

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Government & Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2019

Present: Anna Hamilton, Angelina Martinez, Melissa Ferman, Sharoll Jackson, Caroline Mitchell, and Jeremy Sunderland – Committee Members
Orli Almog – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative
Steve Miller and Michelle Heid – Legislative Educators
Sara Iwahashi, Liliana Windover, Michele Marra, George Stevens, and Jesse Weller – Staff Members

Absent: Marianne Davis

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Jeremy Sunderland, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and introductions were made.

II. Public Input – A video was presented regarding the “Keep the Promise” rally held on April 5th at the Van Nuys State Office Building.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Two items were added to the agenda.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell/M. Ferman) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes from the February 20th Meeting

M/S/C (C. Mitchell/A. Hamilton) To approve the minutes as presented.

C. Approval of Notes from the March 19th Meeting

M/S/C (C. Mitchell/M. Ferman) To approve the notes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. Legislative Educators’ Report

1. Report on April 5th Rally

The rally was an incredible event with an attendance of approximately 2,000 people. It was a true example of community collaboration. The rally received coverage from several news media outlets. A press release and printing materials were provided to the media and to some of our elected officials. They had the opportunity to interview consumers and other advocates who attended the rally. The focus of the rally was to break through the 700 bills and 700 budget requests and to send a message loud and clear to our legislators about the importance of fulfilling the promise of the Lanterman Act.

2. Update on Assembly hearing/Rate Reform Town Hall

Unfortunately, Assembly Member Jim Frazier, chair of the Select Committee on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, had to cancel the April 18th hearing that had been planned to be held at New Horizons in North Hills. He hopes to schedule a hearing in the greater Los Angeles region sometime in the future.

3. Monthly Report

Copies of the monthly report on the legislative educators' activities were provided and reviewed. Some of their activities included:

- Grass roots visits in the State Capitol in conjunction with 12th Annual Arc/UCP public policy conference that was held March 18-20th
- ARCA grass roots day activities on April 2nd and 3rd
- Participation in Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) meetings and meetings in the provider community.
- Information to VAC members regarding survey monkey NLACRC produced to collect provider comments on the Burns & Associates' rate study.

B. Legislative Educators Contract for Fiscal Year 2019-20

The center needs to develop its objectives and goals for FY 2019-20 in order for Michele Heid and Raquel Armendariz to put together a proposal to present to the Board for next fiscal year and what aspects of the program this committee thinks are valuable to the center.

Some of the ideas presented were:

1. More grass roots visits locally and in the State Capitol.
2. Educating our legislators, their staff, and the community regarding the regional center services.
3. Continue holding the legislative academies and send some of the participants to hearings to provide public testimony.
4. Continue to engage with the vendor community.
5. Continue to attend the VAC meetings.
6. Continue to work with Valley Industry Commerce Association (VICA).
7. Educate our Hispanic/Latino families and help them to understand the system so they can become advocates.

Action: To continue the legislative educator project for FY 2019-20 and to develop a proposal to be presented to the Board.

C. Review Service Provider & Elected Representative visit Policy and Framework for Strategy Implementation to Draft Board's Legislative Strategy for FY 2019-20

Copies of the Service Provider and Elected Representative Visit Policy and the Legislative Priorities for FY 2018-19 were provided.

Action: The members of this committee will review these documents and any changes and recommendations will be discussed at the next meeting scheduled on May 15th. A reminder email will be sent regarding this action.

D. Update on Valley Industry Commerce Association (VICA) Events

1. Sara Iwahashi distributed a flyer from VICA regarding a Council district 12 special election forum scheduled on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at the VICA Office in Van Nuys. Any members interested in attending, please contact Sara at SIwahashi@nlacrc.org.
2. Dr. Jesse Weller attended the VICA Government Affairs Committee earlier today. There was a discussion about AB 177 which make the day on which a statewide general election is held (the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of any even-numbered year) a national holiday. The bill would require community colleges and public schools to close on any day on which a statewide general election is held. The bill would

require that state employees, with specified exceptions, be given time off with pay for days on which a statewide general election is held.

3. Michele and Sara will be attending a VICA leaders forum with LA Rams COO Kevin Demoff on May 2nd.

E. Legislative Bill File

The committee reviewed their legislative bill file and made the follow motions:

1. AB 169 (Lackey): Guide, signal and service dogs: injury or death.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell – S. Jackson) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 169 (Lackey).

2. AB 236 (Garcia): Special Education Programs: Family Empowerment Center on Disability.

M/S/C (A. Martinez – M. Ferman) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 236 (Garcia).

3. AB 261 (Mathis): Development services. Regional centers; suspension of services.

M/S/C (A. Martinez – M. Ferman) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 261 (Mathis).

4. AB 311 (Frazier): Regional Center: billing: daily rates.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell – A. Hamilton) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 311 (Frazier).

5. AB 316 (Ramos): Guide, signal and service dogs: injury or death.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell – A. Martinez) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 316 (Ramos).

6. AB 416 (Frazier): Personal income taxes: educations: CalAbeL contributions.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell – J. Sunderland) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 416 (Frazier).

7. AB 438 (Frazier): Regional center services: holidays.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell – J. Sunderland) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 438 (Frazier).

8. AB 598 (Bloom): Hearing aids: Minors.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell – J. Sunderland) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 598 (Bloom).

9. AB 1351 (Lackey): Paratransit eligibility criteria.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell – M. Ferman) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 1351 (Lackey).

10. SB 217 (Portantino): Special education: individuals with exceptional needs: early education program.

M/S/C (A. Martinez – C. Mitchell) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support SB 217 (Lackey Portantino).

11. SB 389 (Hertzberg): Mental Health Services Act.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell – A. Martinez) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support SB 389 (Hertzberg).

12. SJR 8 (Wilk): Special education funding.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell – A. Martinez) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support SJR 8 (Wilk).

Sara also distributed fact sheets for three additional bills. The center will have our subject matter experts review them.

Action: AB 850 (Lackey), AB 1560 (Friedman), and SB 412 (Stone) will be discussed at next month's Government & Community Relations Committee meeting.

Action: It was recommended that this committee review AB 924 (Voepel) and provide their feedback on it at next month's committee meeting.

13. Social Media Implementation Plan

Sara distributed copies of NLACRC Social Media Implementation Plan of Action for YouTube and Twitter accounts. The first video the center is planning to launch is "We Speak for Justice." Any questions regarding this plan, please contact Sara.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

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

- A. Minutes of the February 20th Meeting
- B. Proposed Legislative Strategy for FY 2019-20
- C. Legislative Educators' Report
- D. Recommend that the Board Take Support Positions on the Following Bills:
 - 1. AB 169 (Lackey) Guide, signal, and service dogs
 - 2. AB 236 (Garcia) Special education programs
 - 3. AB 261 (Mathis) Regional Ctrs. Service Suspensions
 - 4. AB 311 (Frazier) Regional Ctrs. Billing/Daily Rates
 - 5. AB 316 (Ramos) Dental Services
 - 6. AB 416 (Frazier) CalABLE Contributions
 - 7. AB 438 (Frazier) Regional Centers/Holidays
 - 8. AB 598 (Bloom) Hearing Aids/Minors
 - 9. AB 1351 (Lackey) Paratransit Eligibility Criteria
 - 10. SB 217 (Portantino) Early Education Programs
 - 11. SB 389 (Hertzberg) Mental Health Services Act
 - 12. SJR 8 (Wilk) Special Education Funding

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

Jeremy asked the committee members to please complete their evaluations after the meeting and submit them to him with any questions or comments.

B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 15th

VII. Adjournment

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Submitted by:

Liliana Windover

Liliana Windover
Executive Administrative Assistant

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