



Lynn Merz, Commission Chair
Zea Malawa, Commission Vice Chair
Theresa Zighera, Interim Executive Director

COMMISSIONERS:
Aline Armstrong
Linda Asato
E'leva Hughes Gibson
Supervisor Myrna Melgar
Joan Miller
Maria Su

MEETING MINUTES SAN FRANCISCO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

DATE: Wednesday, February 2, 2022

TIME: 4:30pm – 6:30pm

PLACE: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85951955785>

Zoom Public Access Number: US: +1 669 900 6833; +1 346 248 7799; +1 253 215 8782;
+1 929 205 6099; +1 301 715 8592; +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 859 5195 5785

Public Comment Email: First5sf@first5sf.org

1. Call to order

The commission meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm

2. Roll call

Commissioners Present: Lynn Merz, Zea Malawa, Joan Miller, Supervisor Myrna Melgar, Maria Su; Linda Asato (4:36 arrival), Aline Armstrong (4:39 arrival); and E'leva Hughes-Gibson (4:39 arrival)

Staff Present: Theresa Zighera

3. Approval of Resolution Making Finding to Allow Teleconference Meetings for San Francisco Children and Families Commission under California Government Code Section 54953 (e) until next 30-day review, having considered the circumstances of the state of emergency and the local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Staff presented information to support the Commission determining the required findings, namely that the Mayor and San Francisco Public Health Officers continue to prohibit San Francisco boards and commissions from meeting in person in consideration of the ongoing state of emergency, and in order to ensure public safety.

There was no further discussion.

There was no public comment.

A motion to approve findings and allow teleconference meetings for San Francisco Children and Families Commission under California Government Code Section 54953 (e) until next 30 day review, having considered the circumstances of the state of

emergency and that local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing, was made by Commissioner Melgar and second by Commissioner Su. The motion carried unanimously and was approved unanimously at 4:37 pm.

4. General public comment:

There was no public comment.

5. Approval of the Consent Calendar

Discussion and possible action to approve the December 1, 2021 Full Commission meeting minutes.

There was no further discussion.

There was no public comment.

The motion to approve the Consent Calendar and December 1, 2021 Commission meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Malawa was. The motion carried unanimously and was approved unanimously at 4:39 pm.

6. Third public meeting on the Department of Early Childhood FY2022-23 and FY2023-24 budget.

Staff presentation highlights:

- Over the past two years with an unstable local economy, the Office of Early Care and Education (OECE)/DEC has accomplished the following activities and investments:
 - Maintained child enrollment, keep subsidy programs whole and existing programs operating, ramp up existing investments in Early Care and Education (ECE) workforce compensation, quickly roll out Prop F funds to the community, and start up a community-led Strategic Planning process.
 - Added \$45 million to existing childcare funding to bolster the ECE system and to assist families returning to the workforce.
 - Invested \$25 million in economic recovery funding for all licensed early care settings in the City.
 - Carved out \$10 million of General Funds for 26 Family Resource Centers (FRCs) for increased family needs, such as information and referrals, basic needs, food banks, and mental health.
 - Made \$35 million available in the CARES 2.0 Teacher Stipend program.
- San Francisco City and County require departments to hold two public meetings on the budget before Monday, February 14, 2022.
 - City projects \$108 million surpluses over the next two years.
 - No increase to General Fund, and no mandatory reductions

- Departments are asked to prioritize restoring, recovery, and equity, shore up baseline operations, and improve core services within their existing budgets.
- The 2022-23 and 2023-24 budget reflects the building blocks of Prop C (access, capacity, and workforce) and the emerging vision for DEC that: All young children in San Francisco, and those who care for them, will be healthy, valued, thriving members of strong communities and equitable systems of care; able to reach their full potential and prepared for lifelong success. Priorities toward this vision include:
 - Increasing access to high-quality, free/affordable early care and education;
 - Ensuring an early childhood workforce that is valued, supported, and well-compensated;
 - Promoting healthy pregnancies, births, and child development and addressing concerns at earliest point possible; and
 - Recognizing all families as key decision-makers and ensuring they have the resources and supports they need to thrive.
- Overview of draft budget as of January 2022 was presented; First 5 San Francisco revenues specifically, include \$29,456,057 for FY2022-23 and \$28,510,434 for FY2023-24

	2022-23	2023-24
Salaries & benefits	12,219,744	12,094,211
Non-personnel	3,493,228	3,321,732
Materials & supplies	96,153	96,153
Interdepartmental Services	1,227,512	1,185,012
Programmatic:		
Early Care & Education	244,349,120	245,589,593
Family Support	28,886,048	21,998,048
Child Health	7,983,283	7,983,283
Total Expenditure:	298,255,088	292,268,032

- Administrative overhead expenses are currently running low at approximately 6%, this will be assessed over time as remote work declines and department grows, First 5 cost-share of administrative expenses will also be examined in order to provide clear rationale for audit.
- Next steps in budget process and timeline were reviewed.

Commissioners discussed the following:

- Current and future Prop 10 fund projections and actuals and overall Prop 10 decline; while actuals at times come in higher than initial projections there is still an overall decline in Prop 10 funding.
- Impact and tracking of economic recovery funding and CARES stipends and importance of this information to advance understanding in the field of what goes into sustaining child care operations especially in during times of economic upheaval.
- Appreciation for the high-level budget overview and desire to see the connection between values, strategic planning, budget, and investments in greater detail as the strategic plan is finalized and adopted.

- Lack of formal funding collaboration with Office of Economic and Workforce Development per departmental work order budget line items and inquiries as to whether conversations were being had about joint and leveraged funding efforts in areas of child care facilities and workforce compensation and development; staff noted that conversations and initial partnerships are underway.

There was no public comment.

There was no further discussion.

7. Discussion and update on Department of Early Childhood and Children

- Children First Ballot Measure was heard by Board of Supervisor Rules Committee.
 - Amendments were introduced in Rules Committee by Supervisor Melgar to split the file, removing and separating out language regarding a proposed Children's Agency from the school district compliance components. Amended file was continued at call of the Chair and remaining file was ultimately tabled so measure has effectively been put on hold and will not make it to the June ballot; however legislation could be called back for future ballots.
- Staff shared the steps that will be coming up next for development of the new Department of Early Childhood, including a Mayoral Ordinance to officially launch the new department; establishment of governance structures per Mayoral Ordinance; revisiting operational policies and procedures; and refinement of organizational structure.

Commissioners discussed:

- Appreciation that voices of the community were heard and acknowledged and that there will be time to have a more robust and thoughtful community engagement process to address areas of the Children First Measure that continue to be a priority for the city, such as greater accountability to outcomes and cross-department collaboration.
- Clarification that all legislation was proposed and no changes to the City Charter were ever enacted.
- Need to have further discussion and conversation around the challenges and pain points the community providers experience when working with the city as well as ideal ways to engage around improved plans moving forward.
- The need for systems coordination and alignment is great, particularly in areas of data sharing and particularly among the departments that serve families, children and youth across the age span.
- There are existing tables where this collaboration and coordination can happen such as Our Children Our Families and the Families First Prevention Services Act Planning just launched by Human Services Agency.
- Potential and importance of a jointly developed accountability report card or dashboard so that there are clear goals to aim for, with clear lines of responsibility and accountability, and so that data on results and outcomes is accessible to the public and transparent.

Public comment:

Pat Sullivan with San Francisco Family Child Care Association and Early Care Educators of San Francisco, expressed support that the Children First measure will not move forward, and emphasized that the process surrounding it was a significant pain point for the community; also expressed support for dashboard or accountability report card.

There was no further discussion.

8. Committee Updates:

a. Fiscal Committee:

- Approved grant amendments to Tandem and WestED for Quality Connections quality rating and improvement efforts.
- Reviewed two RFP proposals for audit services and family resource center training, technical assistance and capacity-building.

b. Program Committee: No meeting

c. Policy and Planning Ad Hoc Committee: No meeting

9. Commissioner Updates

No Commissioner Updates

10. Interim Executive Director Update

- Policy bodies will not need to end remote meetings in February as initially anticipated, but some city and county policy bodies will be resuming in-person convenings in March; staff will continue to keep Commissioners updated on changes to procedures for remote meetings for public policy bodies.

11. Adjourn

The commission meeting was adjourned at 5:56pm.