

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
April 2, 2013

**Present:** Beth Brodie, Ed Catino, Mary Jo Fernando, Monroe Jones, William Rayber, and Curtis Wang – Committee Members

Mrs. Brown, Lesly Fischer, Alison Hughes, Elizabeth Lyons, Greta Pang, Erik Washington, and Stephen Wrenn – Guests

Eugene Baily, Sara Iwahashi, Jennifer Kaiser, Gerald Robles, Jose Rodriguez, and Ruth Zepeda – Staff Members

**Absent:** Juan Hernandez

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**1. Call to Order & Introductions**

Mary Jo Fernando, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Everyone present was introduced. Everyone sang “Happy Birthday” to Monroe Jones and celebrated with a birthday cake.

**2. Public Input** (3 minutes) - There was no public input.

**3. Consent Items**

**A. Approval of Agenda**

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

**B. Approval of Minutes of March 5, 2013 Meeting**

M/S/C (B. Brodie/E. Catino) To approve the minutes as presented.

**4. Presentation: New Changes to Access Services**

Stephen Wrenn and Erik Washington covered the following topics in their presentation:

- A. Access provides 8,000 to 9,000 trips per day!
- B. Travel training opportunities. For more information call 1-888-667-7003.
- C. R&D Transportation’s community travel training program.

- D. Frequently asked questions about the new Access card.
- E. Paying for your ride.
- F. Access Services' Rider's Guide.
- G. If you have an issue with Access Services, you should submit information about the issue, including the date, the time, and your name. If you want to receive a response, please include that as well.

After the presentation, Stephen and Erik answered the committee's transportation questions.

## 5. **Old Business**

### **A. Updated Event Calendar**

Copies of the CAC's updated event calendar were provided to everyone present. Mary Jo will present the calendar at the next board meeting.

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

1. Mary Jo shared a situation she recently had with the Fly Away bus from Van Nuys to LAX airport, which are supposed to be wheelchair accessible. At the fly-away lot, she had to wait a very long time for an accessible bus to arrive. The accessible bus never did arrive, so fly-away called Super Shuttle to take her to the airport. On the way home, she arrived back at LAX and again waited a very long time for the accessible fly-away bus to pick her up. She waited for several hours in the cold until the bus finally arrived around midnight. She wants to complain to someone about this so the situation can be corrected, but she doesn't know who to contact.
2. A news release on Section 811 project rental assistance was provided to everyone present. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is making available nearly \$12 million to provide long-term project-based rental assistance for 335 units reserved for low-income people with disabilities. For more information, call (916) 326-8607.
3. Liz Lyons announced that April is "National Autism Awareness Month." In order to highlight the growing need for concern and awareness about autism, the Autism Society has been celebrating National Autism

Awareness Month since the 1970s. The United States recognizes April as a special opportunity for everyone to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community. For more information, contact the Autism Society and find out how to get involved in awareness activities.

## 6. New Business

### A. **Nomination of Committee Officers for FY 2013-14**

Ed Catino, Mary Jo Fernando, and Monroe Jones are all running for the CAC chairperson position for next fiscal year. The election will be held at next month's CAC meeting. Each nominee will be given 3 minutes to speak, prior to the election, so they can tell everyone why they want to become chairperson.

### B. **Information on the Department of Developmental Services' CAC**

Eugene provided the committee with minutes and agenda for the DDS CAC.

**Action:** Eugene will contact DDS to get on their mailing list for the DDS CAC agendas and minutes, so they can be provided to this committee on a regular basis.

### C. **Review Agenda for April 10, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting**

Copies of the agenda for this month's board meeting were provided to everyone present and Jennifer reviewed it with them.

## 7. Announcements / Information / Public Input

- A. Lesly announced that she recently attended the Abilities Expo and is participating in their Miss Amazing Pageant by writing an essay about her life and her attitude about being a person with a developmental disability. Lesly read her essay aloud and everyone was very impressed!
- B. The American Diabetes Association is having their annual expo at the Los Angeles Convention Center on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free.
- C. Copies of Area Board 10's recent newsletter were provided to everyone present.

- D. The Inclusion Institute holds seminars on “hot topics” on a regular basis in Los Angeles County. The next seminar will be held Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, and will focus on “Getting the Healthcare you Need; the shift from Medi-Cal and Medicare to Managed Care.” The seminar will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Golden Park in Downey. Admission is \$10.00.
- E. A free workshop on “Friendships, Dating, and Marriage” will be held at Easter Seals in Glendale from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. For more information, call (818) 543-4631.
- F. Copies of the committee’s updated training/presentation calendar were provided.
- G. NLACRC’s next self-advocacy group meeting will be held Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, from 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at St. Michael’s conference center. For more information, call Kathryn Lincoln at (818) 756-6225.
- H. Next CAC Meeting: Tuesday, May 7, 2013, at 2:00 p.m.

## 8. Identify Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items are included on the next board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of April 2, 2013 Meeting
- B. CAC Event Calendar

## 9. Adjournment

Mary Jo adjourned the meeting at 3:19 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

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