

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
February 27, 2019

**Present:** Dan Becerra, Elena Burnett, Lillian Martinez, Meagan Miller, Debra Newman, and Lou Paparozzi – Committee Members  
Ruth Janka, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, Kim Rolfes, George Stevens, and Jesse Weller – Staff Members

**Absent:** All present

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**I. Call to Order**

Debra Newman, president, called the meeting to order at 7:54 p.m.

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

**III. Consent Items**

A. Approval of Agenda

Two items were added to committee business and an executive session was added at the end of the meeting.

**M/S/C** (D. Becerra/L. Paparozzi) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes from the January 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**M/S/C** (D. Becerra/M. Miller; Abstention: L. Paparozzi) To approve the minutes as presented.

**IV. Committee Business**

A. Zoom Technology Test

Elena tested the equipment on her lap top by joining the meeting from the conference room next door. Elena had difficulty hearing everyone, because she could only hear when they spoke directly into 1 of the 2 microphones. Next time, we will need more microphones or possibly use the conference call feature to improve communication. Also, Elena and the committee were shown on the same screen, it would be better if they were shown on separate screens.

1. Board Composition

a. Statewide Board Composition Survey Results

Copies of the report were provided. Of the 21 regional centers, only 6 boards successfully “reflected” the composition of their community. NLACRC continues to be under-represented in the Hispanic/Latino category for the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Unfortunately, our outreach efforts only resulted in 1 Hispanic/Latino applicant (with only 3 positions to fill). We currently have 7 Hispanic/Latino members on the board, but need 10 in order to comply with the Department of Developmental Services’ criteria.

b. DDS Board Composition Letter & NLACRC’s Response

DDS sent us a letter, dated February 1<sup>st</sup>, informing us that our board continues to be under-represented in the Hispanic/Latino category. The draft response letter to DDS regarding our efforts to recruit for Hispanic/Latino applicants was presented to the committee and reviewed. The response is due to DDS on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**M/S/C** (L. Paparozzi/D. Newman) To approve the letter, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, as presented.

**Action:** Debra signed the letter and Jennifer will send it to DDS tomorrow.

B. Executive Director Retirement

George’s retirement party will be held at the The Odyssey restaurant in Granada Hills. Kim and Michele visited the location which is accessible and has lots of free parking. The tentative date is Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. Three proposals were provided to the committee for their consideration broken down by cost; the options were classic, vintage, and exclusive event packages.

**M/S/C** (D. Becerra/L. Martinez) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to hold an exclusive after hours retirement function for George Stevens in July.

**Action:** The Executive Committee would like the date to be secured as soon as possible in order to reserve the space.

**Action:** Kim will find out what San Gabriel/Pomona did for their executive director, who recently retired, and will also see what NLACRC did when the former executive director retired.

C. FY 2018-19 Board Budget vs. Expenses

The board's budget for this fiscal year is \$94,000. As of February 20<sup>th</sup>, \$39,166 (or 41.67%) of the budget has been spent. Two large expenses come later in the year with the annual board retreat in May and the annual board dinner in June.

D. Update on "Night to Shine" Prom Pictures

Debra reported that it was an amazing event with hundreds of people participating; they even had "quiet" rooms for people who needed a rest from the music. Debra is going to follow up and get some photos that can be posted on the center's Facebook page.

E. ARCA Budget Letter

Copies of a letter from the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) to the Assembly and Senate budget chairs regarding the governor's proposed state budget were provided and reviewed. ARCA wants to see the 8% increase for regional center operations and service provider rates included.

F. Approval of Elwyn Contract

Copies of the contract were provided and discussed at the Administrative Affairs Committee meeting.

**M/S/C** (D. Becerra/M. Miller) To approve the contract with Elwyn on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

G. Finalize Agenda for the March 13<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting

The committee finalized the agenda for the March 13<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

**V. Center Operations**

A. Burns & Associates' Rate Study

Burns & Associates has finalized their study and DDS is presenting their findings and recommendations for a 30-day comment period. A 2-day workgroup

meeting was held in Sacramento on Monday and Tuesday and a 2-day workgroup meeting will be held in Costa Mesa at Fairview Developmental Center tomorrow and Friday. Two NLACRC staff members and Sharoll Jackson, our Vendor Advisory Committee chair, will be attending the workgroup meetings at Fairview. George reported that upon an initial review during the first 2-day workgroup meetings, there was a feeling of disappointment because the recommendations would not take the system into a sustainable direction. George will keep the board posted on any developments.

B. Self-Determination Program (SDP) Update

1. George and key staff attended the train-the-trainer meeting held at San Gabriel/ Pomona Regional Center. The training will help us write procedures. There was a 54-page PowerPoint presentation and a lot of handouts.
2. George received a very large zip file from DDS with information about the SDP but he was unable to open it.
3. Person-centered plan: we don't know how much it would cost, the rate of pay for it, or who would be responsible for doing it. It is optional for a family to have their service coordinator participate in the person-centered plan, but if they don't participate, the service coordinator would need to be provided with a copy of the plan to determine what services could be authorized and how.
4. Financial management service: We may need to bring in an FMS so we can better understand the role and process.
5. There is still misinformation out there that NLACRC is not preparing to implement the SDP, which couldn't be farther from the truth. Ruth Janka will be speaking with Julie Eby-McKenzie at the State Council to correct the misinformation.

There are still many unanswered questions about how the SDP will work.

**VI. Announcements / Information Items**

- A. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>

**VII. Executive Session**

- A. Legal Update

**M/S/C** (D. Becerra/M. Miller) To go into executive session at 8:58 p.m.

## VIII. Adjournment

Debra adjourned the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

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