

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

Present: Marianne Davis (via teleconference), Adam Breall, Jeremy Sunderland, Caroline Mitchell, and Curtis Wang – Committee Members
Raquel Armendariz and Michelle Heid – Legislative Educators
Sara Iwahashi, Jesse Weller, Ruth Janka, Liliana Windover and Michele Marra – Staff Members

Absent: Adelina Castellanos, Anna Hamilton, and Sharoll Jackson

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Michele Marra called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. and introductions were made.

II. Public Input - There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Two items were added to the agenda:

G. Thank you Event with Assembly Member Arin Nazarian

H. Update on our Concept for Internal Legislation Review Process

M/S/C (C. Wang/A. Breall) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes from the May 15th Meeting

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

IV. Committee Business

A. Annual Committee Orientation

1. Policies & Procedures
2. Legislative Platform Guiding Principles
3. Board Audit Section
4. Critical Calendar

Michele reviewed these documents with the committee so they could better understand the committee's purpose and their role as a committee members.

Michele stated that all new board members start on the Consumer Services Committee and Government & Community Relations Committee. They are really great committees to start off on because they are such a big part of what we do. Michele and Sara are the liaisons to support the committee members and Michele Heid and Raquel Armendariz provide support on the legislative educator side of the house.

B. Volunteer to Serve as Committee Chair

Caroline Mitchell and Jeremy Sunderland both expressed interest in serving as committee chair for this fiscal year. They both stepped out of the room and an election was held.

M/S/C (M. Davis/A. Breall) To elect Jeremy Sunderland as the committee chair.

C. Approved Legislative Priorities for FY 2019-20

Copies of the committee's Legislative Priorities for FY 2019-20 were provided. This list was developed last fiscal year and it was approved by the Board. Questions were asked regarding the census and under which priority this topic falls under, and how we communicate this information to our community. Michele indicated that Sara Iwahashi is very active and she makes sure this information is provided to our community. In addition, Sara informed this committee that during a VICA meeting a representative from the census was present and he stated that he would like to see more people from the disability community participate on the census. This committee agreed to revise bullet No. 1 to incorporate language pertaining to current and relevant issues. In addition bullet No. 5 will be revised based on discussions during this meeting.

Action: Michele will revise the Legislative Priorities list to make sure it captures discussions during this meeting and send it to this committee for their review and feedback and then to the Board.

Action: Sara will contact the representative from the census and inquire if there are questions relevant to the disability community included in the census.

D. Legislative Educators Report

Copies of the report were provided to the committee. Michelle Heid reported that June was a very busy month. She presented the following report:

1. State Budget Update: Governor Newsom signed the State budget which includes rate increases for specified providers. Rate increases will go into effect on January 1, 2020. Provider categories were tied to the Rate Study. In addition, the Governor suspended the uniform holiday schedule until January 2022, but camp and social recreation did not get restored due to funding.
2. Rate Study and Associated Rate Models: There are still discussions regarding the implementation of the rate study and associated rate models. There will be a Developmental Services Task Force meeting on Wednesday, July 31st. Michelle Heid is planning to participate and will provide a report at next month's meeting.
3. Legislature Calendar & Bills: Michelle provided a list regarding the Legislature calendar. Summer recess has begun.
4. Local Grass Roots Visits: Michelle, Jeremy, Orli and Raquel attended a community coffee as a follow-up meeting with Assembly Member Gabriel and were able to share concerns from the community. Ruth and Jesse were also able to attend a VIA event with Supervisor Barger. Ruth stated that it was a good opportunity to introduce ourselves as regional center representatives.
5. Collaboration with VAC and Provider Community: Steve Miller and the LA Coalition are working together to arrange a couple of events for 3 local legislators who were really involved advocating for NLACRC and our community. The first event will take place on August 7th with Assembly Member Chris Holden and the second event will take place on August 23rd with Assembly Members Nazarian and Stern.

E. VICA & VIA Events

Sara stated that we are members of both VICA and VIA Committees. The center participates on 6 of the 13 VICA policy committees, Education, Government Affairs, Healthcare, Labor and Employment, Nonprofit and Transportation.

Ruth spoke at a VICA Government Affairs Committee meeting in regards to service provider rates and VICA took this issue to Sacramento to advocate on behalf of the service provider community.

Sara shared information regarding 2 upcoming VICA events on August 8th regarding a local Officer Holders luncheon and a Congressional Luncheon on August 23rd. Michelle and Raquel attended a VICA event on July 16th with Assembly Member Christy Smith and Sara and Jesse attended the Government Affairs Committee scheduled today, July 17th. In addition, Sara stated that there is a lot of information and resources provided on their website such as voter guide, advocacy trips, legislative tracking, legislative advocacy, etc.

F. Facebook Analytics (English & Spanish)

Copies of the monthly analytics reports were provided to the committee for their information. This reports show how the center is doing pertaining audience engagement. Our engager's audience is quite high compared with other regional centers. Comments are monitored and removed if necessary.

G. Thank You Event

Michele reported that the LA Coalition is putting together a thank you event to honor Assembly Member Nazarian and Senator Stern for their support and for being such big advocates to our community. The luncheon will take place on August 23rd at New Horizons. The LA Coalition has asked NLACRC to cosponsor this event and provide \$250 to support this event.

M/S/C (J. Sunderland/A. Breall) This committee will recommend that the Board of Trustees approve sponsoring the thank you event with a \$250 donation.

H. Update on our Concept for Internal Legislation Review Process

Michele and Sara met with Michelle Heid and Raquel Armendariz to revamp our internal legislation review process.

Action: Michele will send via email a revised concept to this committee for their review and feedback.

V. **Board Meeting Agenda Items**

The following items were identified for the committee' section of the August 14th board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of the July 17th Meeting
- B. Legislative Educators' Report
- C. Approval of Changes to Visit Policy
- D. Approval of Changes to Visit Framework Policy

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

- A. Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 21st

VII. Adjournment

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by:

Liliana Windover

Liliana Windover
Executive Administrative Assistant

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