

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Housing Committee Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2015

Present: Yolanda Bosch, Elizabeth Lyons, Debra Newman, George Stevens, Todd Withers, and Tavia Wooley – Committee Members

Jennifer Kaiser – Staff Member

Absent: Richard Dier and Kim Rolfes

I. Call to Order & Introductions

George called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. and introductions followed.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

B. Approval of May 11th Meeting Minutes

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

IV. Committee Business

A. Annual Committee Orientation (Review Policies & Procedures)

Copies of the committee's policies and procedures were provided. The committee is "...charged with developing board policy and strategic direction in the development of an array of affordable and permanent housing options for consumers. The committee will also give advice to the board on developing a long range housing strategy." Tavia stated that she would like to see this committee get a more "hands on" approach by actively looking for properties and possible owners/investors. George stated that the model we use is using a non-profit organization (NPO) to purchase property, we use our funding to renovate it, then hire a service provider to run it. NLACRC cannot acquire property.

B. Elect a Committee Chair for FY 2015-16

According to the policies and procedures, the chair of this committee must be a board member.

M/S/C (T. Wooley/E. Lyons) To elect Todd Withers to serve as Housing Committee chair this fiscal year.

C. Priorities from FY 2014-15 / Priorities for FY 2015-16

After discussion, the committee decided that they would like to keep the first 2 priorities, merge the 3rd and 4th priorities, add a new 4th priority, and delete the 5th and 6th priorities. The potential committee priorities for this fiscal year were drafted as follows:

1. Identify possible funding streams for housing projects.
2. Share legislative information with the Government & Community Relations Committee, the Vendor Advisory Committee, and with elected officials.
3. The committee wants to be provided with information so they can explore the possibility of turning empty housing units in the Antelope Valley into housing for our consumers.
4. Conduct a training for consumers and staff on Section 8 housing rights.

Action: The draft goals will be e-mailed to the committee for their review and input.

D. Meeting Schedule for FY 2015-16

Copies of the meeting schedule were provided. The committee is scheduled to meet on the following dates this fiscal year:

1. Monday, August 10th, at noon
2. Monday, November 9th, at noon
3. Monday, February 8th, at noon
4. Monday, May 9th, at noon

E. Action Log from FY 2014-15

Copies of the action log were provided. The log lists all of the actions the committee took last fiscal year. The action log is helpful because new

members can see what actions the previous committee took during the fiscal year.

F. Update on Community Placement Plan (CPP) Activities

The CPP report for July 2015 was provided to the committee. The center's CPP goal for FY 2014-15 was to place 15 consumers out of the developmental centers and other large facilities; the center placed all 15. The goal for FY 2015-16 is to place 10 consumers out of the developmental centers. So far, the center has placed 1 of the 10 consumers.

G. Update on Housing Legislation – *No update*

H. Update on Housing Developments

1. College to Career Program: Kristin Martin, executive director of Home Ownership for Personal Empowerment (HOPE), began a project in Long Beach called College to Career. Essentially it provides consumers who want to go to college with a place to live while they are going to their classes. The program also provides supported living services at the home and at the college. The Long Beach program has been very successful and Yolanda is interested in starting a program like that one in the Santa Clarita Valley in partnership with HOPE and College of the Canyons. She and Kristin met with the Santa Clarita Valley planning department 3 weeks ago to propose such an endeavor. California Mentor has agreed to provide the SLS for the program. Yolanda will be meeting with deans from College of the Canyons next month and is very excited about the prospects of this project.
2. Visioning Session: Yolanda reported that she has been meeting with a lot of large NPOs regarding problems we're having with housing. Kristin Martin suggested that we hold a "visioning session" that he could facilitate.
3. Vacant Property: Liz stated that there is a large property on Victory and Fulton that has been vacant for some time. It is in a good location with stores and bus routes nearby.
4. Start-up: Regional centers only receive start-up funding for consumers leaving the developmental centers, but we don't get it for all of our other consumers.

5. Licensing: It takes time to get a home licensed – about a year. A service provider does not receive income until consumers begin being placed in their home, which can't be done until the home is licensed.
6. Consumer Placement: A consumer's placement is decided through the Individual Program Plan (IPP) process.
7. Update on CMS Final Rule: CMS issued rules about what services will qualify for federal funding under Medicaid waivers and 1915(i) state plan amendments. The major components require:
 - All services must be provided in home and community-based settings (before they were just for residential settings).
 - Individuals must have a lease agreement.
 - Rooms must have lockable doors.
 - States must give individuals the choice between single and shared rooms.
 - Individuals can control their own schedules and can access food and have visitors at any time.

A stakeholder group has been meeting and Yolanda has been attending their meetings. At the last meeting, there was a conflict between the feds and the state which they were trying to resolve. The final implementation won't be until March 2019, but we need to take this time to educate ourselves and prepare for it so we'll be in compliance when the time comes. The center will be working closely with our providers on a transition plan. This is a nationwide movement.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following agenda items were identified for the committee's section of the September 9th board meeting:

- A. Minutes of August 10th Meeting
- B. Approval of Committee Priorities for FY 2015-16

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

- A. George stated that he remembers giving the board a presentation on housing at a board meeting several years ago.

Action: Jennifer will locate George's housing presentation and makes copies of it for the next Housing Committee meeting.

B. Next Quarterly Meeting: Monday, November 9th, at 12:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Todd adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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