



Commission Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2009 * 8-10:00 AM * BLM Conference Room, 351 Pa Cu Lane, Bishop

1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum, Public Comment

Chair and Commissioner Cash called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM. Present were Commissioners Harrison, Santos, and Arcularius, and staff member Jody Veenker. Guests Tamara Cohn of Health Department, Trish Schlichting and Susanne Olson of Altrusa, and Eva Poole-Gilson of Poets in the Schools were also in attendance. Commissioner Benson joined the meeting at 8:14 AM.

2. Strategic Grant Review

Three strategic grant applications were submitted for commission review: Altrusa's Books and Barns Jamboree, Altrusa's Readers Theatre, and Poets in the School's Poetry/Poetree Preschool Program.

Because this was the first time a number of proposals have been submitted, the commission requested 1) that they receive extra copies of the score sheets so they can review projects before meetings, and 2) that the strategic Grant scoring sheet have a more specific grading scale, including a minimum number of points to qualify a project for funding.

In the review process, Altrusa's books and barns averaged 27/30 points, Reader's Theatre averaged 23/30 points, and Poets in the Schools averaged 16/30 points. The commission agreed that both of Altrusa's proposals scored high enough to be approved, but some commission members worried that without more specifically defined goals and measures the Poets in the Schools program may not fulfill First 5's reporting requirements. Poets was invited to reapply with staff help to establish workable goals and measures, and Ms. Poole-Gilson said she would reconsider early next year when she has finished with her Playhouse 395 responsibilities for "Return to Bountiful."

- *A motion was made to approve the Altrusa Books and Barns Jamboree Strategic Grant by Commissioner Harrison and was seconded by Commissioner Santos. All 5 Commissioners in attendance were in agreeance.*
- *A motion to approve the Altrusa Readers Theatre Strategic Grant was made by Commissioner Benson and seconded by Commissioner Arcularius. All 5 commissioners in attendance were in agreeance.*

3. Approval of Minutes

No minutes were approved because we did not have a quorum of attendees from any one meeting for approval since Commissioner Benson had to leave at the end of item 2.

4. Adoption of updated Bylaws

The Commission reviewed the updated Bylaws discussed at the July 2, 2009 meeting, and adopted them. Per last month's request, these updates were submitted to County Counsel for vetting, and to be sure BOS approval was not required prior to adoption. County Counsel replied that no state or county law requiring prior BOS approval could be found, and advised adoption via usual Commission vote as spelled out in the bylaws themselves.

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Arcularius, and seconded by Commissioner Harrison to adopt the updated First 5 Inyo County Bylaws.*

5. Early End of Meeting

Commissioner Harrison had to leave at 9:15 for a work engagement, and because the Commission wouldn't be a quorum without her, the meeting closed.

Commissioner Cash requested that the Social Entrepreneurs Evaluation she received be provided to the Commission at next month's meeting, and Tamara Cohn requested time on the next agenda to discuss changes to health services for children 0 to 5 in Inyo due to State cuts.

Friday, August 21st from 8-8:30 AM was selected for a Special RFP Commission Meeting to allow Commissioners to finalize changes or additions to the Special Grants RFP.

