

**FIRST 5 SAN BENITO  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Meeting Minutes**

April 5, 2023

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Dr. David Redman called the meeting to order at 12:08 PM

**ROLL CALL / INTRODUCTIONS**

Commissioners Present:

- ❖ Dr. David Redman
- ❖ Elias Barocio
- ❖ Supervisor Bea Gonzalez
- ❖ Dr. Marni Friedman
- ❖ Margie Barrios

Commissioners Absent:

- ❖ Mary Damm
- ❖ Tracey Belton

First 5 Staff Present:

- ❖ Lisa Faulkner
- ❖ Carly Offermann
- ❖ Alexia Magaña

Guests:

- ❖ Frederick Northrop,  
First 5 San Benito Attorney
- ❖ Cristina Bañuelos

**2. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

NONE

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Cristina Banuelos introduces herself from the senior council and describes her role within the Foster Grandparent Program and what the program aims to achieve. Highlights that the program has been very successful in keeping elderly participants engaged with younger students in the school district and that she is excited for the growing partnership between First 5 and her organization and she is excited to learn more about the Commission and how she may fit into the group.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING ON FIRST 5 CALIFORNIA ANNUAL REPORT**

Lisa Faulkner opens the meeting by addressing the changes to this year's annual report including the addition of First 5's children's policy agenda and how the state is advocating for more pathways to address the extensive community needs at a more local level. She then highlights the work of First 5 San Benito and discusses how COVID-19 affected services to shift to an emergency response and supply system, which are now beginning to shift back into the main focus of early childhood education and our need for more home

visitors for the growing program. She also mentions that page 34 goes further into depth regarding grants, funds, and sustainability around fiscal demands. As this is a safety and compliance topic, Lisa urges the Commission to read through the rest of the report on their own time and the group acknowledges the review of the report as a group.

## **5. PUBLIC HEARING ON FIRST 5 SAN BENITO ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

Discussion of agenda item 5 begins with an agreement that all active members plan to remain on the Commission with an abstention from Mary Damm as she was not present, however, the Commission agrees to extend her term in the meantime as it is expiring.

Supervisor Bea Gonzales made a MOTION to extend Mary Damm's term as F5SB Commissioner, a 3-year term, from June 2017-2023 to June 2023-2026

SECOND: Dr. Marni Friedman

All in favor, MOTION PASSED.

The Commission continues the discussion around anyone who may want to step down from their respective positions, however with no preference in either direction, they agree that keeping the officers and committee members as is would make sense for the direction that First 5 is moving in based on the current advocacy work of the officers and members.

Supervisor Bea Gonzales NOMINATES current Commission Chair, Dr. David Redman, to remain as the chair of First 5 San Benito.

SECOND: Margie Barrios

All in favor, MOTION PASSED.

Margie Barrios NOMINATES current Commission Vice Chair, Dr. Marni Friedman, to remain as the vice chair of First 5 San Benito.

SECOND: Supervisor Bea Gonzales

All in favor, MOTION PASSED.

Supervisor Bea Gonzales NOMINATES current Commission Treasurer, Margie Barrios, to remain as the treasurer of First 5 San Benito.

SECOND: Elias Barocio

All in favor, MOTION PASSED.

## **6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

### *Approval of item 6.1-6.2*

Commission Chairperson Dr. David Redman opens the discussion with the proposition to pull any items if needed, or to begin voting on the items as a whole. Margie Barrios chooses to abstain from the approval of items 6.1 & 6.2, the minutes from December 7, 2022 and March 2, 2023, as she was not present for the meetings on either date.

Supervisor Bea Gonzales made a MOTION to approve item 6.1 Minutes for the December 7, 2022 regular commission meeting and item 6.2 Minutes for March 2, 2023 special commission meeting.

SECOND: Elias Barocio

4 in favor, 1 abstention, MOTION PASSED.

Supervisor Bea Gonzales made a MOTION to approve item 6.3 FY 2022-2023 YTD Financial Report as of January 31, 2023, item 6.4 FY 2022-2023 Budget Revision, and item 6.5 FY 2022-2023 YTD Grant Report as of March 31, 2023.

SECOND: Dr. Marni Friedman

All in favor, MOTION PASSED.

## **7. COMMUNITY CENTER AND COLLABORATORY**

Lisa Faulkner updates the Commission that she's been meeting with a realtor regarding property, as well as community partners who are interested in getting the ball rolling on the proposed Community Center. She proposes the idea of calling it the Community Center Collaboratory in hopes of emphasizing the broad outreach and impact potential of the group for the community, versus associating it directly with First 5. She reviews an MOU that was developed for the partners who wish to be part of the Collaboratory to ensure active and continuous participation in the development of the community center.

She continues by describing the development as a 7-10 year project and suggests a strategic retreat in the near future to gather partners, determine/specify partnerships, and plan for the development with a commitment deadline for partners of June 30, 2023. She recommends creating a conceptual drawing and usage plan to use in the proposal to Rivas and other funders during the capital campaign.

### *Approval of item 7.1*

Dr. Marni Friedman made a MOTION to authorize to Executive Director to negotiate, execute, and amend the MOU, a non-legal document, between First 5 San Benito and the Community Center Collaboratory partners for the purpose of establishing a community center in Hollister, CA 95023 with the period of the MOU beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024.

SECOND: Supervisor Bea Gonzales

All in favor, MOTION PASSED.

Lisa Faulkner then presents the Letter of Intent (LOI) to purchase and site map for where the community center is proposed to be located. She describes that the sellers of the land are willing to accept our LOI and wait for the project to come to fruition as they really want to give back and see this happen for the community. The location of the property would be 410 Hillcrest Rd. in Hollister, CA 95023.

### *Approval of item 7.2*

Margie Barrios made a MOTION to authorize the Executive Director to sign the LOI to purchase land located at 410 Hillcrest Rd. in Hollister, CA for the purpose of developing a community center.

SECOND: Supervisor Bea Gonzales

All in favor, MOTION PASSED.

## **8. REVIEW OF FIRST 5 SAN BENITO FY 2018-2023 STRATEGIC PLAN PURSUANT TO HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION 130140(A)(1)(C)(III).**

Lisa Faulkner begins review of the plan, reaffirms that the plan was recently extended to 2023, and suggests that the Commission meet for a strategic retreat to develop the new plan in early August 2023. The Commission agrees that the existing objectives and priority areas are right in line with where First 5 San Benito is moving towards, however, the plan for the future is to expand on them and include the work of the community center Collaboratory, along with emphasizing the shift from COVID response efforts back to core functions. The Commission acknowledges review of the strategic plan and directs the staff to

complete the Certificate of Compliance for FY 2022-2023 funding now that all items have been completed and reviewed.

## **9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Lisa Faulkner explains that a lot of her Director's Report was relayed throughout the course of the meeting in relation to the discussed topics. However, she gives updates on the current programs and their capacities stating that Talk, Read, Sing continues to grow in partnership with the library and our own staff efforts. She points out that the Home Visiting program is booming, with each staff members having 30+ families to themselves, emphasizing the need to bring on more Home Visitors in the future to continue serving the high need amongst 0-5 families. She also clarifies First 5's role in youth services and emphasizes that you within existing 0-5 families are served in the spirit of whole child, whole family, however, youth in need of programs not related to First 5 are to be referred out to youth-based organizations in the community.

## **10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Lisa Faulkner announces that long-time contractor and partner of First 5 San Benito, Audon Sanchez Jr., has recently passed away, service will be held on the following Monday. Margie Barrios suggests sending flowers and a card to his service on behalf of First 5 and the staff to show appreciation to his family for his efforts over the years and within the organization.

## **11. OTHER - FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Commission agreed to hold their next regular Commission meeting on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 @ 12noon – 2pm, the next Executive Committee Meeting on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 @ 11:30am – 12noon, and the next Financial Committee Meeting: Thursday, May 18, 2023 @ 10am – 11am

No further business coming before the Commission, meeting adjourned at 1:38 pm.