

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2014

Present: Ed Catino, Mary Jo Fernando, Juan Hernandez, and William Rayber – Committee Members
Eric Leh – Board President
Nina Daily, Lesly Forbes, 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 2:06 p.m. Everyone present was introduced.

2. Public Input (3 minutes)

3. Consent Items

A. Approval of Revised Agenda

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

B. Approval of Minutes of February 4, 2014 Meeting

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

4. Presentation: “Current Legislation” (Jennifer Kaiser)

Jennifer presented information to the committee on the following bills:

A. AB 1335 (by Assembly Member Brian Maienschein)

This bill would make certain sex crimes committed against victims with mental disorders or physical or developmental disabilities crimes that would qualify for a “One Strike Sex Law.”

B. SB 663 (by Senator Ricardo Lara)

This bill would require the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) to develop a course on the steps to be taken in developing a training course regarding the investigation of crimes involving individuals with developmental disabilities.

C. SB 847 (by Senator Marty Block)

This bill would include victims of financial elder or dependent adult abuse within the definition of crimes that are eligible for compensation and would provide reimbursement for financial counseling for those victims.

D. SB 922 (by Senator Steven Knight)

This bill would increase prison time for people who commit rape against a person who is incapable of giving legal consent due to a mental disorder or developmental/physical disability.

5. Old Business

A. Updated Event Calendar

Copies of the updated event calendar were provided. The center will be hosting a free seminar for consumers and families on In-Home Support Services this Thursday at Sam's Café. The center will also be holding its 29th Legislative Breakfast at Sam's Café on Friday, April 11th.

Action: Eugene will add the breakfast to the calendar.

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

Transportation:

1. Lesly stated that it would be a lot easier getting to Sam's Café if there were a DASH bus on Parthenia.
2. Mary Jo reported that Access won't allow her to travel with them using her electric wheelchair, she has to use her manual wheelchair. Jose said this is probably because she has a backpack with lots of stuff in it that hangs off the back which can make the chair lose its balance on the lift. Mary Jo will ask Access if this was the reason and report back to the committee.

3. William reported that accessible Super Shuttles are now available in Las Vegas!
4. Jennifer reported that when she and William go to Sacramento for meetings, they use the Super Shuttle. Starting next month, another board member (who uses a power wheelchair) will be going with them. Unfortunately, Super Shuttle only has space for 1 wheelchair on their van.
5. Metrolink has made changes to the Personal Care Attendant (PCA) free ride policy. PCAs are now required to obtain a Metrolink issued PCA identification card to continue riding without purchasing a ticket. This new policy took effect yesterday!
6. More sidewalks need ramps!

Housing:

7. Copies of an action alert on “Affordable, Accessible Housing for people with Disabilities” by the Arc of California and United Cerebral Palsy were provided to the CAC and reviewed. The alert is asking for people to support Senate Bill 391: “The Homes and Jobs Act,” which would provide permanent funding source for affordable housing for all Californians who need it.

C. Review Draft Travel Guide Pamphlet (Eugene Baily)

Eugene provided the CAC with copies of all of the information they have submitted for the travel guide. How does the committee want the travel guide to look? Eugene recommended that the CAC have a special meeting to address this and finalize the format of the guide.

Action: A special meeting to finalize the format of the mini travel guide was scheduled for Tuesday, March 25th. Lunch will be provided from noon to 1:00 p.m. and then the meeting will start.

Jose reported that he picked up an airline travel guide at the Abilities Expo.

Action: Jose will share the airline travel guide to the March 25th planning meeting.

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

Copies of the CAC's training/presentation calendar were provided. The committee still needs to identify a training or presentation for their May 6th meeting. After discussion, the committee decided they would like to find out what Access Services' plans are for the future. As Liz Lyons is a member of the Access Community Committee, perhaps she could give the presentation.

Action: Jennifer will ask Liz Lyons if she could give a presentation on Access Services' future plans at the May 6th CAC meeting.

6. **New Business**

A. Review Agenda for March 12, 2014 Board of Trustees Meeting (Jennifer Kaiser)

Copies of the agenda for the March 12th board meeting were provided and Jennifer reviewed the highlights, which included a presentation on the center's tax return and a presentation by the Family Focus Resource Center on sibling support. Often times, the brother or sister of a family member with a disability receives less attention.

B. Affordable, Accessible Housing for People with Disabilities

(See Section 5.B. above.)

C. Area Board 10 News, Volume 28

Copies of the newsletter were provided. This month's newsletter has information on:

1. President Obama's minimum wage order, which includes workers with disabilities.
2. Funding available for innovative transportation programs.
3. Area Board 10's self-determination presentations.
4. An advanced training course for parents of children with special needs.

D. Access Services Report (Liz Lyons)

This agenda item was deferred as Liz was not present to give the report.

7. Identify Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting

The following items were identified for the CAC's section of the March 12th board meeting agenda:

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

8. Announcements / Information / Public Input

A. CAC Meeting Attendance Sheet

The committee attendance sheet is always included in the meeting packet. CAC member meeting attendance has been very good!!

B. Next CAC Meeting: Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at 2:00 p.m.

C. Muni Survey for Disabled and Seniors

San Francisco is conducting a survey to find out how their disabled and senior riders feel about the Muni transportation system. Information about the survey was provided to the committee.

D. Disability Scoop

Copies of this month's Disability Scoop e-mail letter were provided. The latest headlines included:

1. Pediatricians update guidelines for off-label drugs (a common practice for kids with autism and other disabilities).
2. Crime odds nearly triple for those with disabilities.
3. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is taking steps to ensure that closed captioning actually matches what's said on television.

E. Social and Recreation Guide

Kathryn Lincoln updated the guide and copies were provided. There is lots of stuff to do out there!!! Jose stated that once Kathryn Lincoln retires, perhaps the CAC can begin keeping the guide updated.

F. NLACRC Self-Advocacy Group

1. The group will be holding their 23rd year anniversary party on Tuesday, March 18th, from 10:45 a.m. to noon. They will have music, a raffle, cake, snacks, and soft drinks!
2. The group's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, April 14th, from 10:45 a.m. to noon. The meeting will include a retirement party for Kathryn Lincoln. She will be missed!!

G. The Purpose of the CAC

Jose read aloud a notice that was mailed out looking for consumers to apply for membership on the CAC. The notice states that the “. . . committee is responsible for providing the center's Board of Trustees with recommendations on matters that are important to consumers.” Jose pointed out that the CAC isn't doing that and should consider bringing more information to the attention of the Board of Trustees. The CAC should use their voice on behalf of other thousands of consumers that the center serves.

9. Adjournment

Mary Jo adjourned the meeting at 3:22 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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