

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Government & Community Relations Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2014

Present: Dorothy Daniels, Myriam Jovel, Debra Newman, Lou Paparozzi, Sean Stalbaum, Angela White, and Tavia Wooley – Committee Members
Michelle Heid – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative
Diane Ambrose, Sara Iwahashi, Jennifer Kaiser, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: Jay Lytton

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Tavia Wooley, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (L. Paparozzi/D. Newman) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes from the August 20th Meeting

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

IV. Committee Business

A. Discussion: How to keep legislators informed about pending issues

The center's current plan is to visit legislators locally during Grass Roots Week, visit them at the State Capitol on ARCA's Grass Roots Day, and invite them to our annual Legislative Breakfast. The following suggestions were made on how to expand our efforts:

1. Sign up to receive legislators' newsletters.
2. Develop a Facebook page for the regional center.

3. Follow legislators on Facebook.
4. Participate in legislators' events and take time to introduce ourselves.
5. Participate in important hearings held in Sacramento.
6. Become familiar with what legislators look like so you can easily recognize them.
7. Visit legislators' campaign websites which provide additional information about legislators and their specific interests.
8. Be especially aware of legislation authored by our local legislators and support that legislation when we can.

Action: Dorothy sets up social media for school districts; Sara will contact her to get information on how to set up social media for the regional center.

Action: Jennifer will alert the committee members about any important hearings that are held in Sacramento, in case they would like to attend.

Action: Sara will arrange a legislative "boot camp" for the committee so they understand how the legislative system works and their role as a participant.

Action: Michele will forward information she developed on our local legislators and will forward it to Jennifer to share with the committee.

George stated that a hearing will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 9th, at City Hall (board of public works, session room 350) at 200 North Spring Street in L.A. to get input on the impact California's recession and trailer bill language have had on the state's developmental disabilities system. Eileen Richey, ARCA's executive director, is planning to provide testimony at the hearing. The outcome of this hearing could become the cornerstone of our legislative message this fiscal year. Dorothy and Angela both expressed interest in attending the hearing.

Action: Jennifer will forward information about the October 9th hearing to the committee.

B. Red "Pocket Directory of the California Legislature"

At last month's committee meeting, Connie Lapin showed the committee her pocket directory and several committee members expressed interest in getting one. The Executive Committee approved this expense and Jennifer ordered each committee member a directory which should be delivered later this week.

C. Legislative Update

The committee's legislative bill files were sent to the committee with the meeting packets. However, Sara provided everyone with an up-to-date bill file as the status of the bills are changing on a daily basis. With the end of the current legislative session approaching, there are many bills on the Governor's desk awaiting his signature or veto.

1. The Governor has signed the following bills that the committee has been tracking:
 - AB 1522 (Gonzalez) Employment/Paid Sick Days
 - AB 1687 (Conway) Expansion of Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights

Also, HR 803 (Foxy) Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act became public law on July 22nd.

It was noted that Senator Hueso ordered AJR 36 to the inactive file. He is not the author of this resolution, how does he have the power to make this happen?

Action: Sara will look into how Senator Hueso was able to order AJR 36 to the inactive file and report back to the committee at next month's meeting.

2. California's 18th Senate district has been changed. The center's main office is located in this district. Sara provided copies of the district map so the committee could see which areas were included.

D. November Election/Senator Alex Padilla's Term Ending

Sara provided the committee with information about the upcoming election on November 4th and the individuals running for election, which include:

1. A runoff between Senator Steve Knight and Senator Tony Strickland for U.S. Congressional District #25.
2. A runoff between Bob Hertzberg and Ricardo Antonio Benitez for State Senate District #18.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the committee's section of the October 8th board meeting:

- A. Minutes of September 17th Meeting
- B. Legislative Update / Sign-up to Receive News from your Legislators

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

- A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

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

- B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 22nd

VII. Adjournment

Tavia adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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