



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County
Department No.: 994
For Agenda Of: November 28, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Board Member(s) Steve Ortiz, Chair
First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County
Contact Info: Wendy Sims-Moten, Executive Director
First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County, (805) 884-8085
SUBJECT: Appointment of Community Members to the First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approve the appointment of Emilio Handall as a Community Member of the First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County to fill the Community Member Commission seat previously held by Lorraine Neenan (number 7) for an unexpired term that ends June 30, 2024, and a regular term that commences July 1, 2024;
- b. Approve the appointment of Joanna Gerber as an alternate Community Member of the First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County to fill the Community Member Alternate Commission seat previously held by Emilio Handall (number 12) for an unexpired term that ends June 30, 2024, and a regular term that commences July 1, 2024;
- c. Approve the appointment of Susan Walsh as an alternate Community Member of the First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County to fill the Community Member Alternate Commission seat previously held by Joanna Gerber (number 13) for an unexpired term that ends June 30, 2025, and a regular term that commences July 1, 2025.

- d. Determine that the above actions are organizational or administrative activities of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and are therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

The First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County (“Commission”) consists of nine (9) regular members and four (4) alternate members, all of whom are appointed by the Board of Supervisors by ordinance.

Santa Barbara County Code section 41-4 requires the appointment of five Community Members and two Community Alternates to the Commission. The Commission recommends the appointment of Emilio Handall as Community Member (seat number 7) and Joanna Gerber as alternate Community Member (seat number 12) based on the Commission’s practice of filling Community Member vacancies by first considering existing alternate Community Members by seniority. Mr. Handall and Ms. Gerber joined the Commission as alternate Community Members on August 31 and November 16, 2021, respectively. At the time, Mr. Handall filled seat number 12, and Ms. Gerber filled seat number 13. The Commission also recommends the appointment of Susan Walsh as an alternate Community Member (seat number 13) based on Ms. Walsh’s application (Attachment A). Ms. Walsh is a new applicant to the Commission. Approval of these appointments will permit the Commission to maintain compliance with its membership requirements.

Background:

The Commission was established in 1999 after California voters passed Proposition 10, a state constitutional amendment. Proposition 10 imposed a sales tax on tobacco products and directed that those revenues be used to support early childhood development, focusing on children from prenatal through age five.

When filling Community Member vacancies, it is the practice of the Commission to first look to the current alternative Community Members to fill the vacancies according to seniority. The Commission then opens applications community-wide to fill vacancies created by the upward movement of alternate Community Members in the Commission. Applications are posted on the Commission’s website and through County online services, outline the basic functions of the Commission, and include the criteria to serve as a Commissioner. Applicants are encouraged to indicate their relevant experience and interest in serving on the Commission. Members of the Commission devote a substantial amount of time attending meetings, evaluating funding proposals, and monitoring outcomes of existing grants and the ongoing Strategic Plan. Regular and alternate Commission members are expected to attend all meetings of the Commission.

Special Instructions:

Please email a copy of the minute order reflecting the Board’s action to the Commission – Attention: Sara Gonzalez.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Application – Susan Walsh

Authored by:

Wendy Sims-Moten, Executive Director