

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2015

Present: Mary Jo Fernando, Lesly Forbes, Daniel Garcia, Juan Hernandez, and William Rayber – Committee Members

Liz Lyons and Judy Hsieh Bigman – Guests

Eugene Baily and Liliana Windover – Staff Members

Absent: Pam Aiona, Precious Malumfashi, and Jeffrey Thacker

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Juan Hernandez, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Everyone present was introduced.

2. Public Input (3 minutes)

- A. Daniel Garcia announced that he is running for Los Angeles City Council as a certified write-in candidate for Office Member of the City Council District Twelve.
- B. Copies of a Pacific Alliance on Disability Self Advocacy (PADSA) flyer was distributed about their creation of a pool of self-advocate consultants to work with self-advocacy organizations in California, Oregon, Washington, and Montana. Interested individuals should send their applications to Julia Bascom at Jbascom@autisticadvocacy.org.
- C. Information about Kaiser-Permanente's Pasadena Rose Parade float which celebrated the 7,000 athletes from 177 countries who will take part in the featured Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles beginning July 25, 2015.

3. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (D. Garcia/M.J. Fernando) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of November 4th Meeting

M/S/C (M. Fernando/D. Garcia) To approve the minutes as presented.

4. Presentation: Department of Rehabilitation: Job Preparation

Eugene stated that he tried to contact Hugo Casin at the Department of Rehabilitation to ask him to give the CAC a presentation on job preparation, but Mr. Casin did not return his inquiries.

5. Old Business

A. Updated Event Calendar

Eugene did not have copies of the updated calendar for the committee. This agenda item was deferred to next month's CAC meeting.

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

1. Liz Lyons distributed the revisions to the Access Services "No Show Policy" and reviewed it with the committee.
2. Liz also shared copies of a flyer from the Community Distribution Center located at 11350 Saticoy Street in Sun Valley regarding their low-cost food program.

C. Review CAC's Draft Travel Guide

Copies of the draft travel guide were provided and had not changed much since the committee last reviewed it. Eugene distributed a list of recommendations for the guide that were submitted by Selena from the center's Publication Department.

Action: The committee would like to have an introduction included at the beginning of the guide.

Action: CAC members should send their recommendations, pictures, or any type of information they wish to include in the travel guide to Eugene Baily via email at ebaily@nlacrc.org.

6. New Business

A. Review Agenda for January 14th Board Meeting

Copies of the board agenda were provided to everyone present and Liliana reviewed it with them. The January board meeting is always held at the center's branch office in Santa Clarita.

B. Resignation of Ed Catino

Ed resigned from the CAC because he moved out of the area.

7. Identify Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting

The following agenda items were identified for the CAC's section of the January 14th board meeting:

- A. Minutes of the January 6th CAC Meeting
- B. CAC Event Calendar

8. Announcements/Information/Public Input

A. CAC Attendance Sheet

CAC attendance sheets are updated and sent out each month to CAC members. Members cannot miss more than 4 meetings in a year and cannot miss 3 meetings in a row. If they do, they must resign from the committee.

B. Next CAC Meeting: Tuesday, February 3rd, at 2:00 p.m.

C. SSI/SSP Restoration Checks for FY 2014-15

Last month, NLACRC sent checks to consumers to make up some of the SSI money that was reduced from their Social Security checks during the period January 1 through March 31, 2014. These checks are sent out on a quarterly basis.

D. Area Board 10 Newsletter

Copies of the most recent newsletter were provided to the committee for their information. Highlights included:

1. A campaign has been started by the Lanterman Coalition giving 10 reasons for an immediate 10% increase for the developmental disabilities service system.

2. The “Achieving a Better Life Experience” Act (known as the ABLE Act) would allow people with disabilities to create special savings accounts to pay for education, housing, and other needs without losing government benefits, such as Social Security.
3. Assembly Bill 1595 went into effect January 1st, which will eliminate the term “area board.” The new name (regional State Council office) will now be used to better reflect what they are.

E. 12th Annual Festival of Human Abilities

This year’s festival will be held on Saturday and Sunday, January 24 & 25, at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. Flyers were provided. Reservations must be made by anyone wanting to attend. The flyer will allow free admission for students or adults with disabilities and their attendant, if they have one. Liz and Jennifer are planning to go.

F. DDS Safety Net: “Be Smart, Manage your Money”

Copies of DDS’s most recent Safety Net bulletin were provided to the committee for their information. The bulletin contained information about how to make a budget and how to consider “needs” versus “wants.”

G. Commission on Disability

Information about the L.A. City Commission on Disabilities was provided to the committee for their information. Regulation commission meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. The meetings are held at 200 North Spring Street, in room 350.

H. SSI/SSA Rate Change

Effective January 1, 2015, the monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits will increase 1.7%.

9. Adjournment

Juan adjourned the meeting at 3:28 pm.

Submitted by,

Liliana Windover

Liliana Windover
Executive Administrative Assistant

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