



## Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

**Members Present:** Chair Toni Campbell, Emily Balli, Lisa Hindman Holbert, Diane Munoz, Faris Sabbah, Johanna Schonfield

**1) Call to Order and Establish Quorum**

**2) Review and Adopt Agenda**

**M/S/P: (Commissioner Faris Sabbah / Commissioner Diane Munoz) unanimously moved to adopt the Agenda.**

**3) Consent Agenda – Action Item**

**A.** Approve Commission June 30, 2021, Meeting Minutes

**B.** Accept Financial Report for the period ending June 2021

**C.** Accept First 5 Santa Cruz County Grant Application Tracker, 09/15/2021

**D.** Accept FY 21/22 First 5 Santa Cruz County Contracts Executed Under Executive Director Authority, 09/15/2021

**E.** Accept FY 21/22 First 5 Santa Cruz County Sponsorships report, 09/15/2021

**M/S/P: (Commissioner Faris Sabbah / Commissioner Lisa Hindman Holbert) unanimously moved to approve the Consent Agenda.**

**4) Community Oral Communications**

None

**5) Commissioner Oral Communications**

Commissioner Munoz announced that the Childhood Advisory Council has completed the Santa Cruz County 2021 Childcare Needs Assessment Report. This report is required every five years by the CA Department of Education of all local Childcare and Development Planning Councils. She added that the data collected in the report was intended to drive planning and implementation of programs. The final edits and data were approved by the Childhood Advisory Council members last week, and the report is now going to the Board of Supervisors and our County Superintendent, Faris Sabbah, for approval. It will then be submitted to the State.

Commissioner Munoz also announced that Watsonville City Councilman, Aurelio Gonzalez, was retiring. She added that Mr. Gonzalez was her representative and stated that she was extremely sad to hear of his retirement.

Chair Campbell stated that Commissioner Mimi Hall was resigning from her position as the Director of the Santa Cruz Health Services Agency. She added this would be a significant loss to the county. In addition, it would be very difficult to replace her, let alone someone of her quality. Chair Campbell said she was sorry Commissioner Hall was unable to attend today's meeting so that she could have been thanked personally for her service.

**6) Measure A - City of Santa Cruz Children's Fund – Action Item**

Director Brody stated that the Santa Cruz City Council recently approved putting a measure on the November 2021 ballot that would permanently fund the City's Children's Fund at an increased rate of 20% of all funds generated by the city's Cannabis Tax. If approved by the voters, the Charter Amendment would require the City Council to establish a Community Oversight Panel to make recommendations on the use of future revenue and oversee

Children’s Fund Expenditures. Director Brody said that the Commission is being asked to endorse Measure A, given the importance of local revenue to the viability and sustainability of children’s services in the City of Santa Cruz and the County. Councilmember Watkins joined the meeting virtually to speak on this item.

**M/S/P: (Commissioner Lisa Hindman Holbert / Commissioner Emily Balli) unanimously moved to endorse Measure A - City of Santa Cruz Children’s Fund.**

**7) FY 21/22 Contract Authorizations: Delegate authority to the Executive Director to negotiate, execute, and amend contracts for the purpose and maximum amounts specified – Action Item**

**M/S/P: (Commissioner Lisa Hindman Holbert / Commissioner Diane Munoz moved to approve and delegate authority to the Executive Director to negotiate, execute, and amend contracts for the purpose and maximum amounts specified below. Commissioner Emily Bali recused herself.**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Health Improvement Partnership	Provide coordination, training, and technical assistance to support integration of Healthy Steps into Thrive by Three system of care via safety net clinics.	\$44,504
Optimal Solutions Consulting	Provide Thrive by Three project management support including but not limited to preparing and facilitating 4 Thrive by Three Advisory Committee meetings, support for transition from Thrive by Three to Thrive by Five, year-end reporting and related activities.	\$30,000

**8) Announcements – Information Item**

Director Brody provided an update on recent grant awards from area foundations. He stated that the budget that was approved in June 2021 for this fiscal year had projected an approximate \$200,000 deficit. He explained at that time that we could manage; however, we anticipated our revenue would improve as some third-party grant funding became known.

Director Brody said that this additional revenue is highlighted in the Grant Tracker Report which is included in the Consent Agenda for every meeting. Director Brody stated Monterey Peninsula Foundation notified us with another grant for the fiscal year in the amount of \$100,000. These funds are designated to go toward another round of emergency response funding for the childcare community.

Director Brody said that Sunlight Giving had granted \$40,000-unrestricted funding based on the good work done by First 5.

In addition, the Packard Foundation recently notified First 5 that they are ending their decades’ long annual \$200,000 grant to the Early Literacy Foundation’s initiative. However, the foundation recently invited an application for a one-time “step-down” grant for \$100,000. Director Brody said we are confident that we will be awarded this grant.

**9) Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:19 pm.