

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Government & Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2019

Present: Adam Breall, Marianne Davis, Anna Hamilton, Sharoll Jackson, Caroline Mitchell, Jeremy Sunderland, and Curtis Wang – Committee Members
Loreena Garcia and Orli Almog – Vendor Advisory Committee Representatives
Michelle Heid (via phone) – Legislative Educator
Evan Ingber, Sara Iwahashi, Ruth Janka, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and Jesse Weller – Staff Members

Absent: All present

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Jeremy Sunderland, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. and introductions were made.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Item IV.M. Transition Fair was added to the agenda.

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

B. Approval of Minutes from the July 17th Meeting

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

IV. Committee Business

A. Revised Legislative Priorities (Michele)

The following revisions to the Board’s Legislative Priorities for this fiscal year were proposed:

1. Continue our community engagement **and encourage participation in identifying** ~~and finding out~~ what issues are important **and relevant** to our constituencies.

2. Conduct legislative advocacy trainings which inform and instruct our community and encourage them to participate in advocacy activities.
3. Hold at least one annual legislative event.
4. Hold candidates forums, as needed, in the center's catchment area.
5. Build and sustain relationships with disability community organizations, service providers, and elected representatives, and other entities that can support and further the mission of NLACRC.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell/A. Breall) To present the proposed changes to the Board's Legislative Priorities to the Board of Trustees for approval.

B. Disability Community Information in the Census (Sara)

At last month's committee meeting, questions were raised about the Census 2020 and about L.A.'s homeless population. Sara provided the committee with information about the census, including:

1. There is no questions on the census specifically asking about people with disabilities.
2. The questions in the census ask about age, origin, race, relationship to the head of household, sex, owner/renter of where you reside, names, total number of people in the household, and phone number.
3. A separate survey (the American Community Survey) is conducted by the Census Bureau asks about people with disabilities and is sent to about 3.5 million households per year.
4. Very few NLACRC consumers are homeless.

C. Revised Internal Legislation Review Process

Historically, this committee has been provided with a heavy bill file listing many, many bills that the committee could monitor. We want to revamp that idea so a new process was drafted for the introduction of new bills to the committee, which includes a "subject matter expert" to review bills before they are presented here. Copies of the proposed process were provided and reviewed. The committee liked the new process.

D. FY 2018-19 Committee Action Log

All of the actions that are taken by the various board committees are logged. A log of the actions this committee took last fiscal year were provided. The log serves to show the number and types of actions that were taken for the committee's information.

E. Legislative Educators' Report (Michelle Heid)

Copies of the report were provided to the committee. It was another busy month for our legislative educators! Michelle Heid reviewed the report with the committee, which included information on:

1. The State Budget
2. Rate Study and Associated Rate Models
3. Community Events
4. Town Halls
5. Community and Internal NLACRC Trainings
6. Legislative Calendar
7. Local Grass Roots Visits
8. Collaboration with the Vendor Advisory Committee and Provider Community
9. Collaboration with the Consumer Community
10. VICA and VIA Events
11. Disparity Related Activities
12. Upcoming Events

F. VICA & VIA Events (Sara)

1. VICA Events
 - a. Congressional Luncheon: Friday, August 23rd, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (The Garland Hotel in North Hollywood)
 - b. Business Forecast Conference: Friday, October 25th, 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Hilton Universal Hotel, Universal City)
 - c. Transportation Committee meeting: Tuesday, September 10th
 - d. Healthcare Committee meeting: Thursday, September 12th
 - e. Government Affairs meeting: Wednesday, September 18th

Action: Anna Hamilton wants to attend the VICA Business Forecast Conference.

2. VIA Events (Sara is finding out if they allow guests to attend their events)
 - a. Legislative Leaders Forum: Friday, October 4th, 3:00–5:30 p.m. (SCV Chamber of Commerce, Santa Clarita)
 - b. Healthcare Forum: Tuesday, October 15th, 7:30-11:00 a.m. (Van Hook University Center, Santa Clarita)

3. Other Community Events
 - a. Thank You Luncheon for Legislators: Friday, August 23rd, noon to 1:00 p.m. (New Horizons, North Hills)
 - b. Jesse Gabriel’s Disaster Preparedness Town Hall: Saturday, August 24th, 10:00 a.m.–noon (North Valley YMCA, Northridge)
 - c. New York Life Financial Literacy Workshop by Assembly Member Lackey: Tuesday, August 27th, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Henry Mayo Fitness & Health, Santa Clarita)
 - d. Senator Wilk Mobile Office Hours & Community Coffee: Tuesday, September 24th, 9:00-11:00 a.m. (Ground Coffee House, Castaic)
 - e. Medicare and Medi-Cal Benefits by Senator Wilk and Assembly Member Lackey: Friday, October 25th, 2:00-4:00 p.m. (City of Hope Auditorium, Lancaster)

G. Town Hall

We would like to begin making plans for a town hall meeting to communicate with our elected representatives about the important role service coordinators have in helping consumers and families achieve outcomes and to also have a dialogue with them about how we can work together towards reducing high caseloads. This would be part of our message to get much needed operations funding. The town hall could be held at New Horizons on either Thursday, November 7th, or Thursday, November 14th. Adam stated that the services he has received from the regional center changed his life; he came from Indiana which had limited services and a 10-year waiting list for them.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell/M. Davis) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to approve the center holding a town hall meeting for the reasons explained above.

H. Council District 12 Election Results

A special election was held on August 13th with John Lee running against Loraine Lundquist. The 12th district includes Chatsworth, Granada Hills, Northridge, Porter Ranch, West Hills, Sherwood Forest, and sections of North Hills and Reseda. John Lee received 19,407 votes (51.56%) and Loraine Lundquist received 18,236 votes (48.44%) – a very close race! The center has already sent a letter to John Lee with a request to meet with him. Jeremy pointed out how important it is to vote; only 37,728 ballots were cast out of 170,000 registered voters!

I. Legislation

1. AB 1004 (McCarty): This bill seeks to improve developmental screenings for children ages 0 to 3 under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatments (EPSDT) benefit under Medi-Cal. A fact sheet about this bill was provided to the committee along with information about Medi-Cal coverage for EPSDT.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell/C. Wang) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to support AB 1004 (McCarty)

2. High Priority Legislation: The following bills have been identified as priority legislation as they would impact a high percentage of the NLACRC community:
 - a. AB 236 (Garcia) Family Empowerment Centers on Disability
NLACRC's position: Support 5/8/19
 - b. AB 1351 (Lackey) Paratransit Eligibility Criteria
NLACRC's position: no position taken as yet
 - c. SB 412 (Stone) Repeal of the Family Cost Participation Program and Annual Family Program Fee
NLACRC's position: Support 5/8/19
 - d. SJR8 (Wilk) Fully Fund Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
NLACRC's position: Support 5/8/19
 - e. SR 28 (Wilk) Praeder-Willi Syndrome Awareness Month
NLACRC's position: No position taken as yet

J. Common Services Large Print Brochures

We recently has some consumers request a copy of our common services brochure with large print and we accommodated them. Copies of the large print brochure were provided to the committee.

K. Facebook Analytics (English & Spanish)

The monthly Facebook analytics were provided to the committee for their information.

L. Board Audit: Does the center have a training and information plan that meets the requirements of statute, contracts, and board policy?

Yes! Evan Ingber presented the center's training and development plan for this fiscal year and Sara Iwahashi presented the center's public information and legislative advocacy plan.

M. Life After High School (Transition) Fair

We just learned that Assembly Member Gabriel's field representative will be coming to the center's transition fair!

V. **Board Meeting Agenda Items**

The following items were identified for the committee's section of the September 11th board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of the August 21st Meeting
- B. Legislative Educators Report
- C. Approval of Revised Legislative Priorities
- D. Approval to hold a Town Hall Meeting
- E. Approval to Support AB 1004 (McCarty)

VI. **Announcements / Information / Public Input**

- A. Annual Legislative Training: Wednesday, September 18th, at 6:00 p.m.
- B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 23rd, at 7:00 p.m.

VII. **Adjournment**

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

[gcrmin.aug21.2019]

