

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Government & Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2019

Present: Marianne Davis (via teleconference), Melissa Ferman, Anna Hamilton, Sharoll Jackson, Angelina Martinez, and Caroline Mitchell – Committee Members
Orli Almog and Sonia Ojeda – Vendor Advisory Committee Representatives
Arnulfo Jackson - Guest
Raquel Armendariz, Michelle Heid, and Steve Miller – Legislative Educators
Sara Iwahashi, Ruth Janka, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: Jeremy Sunderland

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Caroline called the meeting to order in Jeremy’s absence, at 6:36 p.m. and introductions were made.

II. Public Input - There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (A. Hamilton/M. Ferman) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes from the April 17th Meeting

M/S/C (S. Jackson/M. Ferman) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. Review and Approve Committee’s Critical Calendar for FY 2019-20

Only 2 changes were made for the FY 2019-20 critical calendar:

1. November: The reference to “organizational principles” was replaced with “mission, vision, and values statement.”
2. March: The action for developing the center’s legislative strategy was moved to the month of May.

M/S/C (A. Hamilton/S. Jackson) To approve the committee's critical calendar for FY 2019-20 as modified.

B. Legislative Educators

1. Monthly Report: Copies of the report were provided; Michelle Heid reviewed the monthly activities while Steve Miller reviewed their activities over this fiscal year.
2. Proposal for FY 2019-20: Copies of the legislative educators' proposal of activities for next fiscal year were provided and reviewed. Steve Miller will be leaving the project, so Raquel Armendariz and Michelle Heid will be the team.

M/S/C (S. Jackson/M. Ferman) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to approve the legislative educators' proposal for FY 2019-20 as presented.

C. Priority Legislation

A list of priority legislation was provided along with copies of the following bills:

1. AB 850 (Lackey) re: Repayment of Student Loans

Action: Michelle Heid will contact Lackey's office to encourage him to include regional center service coordinators in his bill because if he did, the committee would recommend a support position on it.

2. AB 924 (Voepel) re: In-home Support Services

No position was taken on this bill.

3. SB 412 (Stone) re: Elimination of Family Fees for Regional Center Services

M/S/C (A. Hamilton/S. Jackson) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to take a support position on SB 412 (Stone).

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

The committee was provided with copies of the 2 policies and the board's legislative strategy for this fiscal year. After review, the committee will recommend the following legislative strategies to the Board of Trustees for FY 2019-20:

1. Continue our community engagement by finding out what issues are important to them through a variety of ways.
2. Conduct legislative advocacy trainings that reach out to our community.
3. Hold at least one legislative event.
4. Hold candidates forums, as needed, in the center's catchment area.
5. Reach out and network with other advocacy groups.

Action: Michele Marra will wordsmith goal #5.

Action: Michele Marra will draft modifications to the 2 policies to reflect the new goal #5.

E. California's 2020 Census

The census is coming! Outreach is needed to get everyone to respond to the census. Many nonprofits are offering access to a computer so people can fill out the census form online. We will be making our family focus resource center available for such a purpose.

F. VICA & VIA Events

Information for the following events was provided to the committee:

1. VICA Leaders Forum: Thursday, May 30th, 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the Airtel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys; the forum will feature Stephanie Wiggins, CEO of Metrolink.
2. VIA Cocktails & Conversation: Wednesday, June 26th, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Valencia Country Club in Valencia; the featured speaker will be Kathryn Barger, LA County supervisor.

3. VICA After Dark: Tuesday, July 16th, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Airtel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys; the featured speaker will be Assembly Woman Christy Smith.

Action: Any board members interested in participating in one of these events should contact Sara Iwahashi at SIwahashi@nlacrc.org.

G. DDS Consumer Advisory Committee

Michele Marra announced that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is currently recruiting for consumers to join their Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC). The DDS CAC is a 15-member committee made up of consumers from around the state; they are currently looking for consumers from our area. A consumer must be nominated for membership by a local self-advocacy group or developmental disability organization. We will be advertising their recruitment notice to assist them in finding additional CAC members.

H. Facebook Analytics (English & Spanish)

Copies of the month analytics reports were provided to the committee for their information.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the committee' section of the June 12 board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of the May 15th Meeting
- B. Legislative Educators' Report
- C. Presentation of Changes to Visit Policy
- D. Presentation of Changes to Visit Framework Policy
- E. Approval of Proposed Legislative Priorities for FY 2019-20
- F. Approval to Support SB 412 (Stone)
- G. Approval to Support AB 850 (Lackey)

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

- A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

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

B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 17th (no June meeting)

VII. Adjournment

Caroline adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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