

First 5 Plumas
Plumas County Children and Families Commission
Wednesday, October 17, 2007
Portola Community Resource Center
49 Commercial Street
Portola, CA 96122

MEETNG MINUTES

Commission Meeting:

I. Roll Call/Introductions: Carol Burney, Chairperson

Chairperson, Carol Burney called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner's and staff introduced themselves.

Commissioners Present: Jaye Bruce, Hank Foley, Carol Burney, Bill Powers, Merle Rusky and Kathy Wickman

Commissioners Absent: Elliott Smart

Staff Present: Ellen Vieira, Executive Director, Anna Ward, PCPHA Fiscal Officer, Deniece Heard, PCPHA, First 5 fiscal support

Resource Center Staff: Lori Bader, Family Advocate

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes: September 12, 2007

Motion: Commissioner Powers made a motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2007 as presented. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

III. Public Hearing:

a. Commission will consider the 2006-07 Annual Report and Audit

Discussion: Copies of the program and fiscal reports were distributed to the Public in attendance. There was no public comment prior to the presentation.

Independent Auditor: Smith and Newell PCCFC Fiscal Audit FY 2006-2007-Report

Anna Ward, PCPHA Fiscal Officer presented the FY 2006-2007 Audit. Ms. Ward reported that no material conditions were found during the independent audit. Proper and adequate accounting records have been established for the receipt, deposit and disbursement of Commission funds were maintained.

Based on the audit, the Commission complied with the laws and regulations for the following: 1) Contracting and procurements, 2) administrative costs, 3) Conflict of

interest, 4) County ordinance, 5) Long-range financial plan, 6) Financial condition of the commission, 7) Program evaluation, and 8) Salaries and benefits.

Motion: Commissioner Wickman made a motion to approve the FY 2006-07 Annual Report and audit. Commission Powers seconded the motion. **Motion carried with Commissioner Foley abstaining.**

Director Vieira presented the following First 5 California Annual Reports FY 2006-2007:

b. FY 2006-2007 CARES Program and Fiscal Report

Director Vieira reported that the CARES program in Plumas County has been very successful with 27 early care and education providers qualifying to receive a stipend.

Motion: Commissioner Powers moved to approve the FY 2006-07 CARES Annual and Fiscal Report. Commissioner Bruce seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

c. FY 2006-2007 School Readiness Program and Fiscal Report

Discussion: Director Vieira noted that the annual evaluation report to the Commission for 2006/07 focused on New Born House Calls. This home visitation program provided 180 home visits to 314 families. During the visits, the home visitors provided parents with the Kit for New Parents (KNP), as well as Parents As Teachers parent education materials. For toddlers, the home visitors delivered specially prepared Early Learning Kits for children at one year of age and at two years of age.

Director Vieira also noted that research of 2005 data on births to residents of Plumas County indicate that the number of in-county births is decreasing while the number of out-of-county births is increasing since Plumas District Hospital in Quincy is the only hospital in the county that delivers babies. The total number of in-county births decreased by approximately 20 births per year since FY 2000. The increased number of out-of-county births has changed the dynamics of the KNP distribution. This is an area for further exploration and perhaps new strategies FY 2007-08.

Motion: Commissioner Rusky made a motion to approve the 2006-2007 Annual Report and Audit. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Public Comment

Commissioner Foley reported that he will retire the last week in November. The Commission thanked him for his service and wished him well.

V. Reports

a. Executive Director's Report

Director Vieira noted that the First 5 Association's Prop 10 Briefings were included in the board packets.

Annual Reports

The state on-line forms are not readable when printed and in order to provide the Commission with narrative documents, all of the text has to be cut and pasted. The state is aware of this, so hopefully the forms will be more user friendly next year. The School Readiness report due date has been extended to December 1st because the fiscal forms were not available to the counties until the end of October. The Evaluation Workgroup is working with State staff to resolve these issues.

Small County Augmentations

The Small County Augmentations Workgroup developed an approach that would require a statutory change to authorize Special Money Interest Funds (SMIF) to be matched by \$1.75 million of the State Commission's funds and distributed to approximately 23 of the smallest population counties. According to most observers, the SMIF proposal is one of the most creative approaches to date for resolving the small county issue.

State Meetings

The next Association and State Commission meeting is in Fresno on November 14th and 15th. Director Vieira plans to attend.

Oral Health

The director reported that she attended a Dental Coalition meeting last week. The Health Department received a Healthy Smiles grants to continue the school age sealant program. The award was approximately \$125,000 annually for three years.

Resource Center Update

Director Vieira introduced Lori Bader, Portola Family Resource Center's Family Advocate, who provided an update on the services currently being provided by the center.

Lori provided the summer 2007 Resource Center Progress Report. The Family Advocate assisted 909 individuals, seniors, and families (unduplicated numbers) with 2,138 service contacts during a home or office visit during the period of July 2006 to June 2007. The center had 230 service contacts for the month of August 2007, which included, but not limited to, assistance with filling out forms for food stamps, Medi-Cal, and AFDC, Healthy Families Insurance assistance, transportation assistance, utilities assistance, emergency food vouchers, and case management.

Lori commented that families seeking services from the Resource Center usually decreased during the summer. She stated that "the past two years have been busy all year long." The Resource Center is under the administration of the non-profit Plumas Crisis Intervention Resource Center. Lori's position is funded at .5 FTE and there is no funding for office support. Commissioner Powers asked Lori if she wanted to work full time. Lori commented that while she's satisfied with half time, a full time staff person was needed to respond to the level of need in the community.

VI. Program Development

a. Introduction of Commissioner Merle Rusky

Director Vieira reported that the Board of Supervisors accepted the recommendation of First 5 Plumas and appointed Merle Rusky for an at-large membership on the Commission. She has been given a Commissioner Binder and is reviewing the 06-07 minutes. Commissioner Rusky commented that she was looking forward to working with First 5 Plumas to improve outcomes for children ages 0-5. Ms. Rusky has a Masters degree in Education.

b. Update on Commission Vacancies

Director Vieira reported that 2 parents from Chester and Indian Valley were interested in applying to the Commission, but they both moved from the area. She also reported that there has been no bilingual individuals that have applied. A brief discussion followed regarding the importance of maintaining parent representation on the Commission. Jeanne Hafen, executive director of Roundhouse Council commented that the Commission should consider a Native American parent.

c. Health Access Discussion

The Commission discussed the Governor's state health care proposal. It was noted that there were several obstacles to the Governor's proposal, such as, needing 2/3 legislative approval with no Republican support.

At the national level, the President vetoed SCIP legislation that would raise the federal tobacco tax from 65 cents to \$1.00 per pack because, as Commissioner Smart commented that it "smelled of socialized medicine." Commissioner Smart also noted that California has been spending more than its SCHIP allotment.

VII. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment

VIII. Next Meeting Dates

The next two meetings are scheduled on January 9, 2008 and March 12, 2008. There is no meeting scheduled in February.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: Commissioner Rusky made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Submitted by: Ellen Vieira, Executive Director