

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2013

Present: Beth Brodie, Ed Catino, Juan Hernandez, William Rayber, and Curtis Wang – Committee Members
Scott Barron, Mrs. Brown, Lesly Forbes, Liz Lyons, Precious Malumfashi, and Sandra – Guests
Eugene Baily, Jennifer Kaiser, and Jose Rodriguez – Staff Members

Absent: Mary Jo Fernando, Monroe Jones, and Cherie Roberson

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Curtis Wang, vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Everyone present was introduced.

2. Public Input (3 minutes)

Liz Lyons made the following announcements:

- A. Statewide Self-Advocacy Network: The network is part of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities and is made up of lots of consumers from all over the state. The purpose of the group is to connect self-advocates, their communities, and statewide organizations to increase leadership by people with disabilities. The network meets 4 times per year. Liz provided everyone with copies of the agenda for this group's last meeting, held February 28th and March 1st. For more information, or to find out how to join, you can call the State Council at (866) 802-0514 or look up their web page at www.scdd.ca.gov.
- B. Alta California Regional Center CAC: Liz provided everyone with information about this regional center's CAC and their project to make IPPs more understandable. Some of the changes they made were:
- Including pictures to help explain the words.
 - Used larger print.
 - Added colors.
 - Changed the big words to smaller words.

A copy of the new IPP form was included in the handout.

- C. Self-Advocacy Board of L.A. County: This board is part of Area Board 10. It is an organization run by people with developmental disabilities. Its purpose is to strengthen the self-advocacy movement throughout L.A. County by:
- Helping more self-advocacy groups get started.
 - Teaching people about their rights.
 - Developing leadership skills.
 - Providing input on important legislation and policies.

The board accomplishes this through periodic trainings, a large conference that is held every 2 years, and through their newsletter, mailings, and updates to their web page. For more information, or to find out how to join, you can call the Area Board at (818) 543-4631 or look up their web page at www.areaboard10.org

3. Consent Items

- A. Approval of Agenda

Item 6.E. was added to the agenda.

M/S/C (W. Rayber/E. Catino) To approve the agenda as modified.

- B. Approval of Minutes of February 5, 2013 Meeting

M/S/C (W. Rayber/J. Hernandez) To approve the minutes as presented.

4. Presentation: Changes to the Lanterman Act (Scott Barron)

Scott Barron, peer/self-advocacy coordinator for Disability Rights California (DRC), gave the presentation. Copies of his presentation, “The Lanterman Act Changed – Your Rights Did Not” were provided to everyone present. Scott went around the meeting table having each member read a page of the presentation aloud and then he would discuss the ideas that were on that page with the group. His presentation covered:

- A. What services have changed (including experimental treatments, suspended services, limited services, respite, transportation, supported living, medical services, and dental services).
- B. How consumers can appeal a service decision that the regional center has made if they don't agree with it.

5. Old Business

- A. Updated Event Calendar: Copies of the CAC's updated event calendar were provided to everyone present. Many of the CAC members plan to go to the Abilities Expo that will be held March 15-17 at the L.A. Convention Center. It was noted that 3 of the events listed on the calendar were out of the center's area (Downey, West Covina, and Lawndale).

Action: Eugene will remove any events from the CAC's calendar that are not within the center's area.

- B. Reports on Employment, Transportation, Legislation, and Housing (All): Jose announced that the center has a new person working in the community services area. Her name is Ruth Zepeda and she helps develop housing in the community for consumers leaving the developmental centers.

Action: Jose will invite Ruth Zepeda to come to a CAC meeting to talk about the center's community placement plans.

6. New Business

- A. Legislative Training Session: Tuesday, March 12th: This training is held each year for NLACRC staff, board members, service providers, and consumers to provide them with training and information to help them prepare to meet with our local legislators. If you are interested in visiting a legislator, you should make a point to come to the training. Flyers for the training were distributed. Please RSVP to Jennifer at (818) 756-6118.

Action: Curtis Wang will attend the training.

Action: Liz cannot attend the training, but would like to be included in a visit with a senator.

- B. Review Agenda for March 13, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting: Jennifer provided copies of the agenda for the next board meeting and reviewed it with everyone.

- C. Access Community Advisory Committee: Access Services is looking for people with disabilities to serve on their community advisory committee. Information

about the committee and how to apply for membership was provided to everyone present. Liz warned that Access frequently cancels their meetings.

Action: Eugene will obtain more information about the Access CAC (minutes, agendas, meeting schedule) and make copies of it for next month's meeting.

D. A Community of Friends Housing Project: Liz reported that people from this project gave a presentation at last month's Housing Committee meeting. A Community of Friends (ACOF) is a nonprofit organization that provides affordable housing for various special needs groups, specifically mental illness, but also including homeless, low income, emancipated foster youth, and most recently, people with disabilities. They are now celebrating their 25th year! ACOF has developed 40 projects throughout southern California; they currently have 3 projects under construction and another one is breaking ground within the next 3 months. Depending upon the type of tenants, ACOF also provides support services, including transportation, life skills classes, child care, budgeting, healthy living, and parenting. One of their projects, which was just recently completed, is "Vista del Rio," a beautiful 40-unit facility in Santa Ana. It was constructed to serve 30 people with developmental disabilities and 10 people with physical disabilities, and their family/aide. These tenants will pay just 30% of the total rental cost. The facility is on a 2-acre site, and has the following features:

- A large community kitchen, with cooking classes.
- A beautiful garden, with gardening classes.
- A computer room, with computer classes.
- Solar power.
- A recycling program.
- A water reduction program.

ACOF is funded through grants, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and The United Way. Referrals are made by medical doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists, and other professionals. Liz provided everyone with a handout that contained information about their housing projects.

E. Nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair for Next Fiscal Year: At next month's meeting, we will be asking CAC members if they are interested in serving as CAC Chair for next fiscal year. The election will be held at the May 7th CAC meeting.

7. **Announcements / Information / Public Input**

- A. Next CAC Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 2013, at 2:00 p.m.
- B. Daylight Savings Time: William reminded everyone to turn their clocks back one hour on Sunday morning because we're going back on daylight savings time.
- C. The L.A. Marathon: The marathon will be held Sunday, March 17th.
- D. Resignation of Cherie Roberson: Unfortunately, Cherie has missed the last 3 CAC meetings, so she will have to resign her position on this committee.

8. **Identify Board Meeting Agenda Items**

The following items were added to the March 13th board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of March 5, 2013 Meeting
- B. CAC Event Calendar
- C. Resignation of Cherie Roberson from the CAC

9. **Adjournment**

Curtis adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

[camin.mar5.2013]

