

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 24, 2015

Draft

Present: Dan Becerra, Dorothy Daniels (via teleconference), Debra Newman, and Lou Paparozzi – Committee Members
Diane Ambrose, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, Vini Montague, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: Jenean Glover

I. Call to Order

Lou Paparozzi, president, called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

II. Public Input -- There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

An executive session was added to the end of the agenda.

M/S/C (D. Becerra/D. Newman) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes from October 28th Meeting

M/S/C (D. Newman/D. Becerra) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. DDS Board Composition Letter

The Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDS) sent us a letter informing us that our board does not have enough representation from the Hispanic community. The committee was provided with NLACRC's draft response letter which outlined the steps the center has taken to recruit Hispanic board applicants. The committee suggested one change to the letter.

Action: As the center's response letter is due to DDS on December 4th, the Executive Committee approved the letter, as modified, and authorized Lou Paparozzi to sign it.

B. Recommended Legislative Strategy from CS & GCR Committees

Rebecca Lienhard, executive director of Tierra del Sol Foundation, attended last week's Consumer Services and Government/Community Relations Committee meetings. She reported that she just returned from Sacramento where she was busy meeting with legislators to discuss the possibility of putting together a bill that would increase funding for the developmental disabilities system. Also, she and her partner organizations are working with many other service provider agencies and regional centers to implement a more effective legislative strategy than occasional letter-writing and rallies at the governor's office. That approach did not generate enough support to overcome the Governor's objections to funding our system. The new strategy is to hold a positive and polite, but constant, vigil at the offices of the 5 most influential legislators in the Los Angeles area. Trainings for vigil participants would begin in December. We want these legislators to work with the governor to make sure additional funding for our system is included in the state budget for next fiscal year. Rebecca asked the committees if they would like to join this effort. Both the Consumer Services and Government/Community Relations Committees supported this legislative strategy and are asking the Executive Committee to support it, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, so that they can begin participating in the December trainings.

M/S/C (D. Becerra/D. Daniels) To take action, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to support the proposed legislative strategy as presented.

C. Proposed Budget and List of Duties for Legislative Consultant

This is currently being addressed by the Government & Community Relations Committee.

D. FY 2015-16 Board Budget vs Expenses

The center has currently spent \$14,515.86 (16.54%) of its \$89,750.00 budget for this fiscal year.

E. Finalize Agenda for the January 13th Board Meeting (Santa Clarita)

The committee finalized the agenda for the January board meeting which will be held at the center's branch office in Santa Clarita.

V. **Center Operations**

A. Annual Board Retreat

Mike Monk, attorney, has agreed to provide the board with an all-day training on board member responsibilities and conflict of interest at the June 4th board retreat. George has an outline of his presentation if anyone is interested in taking a look at it.

B. Whistleblower Investigation

A conference call was held with DDS to discuss the center's whistleblower report investigation. George believes it was a good idea to include DDS in discussion of the center's investigation results.

C. Regional Center Rental Costs

Currently, DDS does not fully fund regional centers' office rental costs. The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) is working to develop a recommendation to show DDS why the centers need their rents fully funded.

D. L.A. Commission on Developmental Disabilities Meeting

George was invited by a consortium of service providers to give a presentation on the impact that inadequate resources is having on L.A.'s citizens with developmental disabilities. The presentation will also include a proposed course of action George would like to see county officials take in order to ease the current problems in providing adequate care countywide and statewide. George will be giving this presentation at a subcommittee meeting of the LA Commission on Developmental Disabilities on Wednesday, December 16th. He will tell them that they should ask the L.A. Board of Supervisors to support the Lanterman Coalition's recommended 10% across-the-board funding increase for the system plus an additional 5% increase each year thereafter, until the system is fully funded.

E. Residential Facilities

Unfortunately, the center is closing more residential facilities than it is opening. Also, we have been moving some of these consumers into supported living, which is not appropriate, but it is the only option for them that we have.

F. Management/Union Meeting

The center's management staff will be holding another meeting with union staff and Jimmy Valentine to discuss the union's #1 issue: access to all of the center's areas and offices. The meeting will be held on Friday, January 29th.

G. Staff Appreciation/Training Day

George reported that the center used to hold 2 all-staff meetings each year, a holiday party in the winter and a picnic in the summer. George asked if the committee felt it would be a good idea to revisit the idea of a staff appreciation/training event. The committee supported this idea and asked that board members be invited to show their support.

VI. Announcements / Information Items

A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

Lou asked the committee members to please complete evaluation forms after the meeting and submit them to him with any comments.

B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 27th

VII. Executive Session

A. Lease

M/S/C (D. Becerra/D. Newman) To go into executive session at 7:40 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment

Lou adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

