

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Government & Community Relations Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**

March 16, 2016

**Present:** Jun Antonio, Marcia Leija, Caroline Mitchell, Bridget Moss, Debra Newman, and Curtis Wang – Committee Members  
Mary Jo Fernando – Board Member  
Dolly Wauls – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative  
Gerald Robles – Guest  
Sara Iwahashi, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

**Absent:** Jessica Gould and Jeremy Sunderland

---

**I. Call to Order & Introductions**

Debra called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m., in Jeremy's absence.

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

**III. Consent Items**

A. Approval of Agenda

**M/S/C** (C. Wang/B. Moss) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of the February 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**M/S/C** (J. Antonio/B. Moss) To approve the minutes as presented.

**IV. Committee Business**

A. Legislative Update

1. Passage of Managed Care Organization Tax / Thank You Breakfast: The center is organizing an appreciation breakfast to thank our local legislators for the passage of the MCO tax, which resulted in nearly \$400 million in additional funding for the developmental disabilities system. The breakfast will be held at Sam's Café at New Horizons on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Postcards are going out this week to invite consumers, family members, providers, and others – and letters are being sent to

personally invite our legislators. Thank you gifts are being provided by Tierra del Sol. We would like as many board members as possible to attend.

2. Updated Bill File: Copies of the updated bill file were provided. The committee is currently tracking 41 different bills. The following bills were authored by local legislators:
  - AB 796 (Adrin Nazarian): Health Care Coverage: Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders
  - AB 1809 (Patty Lopez): CalWORKS Eligibility/Asset Limit
  - AB 2212 (Tom Lackey): Pupils: Suspensions and Expulsions/Electronic Acts
  - AB 2867 (Mike Gatto): Community Care Facilities
  - SB 1221 (Bob Hertzberg): Firefighters: Interaction with Mentally Disabled Persons
  - SB 1427 (Fran Pavley): Workforce Development: Developmentally Disabled Individuals

We will be looking at these bills more closely at next month's committee meeting.

3. Update on NLACRC's Grass Roots Week Visits: We are finalizing putting the teams together for our local legislator visits. We need to adjust our talking points now that additional funding has been approved for our system. We want to thank them for the additional funding, but also let them know that our system still needs rate reform in order to make it sustainable into the future. Each team will have a staff lead who will be responsible for preparing their team members for their visit. It is very important for board members and consumers to share their stories during these visits.
4. Update on ARCA's Grass Roots Day Visits: This year, Grass Roots Day will be held Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, and NLACRC will be sending up 2 teams. The first team will be staffed by Kim Rolfes and will include Jessica Gould and Michelle Heid; the second team will be staffed by Yolanda Bosch and will include Marcia Leija with her 2 sons and Dolly Wauls. The teams will fly up to Sacramento the day before so they can attend a training that evening that is being put on by ARCA. Both teams will be meeting with legislators all of the next day and a rally being held

from noon to 1:00 p.m. for the purpose of thanking the legislators for supporting the funding from the MCO tax.

B. Planning Committee for the Lanterman Act 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party

As discussed at last month's committee meeting, a planning committee will be established to plan the center's events celebrating this year's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lanterman Act. We want to celebrate the anniversary towards to end of the year in conjunction with an open house at the center's new location along with the unveiling of the center's new logo.

Sara presented the committee with 4 samples of what the new logo could look like and got the committee's feedback. The logo needs to be finalized by the beginning of April so all of the center's documents for the new location can be created using the new logo.

C. Update on Legislative Consultant

Sara is revising the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the legislative consultant to bring it current with the recent funding the system will be receiving next fiscal year.

**Action:** Sara will present the revised RFP for a legislative consultant at next month's committee meeting.

D. Update on Social Media Consultant

A meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, to review the 3 proposals we have received.

V. **Board Meeting Agenda Items**

The committee identified the following items for their section of the April 13<sup>th</sup> board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of the March 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting
- B. Legislative Update
  - 1. Report on April 8<sup>th</sup> Legislative Thank You Breakfast
  - 2. Updated Bill File
  - 3. Report on March 30<sup>th</sup> ARCA Grass Roots Day
  - 4. NLACRC's Local Grass Roots Week Visits

- C. Status of Legislative Consultant
- D. Status of Social Media Consultant

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

### A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

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

### B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

## **VII. Adjournment**

Debra adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

[gcrmin.mar16.2016]

