North Los Angeles County Regional Center

Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2018

Present: Pam Aiona, Lesly Forbes, and Adam Stokes – Committee Members
Caroline Mitchell – Board Member
Steve Miller – Legislative Educator
Jennifer Kaiser and Jose Rodriguez – Staff Members

Absent: Jessica Gould

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Lesly Forbes, CAC chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and introductions were made.

2. Public Input

A. Adam told the group about his recent trip to Israel – by way of France and Russia!

3. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Item 4.I. was added to the agenda.

M/S/C (A. Stokes/P. Aiona) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes of April 3rd Meeting

M/S/C (A. Stokes/P. Aiona) To approve the minutes as presented.

4. Committee Business

A. Report on April 13th ARCA CAC Meeting (Caroline for Jessica)

Jessica is the ARCA CAC Delegate for NLACRC and Caroline is her back-up, which means Caroline would participate in the statewide meetings when
Jessica could not. Caroline wanted to see what the meetings were like, so she went with Jessica to the April 13th meeting in Sacramento. It was the first time she has flown to Sacramento. At the meeting, a presentation was given by a company that provides emergency response services in the event of a flood, fire, earthquake, etc. There was also a consumer who shared a story of how she was attacked by another consumer; unfortunately, her regional center dropped the ball and didn’t help her and the police ended up dropping the case against her attacker. After that, they had sandwiches, and a group photo was taken. Caroline plans to continue to go to the CAC meetings with Jessica so she can get to know more about the ARCA CAC.

B. Review and Approve CAC Flier

At last month’s meeting, Jessica Gould recommended that the word “matters” be replaced with the word “issues” and the committee agreed. No further changes were suggested to the flier.

C. Reports on April 5th Town Hall Meeting (All)

Lesly, Jessica, Caroline, and Jose all attended the town hall meeting. Lesly reported that the place was packed! A lot of good questions were asked and there was a lot of conversation about housing for consumers.

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

A. Jose reported that he attended 2 job fairs last month. They were interviewing and hiring people on the spot! One of the job fairs offered free haircuts – so Jose got a free haircut!

B. Caroline announced that she has been applying for jobs online.

C. Lesly announced that she has been on the Section 8 waiting list for over 20 years!

E. Training/Presentation Calendar for FY 2017-18

1. Police Department DVD on Consumer Safety: Adam will try and
get a copy of the safety DVD from his local police department.

2. **Consumer employment presentation at June 5th meeting:** Jose will organize a presentation on consumer employment at next month’s CAC meeting.

**Action:** Jennifer will e-mail Jose with a link to a film called, “Hire Me!” that is on the Regional center of Orange County’s website.

F. **Updated Event Calendar**

The calendar listed 3 free upcoming events:

1. **Sunday, May 6th:** 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
   Los Angeles “Vegfest” 2018 at Woodley Park at Lake Balboa

2. **Friday, May 18th:** 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
   “Senior Expo 2018” at Las Palmas Park in San Fernando

3. **Tuesday, May 29th:** 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.  
   NLACRC’s Candidates’ Forum at New Horizons in North Hills

G. **Review Agenda for Board of Trustees Meeting (Jennifer)**

Copies of the May 9th board meeting agenda were provided and Jennifer reviewed the highlights. Board meetings are open to the public and CAC members are more than welcome to attend.

H. **Write Letters to Support Restoration of Camp & Recreation Services**

Each consumer in the room was provided with the letter Jessica Gould wrote supporting the restoration of camp and recreation services through the regional center. They were asked to write their own support letters to their senators using Jessica’s letter as a sample. They were also provided envelopes addressed to their specific senators to make mailing their letters easier.
H. Legislative Advocacy (Steve)

Caroline announced that she wrote letters to Metro and Access, on behalf of the self-advocacy committee, inviting them to attend a self-advocacy meeting to talk with them about transportation. Steve delivered these letters to people at Access and Metro. Access representatives agreed to come to the next self-advocacy meeting which will be held at 10:45 a.m. on Tuesday, May 15th. Steve invited the CAC members to attend that meeting. He also asked the CAC members to share some issues that have been experiencing with Access. The following comments were made:

1. They don’t fully understand Access’s fare schedule.
2. They can be very late.
3. They sometimes are close, but can’t see you, and by the time you try and get to them, they have left.

Steve said he is putting together work groups on 3 main issues identified by consumers: transportation, housing, and health care.

5. Identify Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting

The committee identified the following items for their section of the May 9th board meeting agenda:

A. Minutes from the May 1st Meeting
B. Approval of CAC Flier (via the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee)

6. Announcements / Information / Public Input

A. CAC Attendance Sheet

Updated CAC attendance sheets are always included in the monthly meeting packets. CAC members cannot miss 3 meetings in a row or 5 meetings in a 12-month period.

B. Next Meeting: Tuesday, June, 5th, at 2:00 p.m.
7. **Adjournment**

Lesly adjourned the meeting at 3:07 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

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