

**FIRST FIVE SACRAMENTO COMMISSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
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**NOTES: March 10, 2006**

**Attending Members:** Jude Antonyappan (Chair), Ernie Brown, Effie Hubbard-Ruggles, Terry Jones (Vice Chair), Amy Lin Tan, Tosca Toussaint, Steve Wirtz  
**Absent Members:** Al Blum (excused) Sharon Mamuyac-Floyd (excused), Matt Mengelkoch (excused), Suzanne Skrabo (excused), Theresa Roberts (excused),  
 Tosca Toussaint (excused), Betsy Uda  
**Staff:** Michele Watts  
**Commission Staff:** Lin Batten, Linda Fong-Somera, Debra Payne  
**Guests:** Karen Ellis (Child Action, Inc.), Heather Hutcheson (Center for Collaborative Planning)

Issues	Discussion
<p><b>1. Call to Order. Welcome &amp; Introductions. Chair's Report.</b></p>	<p>The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:40 PM and welcomed everyone. Self-introductions were made.</p> <p><u>Chair's Report</u>                      Jude made her first Advisory Committee report to the Commission on Monday, March 6, 2006. She was impressed with the work the Commissioners accomplished and their commitment.</p> <p>The Commission addressed the Advisory Committee's recommendations on the Draft Strategic Plan Update; details on their action will be presented under Agenda Item 5, Commission Report.</p> <p><b>The Advisory Committee did not have a quorum for this meeting. Therefore, no official actions were taken.</b></p>
<p><b>2. Introduction of April Agenda Item: What do you bring to the table and how do you deliver the First 5 message to your MAB or community?</b></p>	<p>The Chair introduced the topic and provided direction on the purpose of the discussion. In order to be a more effective committee, the Advisory Committee members need to know more about one another and what each member brings to the table. An understanding of everyone's expectations for their time on the committee is also desirable.</p> <p>The Chair invited members to respond to the topic. The members present shared the following:</p> <p><u>Ernie Brown, Human Services Coordinating Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Human Services Coordinating Council (HSCC) is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to provide input on county human services and to coordinate activities of the Member Advisory Boards (MABs).</li> <li>- Ernie is the current Chair of HSCC.</li> <li>- The Advisory Committee is a standing committee of HSCC.</li> <li>- HSCC's 2006 concentration: adequacy of disaster-response preparedness, along with the Adult &amp; Aging Commission and Disability Advisory Committee, including the needs of populations with special needs.</li> <li>- HSCC's role re. the Human Services Element: a component of the County General Plan, the Human Services Element sets forth principles to guide land use decision-making from a human services perspective. In partnership with the county planning department, HSCC has drafted the language of the Element, is overseeing and ensuring its approval, and will be responsible for the review of development applications upon its implementation.</li> <li>- Communication: Ernie reports on the Advisory Committee's activities at the monthly HSCC meeting and he also communicates with other groups he is associated with, including the National Human Development Foundation (early care and education).</li> </ul> <p><u>Terry Jones, Dental Health</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Terry is a local dentist and a member of the Sacramento District Dental Society and brings this perspective to his work on the Advisory Committee.</li> <li>- Communication: Terry reports to the Dental Society on the Advisory Committee's activities and the variety of perspectives of the members, as they relate to dental health and other children's issues.</li> </ul>

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	<p><u>Effie Hubbard-Ruggles, Public Health Advisory Board</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB) is appointed by the Board of Supervisors.</li> <li>- PHAB is the convening body for a variety of public health-related standing committees and Effie is active on several of them, including Education &amp; Outreach and the Perinatal and Child Health Advisory Committee (PCHAC). PHAB also produces a variety of briefings and other reports, including community health plans on teen pregnancy and infant mortality. The board has recently completed a briefing on obesity and is working on an avian flu report. A media pack that includes recent briefings and community health plans is also in the works.</li> <li>- Communication: Effie reports on the Advisory Committee's activities to PCHAC, the Fetal Infant Mortality Review Board, and other groups. She recently "termed off" of PHAB itself but will continue to serve as its representative.</li> </ul> <p><u>Amy Lin Tan, Immigrant Populations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Amy works for the Sacramento City Unified School District's Child Development Division, focusing on cultural and linguistic issues and the appropriateness of services to English language learners and their non-English speaking families.</li> <li>- Amy is also active on a variety of community groups, including the Refugee Educators Network.</li> <li>- Communication: Amy reports on the Advisory Committee's activities to the work and community groups she is associated with. She also shares information about these groups with Advisory Committee members and Commission staff.</li> </ul> <p><u>Steve Wirtz, Alcohol &amp; Drug Advisory Board</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Alcohol &amp; Drug Advisory Board (ADAB) is appointed by the Board of Supervisors.</li> <li>- Steve is a licensed developmental psychologist, although he is not currently practicing. He is a state research scientist responsible for coordinating data flow and providing support to ensure quality data collection to California's Child Death Review Teams (CDRTs).</li> <li>- ADAB's current work: Policy and advocacy work that encourages engagement of community members, including advocacy in support of local ordinances governing alcohol outlets; advocacy and education concerning "alco-pops," sweet beverages with high alcohol content marketed to teens, including legislative activities to preserve the current taxation of these beverages at the higher, liquor tax rate rather than the lower beer and wine rate; and participation and hosting of events about underage drinking and other alcohol and drug issues.</li> <li>- Communication: Steve reports on the Advisory Committee's activities to the ADAB and also reports back to the Advisory Committee on ADAB issues and activities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Topics of Interest for a Summer Retreat</b></p>	<p>Topics of interest include assessment of accomplishments, review of the committee work plan, discussion of goals, and the development of a shared vision and future direction. Because a retreat would serve as a good opportunity for new members to get up to speed on the committee's work, an effort to recruit new members prior to this meeting should be made. The members present expressed a preference for holding the retreat in June at the Sierra Health Foundation.</p>
<p><b>4. Minutes: February 10, 2006</b></p>	<p>Action on the February minutes will be postponed until the next meeting.</p>
<p><b>5. Commission Report</b></p>	<p>Commission Executive Director Lin Batten reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Commission office will move to Natomas in late May.</li> <li>➤ The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors has approved a change to the First 5 ordinance concerning membership. The County Public Health Officer will replace the head of the Department of Health and Human Services and a required seat on the Commission.</li> <li>➤ At its March meeting, the Commission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Approved another round of micro and mini grants;</li> <li>- Provided an opportunity for public comment on the First 5 California Annual Report;</li> <li>- Heard Strategic Plan Update follow-up/ report back, including response to Advisory Committee recommendations</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Substance Abuse Recommendation</i>- new language will be added to the section addressing the Commission's policy on tobacco to state, "Similarly, the Commission recognizes that issues related to alcohol and drug abuse are interwoven throughout the Results that have been chosen for investment. The Commission will consider these issues as it develops its implementation plans in support of the strategic plan."</p>

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	<p><i>“Developmentally Appropriate Practices” in Early Care and Education and School Readiness areas-</i> Commission staff determined that changing the language from “developmentally appropriate practices” to “evidence-based effective practices” as the Advisory Committee recommended is not advisable, as the former term is used extensively in the field. However, notation indicating that “developmentally appropriate practices” are evidence-based and effective will be added.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Approved the appointment of Dr. Bonar to the Commission’s alternate position on the Healthy Kids board</li> <li>➤ The Executive Director and the Evaluation Committee are in agreement on the need to hire internal evaluation staff responsible primarily for managing contracts and coordinating work of the outside evaluation consultants. Formal support for adding this position will be considered at the next Evaluation Committee meeting.</li> <li>➤ Two new Program Planners have been hired to work on the existing School Readiness Initiative and the new Effective Parenting Initiative.</li> <li>➤ The First 5 California Statewide Conference will be held in May. Two Advisory Committee representatives, one staff and one member, are invited to attend. Tosca Toussaint has expressed interest in the member slot.</li> <li>➤ As a result of recently enacted legislation, the Advisory Committee may be required to participate in conflict of interest training.</li> <li>➤ Kathy Kossick, SETA, has been appointed as a new Alternate Commissioner.</li> </ul> <p>Commission agenda and meeting materials are available here: <a href="http://sackids.saccounty.net/meetings/index.html">http://sackids.saccounty.net/meetings/index.html</a></p>
<b>6. Commission Staff Reports</b>	
6a. Children’s Health Initiatives	<p>Program Planner Debra Payne reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Contracts for the new health insurance product are being finalized and the tentative launch date is June 2006.</li> <li>➤ Fundraising to provide insurance for children 6-18 years of age continues. Recent successes in this area include securing \$500,000 from tobacco litigation funds and a grant from the Sierra Health Foundation.</li> <li>➤ Now that the health plan contract is in place, First 5 Sacramento can apply for match funding for Health Access from First 5 California.</li> </ul>
6b. Community Building Initiative	<p>CBI Program Planner Linda Fong-Somera reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Recommendations for micro and mini grant awards were approved by the Commission on March 6, 2006. The next application deadline is May 3, 2006. Advisory Committee members are encouraged to continue to share the availability of these grants with their colleagues and neighbors. Assistance with completing the application is available from Linda.</li> <li>➤ A CBI E-Newsletter has been created and will be published every other month. Copies of the first issue were shared with Advisory Committee members.</li> <li>➤ The grantee gathering held March 8, 2006 was a positive experience for participants, who were able to network and learn from one another.</li> <li>➤ The first Annual CBI Conference will be held Saturday, April 29, 2006, 9 AM – 3 PM, at the Sacramento Convention Center. Advisory Committee members are welcome to attend this event, as well as the other CBI events. Members willing to serve as facilitators for roundtable discussions at the conference should contact Linda.</li> <li>➤ Work continues on simplifying the fiscal agent process, by identifying a few organizations to serve as fiscal agents for multiple CBI grantees, relieving these small groups from the burden of this bureaucratic element of the initiative.</li> <li>➤ Awareness of CBI continues to slowly grow. Public Service Announcements have been created and will air soon.</li> </ul> <p>Linda can be reached at <a href="mailto:fongli@saccounty.net">fongli@saccounty.net</a> or 876-7386.</p> <p>To sign up for the CBI listserv, a forum for sharing information, e-mail Heather Hutcheson at <a href="mailto:heather@connectccp.org">heather@connectccp.org</a> or call 498-8306.</p>
6c. School Readiness Initiative/ School Readiness Advisory Committee	<p>Lin Batten reported that she attended a California Child Care Resource and Referral Network Directors Seminar and participated on a Preschool For All panel. There is a great deal of interest in this issue, especially since Proposition 82, the Preschool for All Act, has qualified for the June 2006 ballot. There is a debate in the early care and education field surrounding whether PFA should be an extension of the existing K-12 public education system, or whether it should build upon the existing public/ private infrastructure. Other key issues include the need for workforce development to assure preschool teachers meet the higher education requirements set forth in Proposition 82, preserving parental choice of early care and education settings, and ensuring that culturally and linguistically appropriate and diverse options are available. Lin noted that County Superintendent of Schools Dave Gordon has been a champion of</p>

<b>Issues</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	
	<p>preschool and has taken proactive steps for PFA planning, so Sacramento County is prepared to act quickly should Proposition 82 pass. His support has been vital, including his openness to including the private sector.</p> <p>Teachers are being recruited for the Preschool for All Bridging Pilot Program in Elk Grove Unified School District. The Advisory Committee expressed an interest in hearing more about this program at a future meeting.</p> <p>The School Readiness Advisory Committee has not met since the last report. The next meeting is Friday, March 17, 2006.</p>	
<b>7. Work Group Updates</b>		
7a. Evaluation Committee	<p>Evaluation Committee member Steve Wirtz reported the following: Committee Chair Commissioner Marilyn Ratkay has presented the direction the committee is taking regarding evaluation as it establishes the framework for the next cycle to the Commission. Her remarks were well-received and the Commission looks forward to updates on the process. To date, the committee has agreed that the level of analysis for most areas will be child- and client-level data, except when other data is more appropriate (as would be the case for fluoridation, for example). The committee intends to establish clear indicators prior to the release of RFPs to assure that programs can meet and measure what the Commission seeks to impact. This corrects for problems in the past. Advisory Committee members are encouraged to review the Strategic Plan Update and offer suggestions for indicators if they have some insight.</p> <p>The Chair announced that a new member will need to be selected to serve on the Evaluation Committee when Steve terms off at the end of April. Interested members can talk to Michele, Steve, and/ or Theresa Roberts (alternate Evaluation Committee member) about this position.</p>	
7b. Financial Planning Committee	Financial Planning Committee member Ernie Brown had nothing to report because this committee has not met in several months. Lin Batten added that the committee has not been meeting because the Commission is short-staffed.	
7c. Fluoridation Work Group	Fluoridation Work Group member Terry Jones reported that the group is working on the next step of the strategic planning process, development of the Implementation Framework.	
<b>8. Future Agenda Topics &amp; Announcements/ Comments</b>	None.	
<b>9. Form 700 &amp; Advisory Committee Conflict of Interest Form</b>	Michele distributed Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests and the Advisory Committee Conflict of Interest Form and asked members to fill them out. These forms are required annually.	
<b>10. Adjournment</b>	The meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM.	<b>Next Meeting: April 14, 2006, 1111 Howe Ave., Ste. 610.</b>