

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

Present: Ed Catino, Mary Jo Fernando, Juan Hernandez, and William Rayber, – Committee Members
Duane Joslin – Board Member
Desiree Boykin, Mrs. Brown, Gerald Butler, Lesly Forbes, Liz Lyons, Michelle McBurnie, Shane Peterson, and Michael Shannon – Guests
Jennifer Kaiser and Jose Rodriguez – Staff Members

Absent: Beth Brodie

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Mary Jo Fernando, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. Everyone present was introduced. Mary Jo led the group in a “Happy Birthday” song to Ed Catino whose birth is this month!

2. Public Input (3 minutes)

Liz reported that she and her Mom recently attended a senior fair at the Sportsmen’s Lodge. The fair itself was good, but Liz did not feel there was enough room to accommodate her Mom’s wheelchair. She let them know.

3. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Item 6.D. was added to the agenda.

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

B. Approval of Minutes of October 1, 2013 Meeting

M/S/C (W. Rayber/E. Catino) To approve the minutes as presented.

4. Presentation: “Entrepreneurship, Self-Employment, & Disabilities”

Due to the size of the meeting agenda, the committee deferred the 30-minute video to the end of their meeting, and the found, they had no time to watch it.

5. Old Business

A. Updated Event Calendar

Copies of the updated CAC event calendar were provided to everyone present.

Action: CAC members should contact Eugene with any events that could be added to the CAC's event calendar.

B. Reports on Employment, Transportation, Legislation, and Housing (All)

1. Report on NLACRC's October 8th Candidates' Forum

Duane attended the forum that was held for the final 2 candidates running for Bob Blumenfield's former Assembly seat (Susan Shelley and Matt Dababneh). It was a very successful event with nearly 200 people in attendance. Also, Duane was there to help register voters. NLACRC will be following up with the candidate who wins the November 19th election to make sure they understand how our system is impacted by decisions that are made in Sacramento – and to get a commitment of support from them.

2. Assembly Member Nazarian's Holiday Open House

Announcements were provided regarding the assembly member's holiday open house on Wednesday, November 20th, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Van Nuys State Office Building, 6150 Van Nuys Boulevard, Suite 300, Van Nuys. This is a good opportunity to meet the assembly member and to participate in his holiday toy and food drive.

Action: Mary Jo plans to attend the open house and will give a report on it at the next CAC meeting.

3. Access Services: Possible Attendant Rider Fees

Access is considering charging attendants a rider fee because of abuse by strangers who pretend to be attendants for consumers just to get a free ride. It is very important for consumers to speak up and say "That person is not my attendant."

4. Access Services: Unreserved Rides

Access is having a problem with riders who forget to book their return trips ahead of time. This is not fair for other riders. Access will begin sending notices to rule breakers!

5. Access Services: Next Community Advisory Committee Meeting

Liz is a member of the Access Services Community Advisory Committee. Their next meeting will be held November 12th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Action: Liz will give a report on the November 12th Access Community Advisory Committee meeting at the next CAC meeting.

6. Congressman Tony Cardenas' Family Health Fair

A family health fair will be held Saturday, November 9th, at East Valley High School, 5525 Vineland Avenue in North Hollywood, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The congressman is having this health fair to provide information about the new federal Affordable Care Act.

C. Development of Mini Travel Guide/Checklist (All)

1. Approval of Draft Timeline

Copies of the draft timeline for drafting the mini travel guide/checklist were provided to the committee and approved as written. The following suggestions were made for inclusion into the guide/checklist:

- How to book a hotel room.
- How to get through an airport (including how the airlines want you to pack your things).
- What you need to do if you are traveling with a service animal.
- Copies of a checklist called "Pack This!" were provided to everyone as an idea to include in the guide/checklist.

D. Discussion of Training/Presentation Calendar for FY 2013-14 (All)

Copies of the updated training/presentation calendar were provided and reviewed.

Action: The film that was going to be shown at today's meeting was postponed to the CAC meeting in June 2014.

Action: The CAC would like to have a presentation on the ARCA CAC on their training/presentation calendar for next fiscal year.

6. New Business

A. **Review Agenda for November 13th Board of Trustees Meeting**

Copies of the board meeting were provided and Jennifer reviewed it with everyone present.

B. **Report on October 11th ARCA CAC Meeting** (William)

William reported that the committee talked about legislation that was on the governor's desk awaiting his approval or veto. The governor signed SB 468 (the self-determination bill) and SB 555 (translation of IPPs and IFSPs into a family's native language). The committee broke into their self-advocacy and legislative outreach work groups for group discussions. The groups are trying to identify ways to expand self-advocacy efforts and legislative outreach and education.

C. **Report on October 18th ARCA Board of Directors Meeting** (Mary Jo & William)

Whenever the ARCA Board of Directors meetings are held in the Los Angeles area, NLACRC board members are encouraged to attend. The ARCA Board includes the 21 regional center directors and 21 regional center board delegates. ARCA staff and staff from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) also attend their meetings. Mary Jo and William both attended the October 18th meeting along with 8 other board members. There was a lot of discussion about bills that had been signed by the governor, including:

1. AB 1041 (Employment First)
2. SB 126 (The extension of insurance coverage for behavioral health treatment)
3. SB 651 (Sexual assault procedures for developmental centers and state hospitals)

Action: The CAC would like to hear more about SB 651 at the next CAC meeting.

D. Desiree's Report

Desiree is the consumer advocate at South Central Los Angeles Regional Center. She reported that her regional center's CAC has 15 members. They developed their own Facebook page which has gotten 489 "likes" so far. They planned a successful health fair that was held this year and are planning to have a job fair next year.

7. Identify Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the CAC's section of the November 13th board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of November 5, 2013 Meeting
- B. CAC Event Calendar

8. Announcements / Information / Public Input

A. CAC Meeting Attendance Sheet

The CAC meeting attendance sheet is always included in the meeting packets. Members can miss up to 2 consecutive meetings and up to 4 meetings in a year. If members exceed this number of absences, they must resign from the committee.

B. CAC will be "Dark" in December

The NLACRC Board of Trustees and all of its subcommittees (including the CAC) do not meet in December.

C. Next CAC Meeting: Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at 2:00 p.m.

D. Area Board 10 Newsletter

Copies of the Area Board's most recent newsletter were provided. The newsletter covered the following subjects:

1. How the federal government shutdown could affect critical programs.
2. How the Affordable Care Act affects people with developmental disabilities.
3. October: National Disabilities Employment Awareness Month.
4. California was awarded a 5-year \$50 million education and employment grant.

E. The American Association of people with Disabilities (AAPD) Press

The committee was provided with information from the AAPD about their new public service announcement called, "Redefine Disability." The announcement challenges Americans to appreciate the positive aspects of disability and encourages viewers to join with them in breaking down the outdated stereotypes confronting many people with disabilities.

Action: Eugene will try to find the AAPD public service announcement on the Internet and show it at the next CAC meeting.

F. Disneyland Update

All consumers/families will now need an e-mail address to participate in the Disneyland program as they are no longer going to mail information out.

G. Village Spirit E-Newsletter

Copies of Valley Village's newsletter were provided. Upcoming events include:

1. Community at Large Day: Saturday, November 9th at Exposition Park.
2. Reminder to vote on November 19th for the special election for Assembly District 45.
3. Donations needed for the November 16th yard sale.

H. Disability Scoop

Disability Scoop is an e-mail newsletter from DisabilityScoop.com. The most recent scoop including information about:

1. Senate to revive disability rights treaty.
2. Neighbors to pay \$65,000 after banning a neighbor's accessible vehicle.
3. Social Security and SSI benefits to rise in 2014.

9. **Adjournment**

Mary Jo adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

[camin.nov5.2013]

