

FIRST 5 YOLO
Commission Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2017

The First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission met on the 11th day of October, 2017 at RISE Inc. located at 17317 Fremont Street, Esparto, CA 95627 at 3:00 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance: Jim Provenza, Francisco Castillo, Nichole Arnold, Sally Brown, Heidy Kellison, Jesse Ortiz, and Sue Heitman

Staff in Attendance: Gina Daleiden, Lauren Adams, and Victoria Zimmerle

Public in Attendance: Justine Jimenez, Joyce Lee, Lana Magness, and Tico Zendejas

Item #1: Call to order

J. Provenza called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Welcome from Tico Zendejas, Executive Director of RISE, Inc. T. Zendejas provided an update on SunRISE preschool and thanked the Commission for the grant funds to complete the project; the preschool is done now (outside and inside). Currently, 16 children are enrolled and the capacity is 30 children. The facility is now ready for extended outreach and promotion to fill all slots.

Commissioners were offered the opportunity to tour the facility after the meeting adjourned.

Current enrollment cost is \$600 for a full day slot, \$400 for a half day.

Item #2: Roll Call

Absent: Jill Cook, Jenn Rexroad, and Sue Heitman

Item #3: Approval of Agenda

Approved

Chair: J. Provenza deemed it approved.

Change order, items 15 and 16 will follow item 11.

Item #4: State of Conflict and Recusal

None.

Item #5: Public Comment

J. Provenza welcomed those in attendance and invited the public to address the Commission on any issue not on the agenda.

Public comment: None

Item # 6: Updates and Announcements from the Chair

None

Item # 7-9 Consent Agenda

7. Approve 9/13/17 Commission Meeting Minutes

8. Adopt November 2017 Commission Calendar

9. Approve First 5 Yolo Finance Committee Meeting Minutes from 10/3/17

Approve consent agenda items 7-9.

MOTION: J. Ortiz

SECOND: N. Arnold

Motion carries unanimously

Item #10: Public Hearing: FY 16/17 Independent Financial Audit

In May 2017, the Commission released an RFP for Independent Audit Services for Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2017, 2018, 2019 and selected JensenSmith to conduct the Commissions annual audit, as mandated by the Children & Families Act.

- The Commission is pleased to report that there were no findings nor auditor adjustments for the current year Independent Financial Audit. Additionally, as a result of improved policies, internal controls, and accounting practices, the Commission's Independent Auditor notes they, "believe [The Commission] is making great strides in improving the efficiency and controls within the Commission..."
- At the close of FY 16/17 the fund balance was \$1,268,943

Commissioners thanked the Business Services Officer and noted the auditor's comment that the improvements the Commission has made in accounting practices and fiscal controls over the last year is impressive.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING at 3:15pm. Chair Provenza opened the Public Hearing. No Public Comments.

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING at 3:16pm.

Item 11: Acceptance of FY 16/17 Independent Financial Audit

V. Zimmerle, Business Services Officer provided an opportunity to answer questions from the Commission. The Commission did not have any questions regarding the Independent Financial Audit.

Accept the Independent Financial Audit for FY 16/17

MOTION: J. Ortiz **SECOND:** F. Castillo Motion carries unanimously

Item #15: Public Hearing: First 5 Yolo Annual Report to the Legislature and First 5 CA All First 5 Children and Families Commission Annual Report to First 5 California and the Legislatures on Commission Activities.

G. Daleiden presented the draft Annual Report to First 5 CA. The components required for reporting include AR1: Financial Report, AR2: Summary Demographics and Highlighted Programs/Compelling Outcomes, and the AR3: Evaluation Summary. The final Annual Report must be submitted to First 5 CA by October 31, 2017.

As part of the Annual Report AR-2, First 5 CA requests specific highlights for two funded programs. This year, First 5 Yolo is highlighting Yolo County Children's Alliance Foster Care Education, Recruitment, and Retention and Yolo Crisis Nursery Emergency Overnight Child Care. New this year for the audit was a written review for systems change.

G. Daleiden explained that The First 5 Association and First 5 CA have been working with executive directors to revise the format and organization of the Annual Report to better align

reporting from all 58 local commissions. It is anticipated that this year will be the last in the current form.

S. Brown suggested a change of wording in the AR-2 to replace the word “significant” with substantial, grand, meaningful, or other option to clarify meaning in the context of evaluation.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING at 3:21pm. Chair J. Provenza opened the Public Hearing.

T. Zendejas verified that RISE’s demographic numbers were unduplicated. Currently there are 15 individual families in the AVANCE program. The Play School Experience program typically serves 25-30 children per session.

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING at 3:23pm.

Item #16: Accept First 5 Yolo Annual Report to Legislature and First 5 CA

The draft Annual Report can be found in the attachments to Item #15 as Attachments A-C. Please refer to previous item for Annual Report details.

Accept First 5 Yolo Annual Report to Legislature and First 5 CA.

MOTION: H. Kellison **SECOND:** J. Ortiz Motion carries unanimously

Item 12: Update on Local Cannabis Policies and Potential Impacts/Funding for Children’s Prevention and Intervention Services

G. Daleiden provided an update on staff engagement in the continuing discussions about cannabis policies and revenues at both the city and county level, and the efforts to secure dedicated funding for early childhood prevention and intervention. Other counties have led the way in securing dedicated funding, for example, the groundbreaking work by First 5 Santa Cruz, to help create a Thrive by Three Fund to receive cannabis-related revenue. Thrive by Three funding is dedicated to prevention and intervention for children 0-5.

The Executive Committee of First 5 Association has approved the Thrive by Five concept, with the goal that “the first dollar” of new revenue should be spent on early childhood prevention and intervention, as this is the most effective “upstream” investment. It is understood that not every dollar will fund early childhood, but the advocacy is for local governments to recognize the critical nature of this investment for the future of the community.

The Commission discussed the importance of First 5 Yolo to be a part of discussions involving taxes, development agreements, or other revenue-generating mechanisms, both at the city and County level. Commissioners inquired about opportunities for effective advocacy on this issue.

G. Daleiden and J. Provenza listed the following as meetings Commissioners might attend:

- November 7th at Davis City Council, discussion of cannabis revenue expected
- November 7th at Board of Supervisors, discussion of cannabis tax expected
- County of Yolo public workshop dates will be set, and J. Provenza asked that 1-2 commissioners attend these meetings to provide a voice for children 0-5. G. Daleiden will follow up with CAO’s office and send dates/times to Commissioners.

Commissioners requested that staff produce a written document to guide the discussion about dedicated revenue for early childhood prevention and intervention. F. Castillo suggested talking points and/or prompts on this topic. Executive Director will send written material to Commissioners prior to November 7.

Item #13: Update on Preschool Initiative, Discussion of Role of First 5 Yolo, and Direction to Staff
The Commission received an update on efforts to advance a citizen's initiative for preschool from J. Provenza, J. Ortiz and G. Daleiden.

In 2016, Yolo County Office of Education, First 5 Yolo, and a community group of early learning advocates joined in an initial exploration and discussion of a Preschool Initiative for Yolo County. It was proposed that the Initiative be part of a sales tax measure on the November 2016 ballot. In that proposed ballot measure, ¼ cent would have been dedicated to the Preschool Initiative and ¼ cent to countywide transportation.

Yolo County Superintendent Jesse Ortiz and First 5 Yolo Executive Director updated the full Commission on the most recent considerations.

J. Ortiz reported that a “white paper” or outline proposal is being written. This will include an outline of the major program components (i.e., enhanced quality, implementation grants, and scholarships to increase affordability of early education). J. Provenza and G. Daleiden explained that County Council Has advised that neither First 5 Yolo, nor another agency, can be explicitly written into a citizen’s initiative as the fiscal or administrative agent. The County will collect the tax dollars and ultimately have to determine how the program is administered, though all or some could be contracted out to other agencies. Given the opportunity to leverage IMPACT funds, First 5 Yolo could be a likely choice to assist with implementing the enhanced quality portion of a preschool initiative.

A draft outline for the initiative is expected mid-October, and will be brought to the Commission for consideration at the next scheduled meeting after completion.

H. Kellison stated her desire for the Commission’s meaningful involvement in the advancement of preschool initiative, as early learning is core to First 5’s mission.

F. Castillo requested to review the language and potential role of First 5 Yolo prior to the Commission making a decision about the nature of involvement in the initiative.

Commissioners directed staff to continue to monitor efforts and advise, and asked that written plans or draft ballot language be brought to the Commission when prepared.

Item #14: Consider Request from Empower Yolo for Time Urgent Funding for Power of Attorney and Citizenship Workshops

G. Daleiden reported that Empower Yolo has the capacity to hold both power of attorney and citizenship workshops with the help of pro-bono attorneys. The non-profit has experience delivering successful workshops in the past. Empower Yolo is ready to provide additional

workshops, but does not currently have the funding for staff time and incidentals, and is requesting First 5 Yolo one-time funding for this effort.

Empower Yolo estimates the Power of Attorney Workshop will cost \$644.00 per clinic, and Citizenship will cost \$1,216 per 8-week course. Commissioners reviewed details as included in Attachment A. Funds are available in unallocated program funding. The last time the workshop was offered, Empower Yolo had to extend hours, as the demand for the services was high.

Consider and approve one-time funding request from Empower Yolo for power of attorney and citizenship workshops not to exceed \$2,000.

MOTION: H. Kellison

SECOND: S. Brown

Motion carries unanimously

Item #17: Receive Executive Director's Report

- G. Daleiden attended the First 5 Small County Summit in September. The summit provided an opportunity to discuss topics with other First 5 of similar size, and proved to be highly valuable. It was helpful to collaborate with Mendocino, Humboldt, Shasta, and others also involved in advocating for funding from cannabis revenue. The structured portion of the summit focused on the statewide effort to rebrand First 5 as an agency nearly 20-years after creation by Proposition 10, and to more closely align the work of all 58 local commissions. Staff will be attending the Annual Association Summit in November.
- The Commission may receive an additional request for one-time funding from The Davis Art Center for a countywide pilot in trauma-informed art therapy training for early learning providers. This would likely be a match for grant funding.
- First 5 Yolo was approached by a Davis City Council Member for assistance with a community effort to support victims of the fires in Sonoma/Napa area. G. Daleiden reached out the Executive Director of First 5 Sonoma and asked what they might need. While First 5 Yolo cannot contribute funds outside Yolo County, it could be a collection site for donations for children, if that is needed, or First 5 Yolo and Commissioners could help by pushing it out on social media. Additional information will be provided as it unfolds.

Item #18: Receive Reports from Commissioners

S. Brown- The city playground is being rebuilt in Winters. Cheryl Moore from BOOST is a coordinator. Volunteers are still needed to help with the build during 4 hour shifts. Volunteer Shifts are available beginning in the morning through 9pm.

F. Castillo met with Stephanie Brae, Executive Director of Sacramento Regional United Way. She wants to get more involved in Yolo County and create potential partnerships. F. Castillo will connect G. Daleiden with Stephanie to explore possibilities.

Tico Zendejas (RISE, Inc; Member of the Public) Invited the Commission to visit the SunRISE Preschool.

Item #19: Chair Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m. The next commission meeting will be held November 8, 2017 from 3 to 5 p.m. at First 5 Yolo located at 502 Mace Blvd. Ste. 15, Davis, CA 95618