

## **SAN FRANCISCO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION MINUTES**

**DATE:** Wednesday, June 7, 2023

**TIME:** 4:30pm – 6:30pm

**PLACE:** 1650 Mission Street, Suite 312, San Francisco, CA 94103

### **PUBLIC ACCESS (if not attending in person)**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82705514909?pwd=ekZoRmJrdEZyUk9KRkZpRG9ONUkzZz09>

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**Webinar ID:** 827 0551 4909

**Passcode:** 738409

**Public Comment Email:** [sfdec@sfgov.org](mailto:sfdec@sfgov.org)

#### 1. Roll call

Present: Commissioner Armstrong, Commissioner Crawford, Commissioner Lambert, Commissioner Malawa, Commissioner Supervisor Melgar, Commissioner Miller and Commissioner Armstrong.

Not Present: Commissioner Su

#### 2. Call to order

#### 3. Discussion and possible action to approve the March 1, 2023, meeting minutes (Action item) [Commissioners provided with the following: draft minutes]

No public comment. Motion passed to approve minutes unanimously.

#### 4. General public comment:

- Eleana Binder, Glide Memorial, part of the Family Resource Center Alliance, serving thousands of children and their caregivers. Glide operates our own family resource center which helps create pathways to economic independence, family resilience, and healthy child development. The Department of Early Childhood's originally proposed FRC budget of 23.1 million dollars for fiscal year 23-24 and 26.7 million dollars for fiscal year 24-25 should be fully maintained in order to provide a central community support for families and develop a true 2 generation support system in San Francisco. Thank you.
- Jenny Pearlman with Safe & Sound, on behalf of the Family Resource Center Alliance. We are very concerned about the mayor's budget cuts to the Department of early childhood, which total above 13%, the largest percentage of cuts for any major department in the city. If there's a cut in funding, we will not be able to do what we're asked to do now, and what the increased needs of families are as well as, the

additional things that the city is looking to family resource centers to do. So, we are concerned about that. Thank you.

- Alex Maykowski with Children's Council: That the budget should be is a statement of values. And I think that's true. And when we look at these budgets. What does it say about the city? And you know some of these things, supposedly, are supposed to help the business community. But we know there's piles and piles of research that shows the childcare and early childhood education itself is proven economic driver. So just looking at these budgets. It seems like we're willing to sell out our future to pay for the present. And that doesn't seem right. Thank you.
  - Wendy Nekirk Rhodes with Support for Families: I know many of us share concerns about the vibrancy of our downtown and the ways that we can support families and make San Francisco a livable place for families, and the FRCs are a crucial part of that and our families, many of whom face innumerable systemic barriers and challenges, and are overwhelmingly families of color and families who are newcomers or are struggling.
5. Public Hearing on the First 5 California 2021-22 Annual Report (Action Item) [Commissioners provided with the following: coversheet]- (see Appendix B). First 5 California released their annual report, CFC is required a public hearing about said report. Every year the state compiles data from all the 58 counties summarizing both state and county level investments. The report is structured as follows:
- Brief history of First 5 California, its structure and audit findings, and partnerships
  - Summary of how First 5 California supports Children, Parents, and early learning teachers
  - County Commission Highlights

Motion to approve acceptance of the report was made by Commissioner Lambert and seconded by Commissioner and Supervisor Melgar. The motion carried unanimously.

No public comment

6. Discussion and possible action to approve a professional service contract up to a ten-year total of \$495,196 for fiscal year 2023-24 through fiscal year 2032-33, to Macias, Gini & O'Connell LLP for audit services, pending funding availability and performance (Action item) (See Appendix C)

Proposition 10 legislation requires each county go through an annual financial audit which must be done with an external auditor, Macias, Gini & O'Connell has been our auditor since 2008. It has been brought to the commission as a ten-year contract to consolidate the annual action. Macias, Gini & O'Connell provide a full-service audit and they have agreed to not surpass the agreed upon amount. The city provided a prequalified to choose from and Macias, Gini & O'Connell were first across categories.

Motion to approve professional service contract was made by Commissioner and Supervisor Melgar and seconded by Commissioner Crawford and Commissioner Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

No public comment

7. Discussion and possible action to approve an amendment to a professional service contract for a total amount not to exceed \$3,340,000 from July 2021 through June 2028 with Cityspan Technologies, Inc. for licensing, maintenance, upgrades, and development of a new grants Contract Management System for the new Department of Early Childhood (DEC) (Action item) (See Appendix A and D)

As a the newly merged Department of Early Childhood our previous grants and contracts management system no longer meet our needs. This action item is to approve the development of a new system with Cityspan Technologies Inc. The build will take 2-3 years most of which will be community input.

**Commission Discussion:** Concern expressed about operationalizing the strategic plan and capacity to be responsive to the department. There was interest expressed in checking back on this after a year of contract for an iterative process, so that any potential bugs can be addressed. Commissioner Armstrong joined the meeting at 5:15

Motion to approve the amendment to the professional service contract was made by Commissioner Lambert and seconded by Commissioner Crawford. The motion carried unanimously.

No public comment

8. Update on Family Resource Center Initiative RFP planning (Discussion only) (See Appendix A and E) DEC Executive Director Ingrid Mezquita and Senior Program Officer Shelli Rawlings-Fein presented an update on the Family Resource Center Initiative and Request for Proposal planning, discussing:

- Timeline overview
- Current Allocations
- Logic Model Refinement and Adaption
- Proposed New FRCI model
- Leader and Community Input

### **Commissioner Discussion**

Concerns expressed around feasibility of expansion given budget concerns additionally around how impactful parent empowerment strategies will be to vulnerable families i.e., those in poverty. Commissioners discussed the potential impact of Family Resource center services no longer being primarily neighborhood based. The benefits of school partnerships and other cross-sectional partnerships was discussed.

### **Public Comment**

Mario Paz Good Samaritan FRC: Thank you very much for the presentations for the updates and the logic model and all the work that's gone into preparing for the RFP. We see ourselves as a holistic model that build a continuum of service to serve families from 0 to 8 primarily, and around both really care and education and school ready school readiness. It's going to be difficult to sort of choose one or the other when we know that we're strong, in both for many of us have built that capacity over the last 15 years. I just wanted to share that we understand that the changes may be necessary. Consideration that DCYF is also releasing their RFP during the summer, and I know for a lot of providers who will be responding to both.

Amie Latterman Children's Council/CPAC/SFECEAC: Yesterday at the Board Supervisors, nearly 300 families, early educators, children, and advocates, turned out to give public comment at the board, in English, Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog, and other languages for over 3 hours demanding that the city budget protect baby Prop C, and a lot of work has gone in to make sure that this money is protected during this budget process.

Jenny Pearlman with Safe & Sound: I know from my work just coordinating the Family Resource Center Alliance as well as many partnerships with other child supporting agencies that that is something that takes a lot of time and resources. and with the potential cuts in the current budget, it gives me concern. Particularly since the 250 pilot programs that were funded, that funding has ceased, and those are things that we invested a lot of time and energy into. And then the funding ended after a year. I know they were pilots, but if this is going to be a huge emphasis of this next planning period and RFP. I would have liked to have seen the funding continue for those. Thank you.

Naeemah Charles with Children's Council: I'm just call calling to raise some concerns about the current budget for DEC from the First 5 perspective, I just want to check in on baby Prop C funding and the funding for the various city services. We are working with the Mayor's office right now. We are very concerned to see the

proposals away from Prop C and childcare. So, we just want to raise that to the commission and look into the FRC's funding source as well. Thank you so much.

9. Committee updates  
No committee Meetings

10. Commissioner updates  
Commissioner Lambert: It is the season, Summer Stride, the library's signature summer learning programs, is upon us. So, there is all kinds of programs and events for you and your families happening at the 28 libraries open seven days a week. Cultural programs, clown shows, magic programs. Come one, come all, enjoy your neighborhood library.

11. Executive Director updates  
DEC Executive Director Ingrid Mezquita discussed the following updates

- Budget Process and Upcoming Hearings
- Reorganization and shoring up staffing structure still in progress
- Upcoming EC COAC and CFC join retreat in September
- 2 Vacant Seats and upcoming elections in the new fiscal year

12. Adjourn  
Meeting Adjourned at 6:39 PM

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