

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Government & Community Relations Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
September 19, 2012

**Present:** Thomas Aguinaga (via video-conference), Richard Dier, Craig Girard, Duane Joslin, and Jeremy Sunderland - Committee Members

Jennifer Pecor – Guest

Rebecca Lienhard – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative

Michele Marra, Sara Iwahashi and Liliana Windover – Staff Members

**Absent:** Dawn Hamilton and Martha Lopez

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**I. Call to Order & Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Jeremy Sunderland, chair, at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Public Input** – There was no public input

**III. Consent Items**

A. Approval of Agenda

Item IV.B. was deferred until next month's meeting.

**M/S/C** (D. Joslin/C. Girard) To approve agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes of August 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**M/S/C** (C. Girard/D. Joslin) To approve minutes as presented.

**IV. Committee Business**

A. Review Committee Action Log from FY 2011-12 - *Deferred*

B. Revisit the Definitions/Priority System of the Committee's Policies - *Deferred*

C. Committee's Priority Issues for FY 2012-13 (Approved by the Board)

The Board of Trustees approved the committee's proposed priority issues for this fiscal year at the last board meeting. Copies of the approved priority issues were provided to the committee.

D. Update on Candidates' Forum and Voter Education/Registration Day

Michele indicated that the Candidates' Forum and Voter Registration/Education Day has been scheduled on Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., at Sam's Café at New Horizons. The sub-committee for this forum is currently developing questions for the State Legislature candidates who are running for office in the NLACRC catchment area and who will be attending this forum. Assembly members Bob Blumenfield and Jay Stern have confirmed their participation. Questions will be sent to them in advance along with materials so they have an understanding of the regional center. Some of the questions will be about the degradation of the entitlement and how they feel about it, we also want to talk about the impact of budget, housing, safety, etc. Feedback has been requested from the Vendor advisory Committee regarding these questions. During this forum, we will also have a table for individuals who wish to register to vote. Yolanda Bosch, board president, has agreed to be the moderator during this forum. A flyer has been sent to the community promoting this event. Information has also been posted in our website.

**Action:** The Candidates Forum sub-committee will be meeting on September 20, 2012. Upon conclusion of this meeting, Sara Iwahashi will be providing copies of the minutes for this meeting to the members of this committee. It was also recommended to obtain media coverage. Michele will look at this option and present it to the sub-committee.

E. **Legislative Update**

Session ended at the end of August. At this point, a lot of bills have already died or they are waiting for the Governor's signature; next week Sara should have a clear idea of which bills survived and which ones did not. Sara also sent an e-mail to members of this committee providing a legislative update. She provided a verbal report on the status of the following bills:

1. SB 1392 (Pavley): Developmental Services  
This bill would require developmental center land that is no longer begin used to be leased to generate revenue for deposit into the Californians with Developmental Disabilities Fund, which the bill would create.

A motion was approved during the last meeting to recommend to the Board of Trustees to take a “Support” position, but unfortunately this bill died.

2. AB 2338 (Chesbro): Employment First Policy

Establishes a State Employment First Policy. It declares that it is the state’s policy that opportunities for integrated, competitive employment shall be given the highest priority for working age individuals with developmental disabilities. The committee had wanted the board to take a support position on this bill, but by the time the board meeting, the bill had died.

3. SB 1050 (Alquist) Autism: Telehealth Task Form

This bill would, until January 1, 2019, require DDS to establish an autism telehealth task force and identify a lead administrator to be responsible for the activities and work of the task force. The task force would be required to provide the department with recommendations in the area of telehealth services for individuals with autism spectrum disorders. Governor Brown vetoed this bill.

4. SB 946: Insurance Coverage of Behavioral Services

Effective July 1, 2012, requires health care insurers to provide coverage for behavioral health treatment, for pervasive developmental disorder or autism. The center has been working with staff regarding the implementation of this bill. Letters have been sent to families providing information regarding this bill.

**V. Board Meeting Agenda Items**

The following items were identified for next month’s board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of September 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting
- B. Update on Candidates’ Forum and Voter Education/Registration Day

**VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input**

- A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

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

B. ARCA Retreat

Jeremy announced that ARCA is having a retreat on October 18-19, 2012 in San Diego. One of the items to be discussed during this retreat is the development of a strategic plan for the regional center system. A copy of the proposal for strategic planning consultation and facilitation was distributed to the committee members. The proposal also provides a re-cap of the regional center system. The first step in developing ARCA's 2013-16 Strategic Plan is the completion of a board member survey. The ARCA Executive Committee is soliciting feedback from the board delegates in order to move forward with this proposal. Jeremy is also requesting feedback from the members of this committee regarding this proposal. He will need this information prior to the ARCA retreat in October. He requested that any information or feedback be sent to him via e-mail. He also reported that the contract for Eileen Richey, director of ARCA, was extended for another year. George and Yolanda were also informed of this.

C. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

**VII. Adjournment**

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Liliana Windover*

Liliana Windover  
Executive Administrative Assistant

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