenez suggested thinking about opportunities to use funds from the category labeled as “net after reserve.” Chair Burke Harris raised the idea of planning for future revenue sources in case people stop smoking to the point where the revenue isn’t sufficient. Member Perry gave a brief history of the creation of Proposition 10 and noted that declining revenue has always been top of mind. Commissioners agreed that it is important to look at possible revenue sources in the future, along with some possible investments.

Public comment:

Melissa Stafford-Jones, Executive Director, First 5 Association, noted she appreciates the recognition and that it’s a good thing that smoking rates are decreasing. She stated sustainability is key to achieving the goals of the First 5 Network.

Scott Waite, Executive Director, First 5 Merced, emphasized it is best to avoid reserving funds so much so that an entire generation of children in need of services is skipped over.

Information Item 7 – Strategic Legislative Support Services Proposal

The Strategic Support Services Proposal was pulled to allow staff more time for development. This item will be brought back in October.

Information Item 8 – State and Federal Budget and Legislative Update

Max Vargas, Deputy Director, F5CA, provided an update on state and federal budget and legislative activity.

Discussion:

Commissioner Jimenez noted the budget released by Governor Newsom is in alignment with F5CA's priorities, and the Commission must be active in inserting themselves in conversations about allocating funding at a local level. Chair Burke Harris expressed she is particularly interested in which bills have the greatest impact in driving F5CA toward the goals it is trying to reach. Member Perry brought up the idea of possibly meeting more than four times each year to have more in-depth discussions regarding historic legislation that is being passed in the state. Other Commissioners were in favor of additional meetings.

Public comment:

No public comment.

Action Item 9 – Adjournment

Discussion:

No discussion.

Public comment:

No public comment.

MOTION/ACTION: Chair Burke Harris moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jimenez.

VOTE: The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Chair Burke Harris adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

The next scheduled Commission meeting is October 28, 2021.