



## **March 4, 2002 Meeting Draft Minutes**

### **Commission Members Present in Ukiah:**

Paul Tichinin, Carol Mordhorst, Jeremy Mann

### **Commission Members in Fort Bragg:**

Betty Smith

### **Commission Members Absent:**

Alison Glassey, Gayle Zepeda, David Colfax

### **Staff Present in Ukiah:**

Anne Molgaard, Executive Director  
Laura Franklin, Administrative Assistant

### **Others Present in Ukiah:**

Dotty Coplen, Janet Chaniot, Eileen Harmon

### **Others Present in Pt. Arena:**

Steve Sternberg, Janet Kukulinsky, Markee Biaggi, Terri Vaughn, Brenda Stone,  
Vicki Seed

### **I. Welcome by Vice-Chairperson Paul Tichinin**

Chairperson noted that with 4 board members present the Commission had a legal quorum.

### **II. Consent Calendar**

Motion made to accept the Consent Calendar (Mordhorst, Mann): Mann, yes; Mordhorst, yes; Tichinin, yes; Smith, yes. Passed.

- A. Approve Agenda
- B. Approve Minutes of February 4, 2002 Commission Meeting
- C. Authorize Insurance Policy to Cover Uninsured Grantees

### **III. Business Items**

#### **A. Commissioner Appointment Status**

Director Molgaard met with Kristi Furman, Clerk of the Board, and Peter Klein, County Counsel to discuss current ordinance, Commission bylaws and the Prop 10 law. Staff informed them that Commission wished to move ahead as quickly as possible with appointment of two commissioner vacancies. Clerk of the Board wanted the appointment process and question of Commission's legal status to be discussed in the Health and Human Services Committee. Clerk will ask Supervisor Colfax to make motion to send issue to Committee. Commissioners felt the need to begin advertising for the two vacancies as soon as possible. Commissioner Mann wants a wide net cast for Commissioners immediately.

## **B. Director's Report**

Items specifically discussed from the Director's Report were as follows:

### **1. California Children and Families Association/State Commission**

Director Molgaard attend February Association, Rural Caucus and Executive Committee meetings in Los Angeles. Five areas have emerged as top priorities for state support: Informal Caregiver Support, Children of Migrant Farm Families, Oral Health, Children and Families with Disabilities/Special Needs, and Mental Health.

### **2. School Readiness**

The State Commission received our School Readiness application and has some questions which will be forthcoming. The AmeriCorps pilot project application was approved! With this approved funding, the School Readiness project will now be able to start at all four schools at the same time instead of just one as originally proposed. There will now be two parent advocates at each school site and two Vista volunteers, one each for Round Valley/Willits and Hopland/Ukiah. Director Molgaard will be meeting this week with other staff involved to set up time lines with a target date of August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **3. Oral Health**

Dr. Katherine Foster, pediatrician and member of Sonoma County's Prop 10 Commission, contacted CF1st about joining in a regional effort to establish a hospital based pediatric dentistry program. Director Molgaard attend first meeting held February 7<sup>th</sup>. The North Coast Dental Health Project, as it will now be known, mission statement is: "To create a sustainable hospital dentistry resource to serve predominately low-income children, living in the north coast region of California, in need of safe sedation for restorative dentistry."

The next two meetings are scheduled for March 7 at 9 a.m. at the Hillside Health Clinic (formerly Mendocino Community Health Clinic) and March 26<sup>th</sup> at the new Consolidated Tribal Health Center at 9 a.m.

Ukiah is being considered as the first site for the new hospital dentistry site. Commissioner Mann stated that he would oppose any funding if the project does not use preventive care in its program. Ninety-five percent of dentistry problems are preventable.

### **4. Kit for New Parents**

A Mother's Day launch for the kit is being planned to take advantage of media exposure. Midge McMichael is drafting a plan for Committee Review and full Commission discussion in May. She is also gathering information from other pilot counties.

### **5. Safe From the Start**

Safe From the Start is an initiative of the State Attorney General to raise awareness of the effect of violence on young children. Linda Chamberlin will be the featured keynote speaker at the Coast forum April 10 and also the Inland forum in Ukiah on April 11. The sponsoring forum Committee

requested Commission funding in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Change Agent Luncheon on Friday, April 12.

A motion was made to authorize up to \$1,000.00 to assist on the April 12<sup>th</sup> Luncheon with the funds to be taken from the Commissioner Initiative Fund (Mordhorst, Mann): Mann, yes; Mordhorst, yes; Tichinin, yes; Smith, yes. Passed.

**6. Potential Partnership with The Parents Journal**

Sharon Gowan, publisher of the Parent's Journal, contacted CF1st to see how the Commission might partner with them. The Journal is planning a Parenting Conference, *The Wonder of Boys*, in November 2002. Michael Gurian, author of this book is scheduled to speak in Sonoma and the Journal is looking for partners to bring him to Mendocino County as well at a reduced cost.

**C. Fiscal Report – January, 2002**

Motion made to approve fiscal report for January, 2002 (Mordhorst, Smith): Mann, yes; Mordhorst, yes; Tichinin, yes; Smith, yes. Passed.

**D. Systems Integration**

Discussion concerning creation/improvement of a coherent and effective system for children 0-5 throughout Mendocino County was held with the Executive Committee. Because of serious budget deficits in health and human services in the next two years, the Commission needs to make sure that it is pulling down all monies that might be available. The Executive Committee made the following recommendation: to create a task force/work team dedicated to research and encourage systems integration within the County. Participants would likely be senior staff and fiscal experts from Departments of Mental Health, Social Services, Public Health, County Chief Administrative Office, MCOE and others. A local person familiar with programs and funding would be hired on a contract to facilitate the group. Funding would be from the Commissioner Initiative Fund. Barbara Riley has been suggested as a Fiscal Leveraging expert. The Commission would like to move ahead; Director Molgaard will request TASC assistance to secure Barbara Riley.

**E. Policy and Advocacy Framework**

Commissioners were given a list of potential policy topics and asked to rank their top 4-6 priorities as part of the Strategic Plan where it was determined to dedicate 3% of its annual allocation to Policy and Advocacy for Children and Families. Five of the seven Commissioners responded to the survey. The Executive Committee recommended that the Commission hire one or more Policy Facilitators to take the lead on a specific policy topic and that one or more Commissioners act as a Commissioner Liaison for each policy topic. The Commission would prioritize policy topics that it wants to address and Staff would develop the prioritized policy topics for further discussion at the next Commission meeting. Commissioner Mordhorst suggested that the Commission move forward with the top four topics and develop policies around those issues. Director Molgaard to bring back six to ten ideas that can be accomplished around the top four topics; Commission will narrow the list down and hand off to a policy facilitator.

**F. CCAFA Policy Platform and Priorities**

Commissioners were given latest draft version of the California Children and Families Association Policy Platform. Director Molgaard said the State priorities are very similar to the Commission's priorities.

A motion was made to support Director Molgaard to vote to support the State Association Policy Guidelines (Mann, Mordhorst): Mann, yes; Mordhorst, yes; Tichinin, yes; Smith, yes. Passed.

Discussion: Director Molgaard also answered questions about the new multi-lingual service for all age groups with a new number similar to 911 (Emergency) and 411 (Directory Assistance), this one being 211 (Human Service Information). Public Dotty Coplen expressed her doubts as to the accuracy of the information and suggested that CF1st hire an information staff person just to keep information current.

**H. Evaluation~Request for Qualifications**

A draft Request for Qualifications for evaluation that would cover from May, 2002 thru June, 2003 was presented by Director Molgaard.

A motion was made to move approve the RFQ to cover May, 2002 through October, 2003, with Commissioners Colfax and Glassey acting as the RFQ Review Committee (Smith, Mann): Mann, yes; Mordhorst, yes; Tichinin, yes; Smith, yes. Passed.

Another motion was made to use the Draft Protocol for Contract Amendments, deleting the parenthesis, effective immediately (Mordhorst, Mann): Mann, yes; Mordhorst, yes; Tichinin, yes; Smith, yes. Passed.

**G. Regional Grants Status Update and Grantee Presentation**

A presentation was made by Action Network, a Regional Initiative grantee from the South Coast on their Growth and Development project, now in its third quarter. Janet Kukulinsky, along with several recipients from their program spoke about their successes with the program.

**H. Commissioner Reports**

Reports were as follows:

Chairperson Tichinin: Presented a letter from the Institute for Healthcare Advancement inviting him to attend and represent the Commission May 9<sup>th</sup> in Anaheim to preview parenting books.

Commissioner Mordhorst: Introduced new nurse hired to work with NCO, MCOE on health care issues and child care issues paid for by the Child Care Linkages Grant.

Commissioner Mordhorst also announced that \$100,000 is now available for grants for "prevention" from the Tobacco Settlement monies through Community Prevention in Action/AODP in the Public Health Department.

Technical Assistance Funding is also available through the Tobacco Settlement Advisory Committee to provide assistance to communities working on community health projects. There will be an RFA in about 30 days. Contact Pat Sanborn for more information.

Commissioner Smith: Attended Safe Passage launch of their Directory. They had a very enthusiastic community response.

Commissioner Mann: Alerted the Commission that Health Care issues are coming to a head here in this County. Orthopedic, OB and Gynecology doctors are leaving and very few doctors are moving into Mendocino County.

#### **IV. Next Meetings**

There will be no April meeting. Next scheduled meeting is May 6, 2002. Annual Planning Day is scheduled for June 7. Brad Morrison is available to facilitate. The Commission agreed to have the meeting in Philo again this year. There was a request to update the Community Assessment. Kathy Hopper is available for help with next 5 year strategic plan. Commissioner Mordhorst felt there had not been enough change to warrant work on a new plan this early. Chairperson Tichinin wanted to wait until after the first evaluation of the Commission's projects.