

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2014

Present: Ed Catino, Mary Jo Fernando, Juan Hernandez, and William Rayber, – Committee Members
Nina Daily, Lesly Forbes, Daniel Garcia, Elizabeth Lyons, Katrina Pana, and Gerald Robles – Guests
Eugene Baily, Jennifer Kaiser, and Jose Rodriguez – Staff Members

Absent: All present

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Mary Jo Fernando, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:13 p.m. Everyone present made their introductions.

2. Public Input

Daniel Garcia announced that he is running for the 12th District City Council seat in the March 3, 2015 election. He provided everyone with copies of his resume and business card. Daniel will be announcing his candidacy at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 27th, at the CSUN bookstore.

3. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Approval of the November 5th meeting minutes was added because there wasn't a quorum last month so the minutes could not be approved.

M/S/C (J. Hernandez/E. Catino) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes of November 5, 2013 Meeting

C. Approval of Minutes of January 7, 2014 Meeting

M/S/C (J. Hernandez/E. Catino) To approve the minutes as presented.

4. Presentation: “Your Rights as a Consumer” (Liz Lyons)

Liz provided everyone with handouts called, “10 things every regional center client should know” and had different people read each one and discussion followed.

5. Old Business

A. Updated Event Calendar

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

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

No reports were given.

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

1. Approval of Draft Timeline

The 6-step draft timeline could not be approved at last month’s meeting because there was no quorum. After reviewing the timeline, the committee adjusted it by removing step 3 and re-numbering the remaining tasks to make it a 5-step process.

M/S/C (J. Hernandez/W. Rayber) To approve the timeline for developing the mini travel guide/checklist as modified.

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

Copies of the calendar were provided to everyone present. As stated at last month’s meeting, Jennifer will present some pending legislation (bills) at the March CAC meeting. The committee still needs to identify a presentation for their May meeting.

Action: CAC members will consider what type of training or presentation they would like to have at their May meeting and bring their ideas to the next meeting.

E. AAPD Public Service Announcement (Eugene)

At the November CAC meeting, the committee was provided with information from the American Association of People with Disabilities (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. The committee asked to see this public service announcement. Eugene found it on the Internet and played the 30-second spot for the committee.

6. New Business

A. **Review Agenda for February 12, 2014 Board of Trustees Meeting** (Jennifer)

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

B. **Report on Assembly Member Nazarian’s Open House** (Mary Jo)

Mary Jo reported that she and several other board members attended the open house. They had food and music. Mary Jo introduced herself to the Assembly member and told him that she was the chair of the regional center’s CAC.

C. **Report on Access Services CAC Meeting** (Liz)

Liz reported that discussion was held about riders traveling with pets and service animals. Cards were recently mailed out to Access riders about their meeting schedule. The meeting in our area will be held Saturday, February 15th, from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Encino Community Center, 4935 Balboa Boulevard, in Encino.

D. **Report on NLACRC Housing Committee Meeting** (Liz)

Liz provided everyone with a written report on the November 18th Housing Committee meeting. Highlights of that meeting included:

1. The election of Eric Leh (board president) as the chair.
2. Information about congregate health living facilities.
3. A report on the Olmstead conference and was held on October 17th.
4. An update on the regional center’s community placement plan projects (for consumers moving out of the developmental centers).
5. An update on current housing legislation.
6. The finalization of the committee’s priorities for this fiscal year.

The next Housing Committee meeting will be held February 10th and Liz will give a report on it at next month's CAC meeting

E. Report on ARCA Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting (William)

William is a member of the ARCA CAC, which is a statewide consumer group that has 1 consumer from each of the 21 regional centers. William gave a report on the January 10th ARCA CAC meeting which was held in Sacramento. The committee has 2 work groups: one to expand self-advocacy efforts and another to expand consumers' efforts to get to know their legislators and how to have an impact on legislation. The committee talked about crimes against people with disabilities and how to stop it. The committee was also given reports on the state budget and legislation. William also reported that the committee made the decision to only have their facilitators speak when they are asked to – because it's not their meeting. The next face-to-face meeting will be held Friday, April 12th, in Sacramento.

F. Area Board 10 News, Volume 27

Copies of the most recent newsletter from Area Board 10 were provided to everyone present. The newsletter covered the following topics:

1. Governor Brown appointed Santi Rogers (director of San Andreas Regional Center) to the position of director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). This is very good news!!
2. Three developmental centers may lose their federal funding, but DDS is working to keep that from happening.
3. The governor's budget failed to restore cuts to needed services for consumers and elderly people.
4. The "Affordable Care Act" (Obamacare) expands treatments for people with disabilities.

G. Reports on Festival of Human Abilities (All)

No one present attended the meeting, so no report was given. However, Liz added that she has attended the festivals many times in the past and it is always a great event.

H. 2014 “Medicare and You” Booklets (Jose)

Jose reported that these booklets were just issued and they contain a lot of really good information. If you want one and don't have one, please contact Jose at jrodriguez@nlacrc.org or at (818) 756-6289.

7. Identify Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting

The following agenda items were identified for the February 12th board meeting:

- A. Minutes of February 4, 2014 Meeting
- B. CAC Event Calendar

8. Announcements / Information / Public Input

A. Social Security Office

Lesly announced that there is a new Social Security office located at 20439 Nordhoff Street in Chatsworth. They are open Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays. Liz added that there is also a Social Security office on the corner of Roscoe and Van Nuys Boulevards.

B. NLACRC Self-Advocacy Group

The group will be celebrating their 23rd anniversary with a party on Tuesday, March 18th, from 10:45 a.m. to noon. The party will be held at the regional center and they will have music, a raffle, cake, snacks, and soft drinks! The cost is 50 cents each.

C. CSUN Matador Baseball Game

The game will be held Saturday, March 15th, at 1:00 p.m. Tickets cost \$5.

D. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Congressman Tony Cardenas and LA Councilwoman Nury Martinez along with the City of Los Angeles River Project will be holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Woodman Avenue Multi-Beneficial Stormwater Capture Project on

Friday, February 7th, at 1:00 p.m. at the intersection of Woodman and Strathern in Panorama City.

E. The 7th Annual Health and Safety Fair

The Panorama City Neighborhood Council, Agora Realty, and Mission Community Hospital will be holding a health and safety fair on Saturday, February 22nd, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Plaza del Valley, 8600 Van Nuys Boulevard, in Panorama City. They will have free screenings for diabetes, vision, dental, and blood pressure. They will also have free information on health and education, emergency preparedness, senior and youth services, and women's services.

F. CAC Meeting Attendance Sheet

Meeting attendance sheets are always mailed with the packets. CAC members cannot miss more than 5 meetings in a year or 3 meetings in a row; if they do, they have to resign from the committee.

G. Next CAC Meeting: Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at 2:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Mary Jo adjourned the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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