

Alta California Regional Center
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, September 8, 2014
Minutes

Present:

Modean Gibson, President
Brendan Peacock, Vice President
Cindy Benson, Secretary & ARCA-
CAC Rep.
Anwar Safvi, Finance Comm. Chair
(via phone)
Walter Kaweski, ARCA Rep.

Board Members:

Jon Nelson

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Peter Tiedemann, Chief Operating
Officer
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk
Larry Prosser

The Executive Committee met at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2014, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) State Budget Update; 2) Board Development Committee Update; 3) President's Comments; 4) Executive Director's Comments; and 5) Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

1. ***State Budget Update***

Issue: The committee needs to review the Governor's State Budget.

Discussion and Action: Mr. Bonnet shared that Santi Rogers, the Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) would like regional centers to work with the legislature to make sure they know who we are, since they are already working on the 2015-16 State budget. Mr. Bonnet would like ACRC to strengthen our Grassroots efforts. Many seasoned legislators are going to term out (i.e., Senator Steinberg, Assembly member Chesbro, etc.), and there are going to be many new legislators taking office. It might be helpful if our regional center invited them to visit our office, took them to visit some of the programs and let them meet some of our clients. Mr. Bonnet would like the Board to discuss this at our upcoming September Retreat.

Another item of concern is the adoption of the new Medicaid rule which is going to be attached to all federal funding in the State of California. This rule is going to require that services be given in an entirely different way. Our system will have to go through some major transitions. Some vendors could possibly go out of business, while others will be coming on board.

Yet another dynamic change to our system is coming – the Self-Determination Program. The department has pushed back their submission date for the waiver application. Disability Rights California (DRC) is sponsoring a workshop, which is

targeting anyone who wants to learn more about this program. The cost of this workshop is \$225. Mr. Bonnet would like to suggest that once we have all of the information from DDS and the federal government, that ACRC hold a free workshop to share information with our clients and families. He clarified that every client over three years of age will have the opportunity to participate once the three-year pilot project is completed.

- **Information only.**

Without objection, Modean Gibson made the motion to adopt the Executive Committee meeting minutes of July 14, 2014 as submitted.

2. Board Development Committee (BDC) Update

- Mr. Peacock shared that the BDC is interviewing an applicant on Wednesday afternoon and will be reviewing two new applications as well.

3. President's Comments

- Ms. Gibson attended the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) meetings last month at Harbor Regional Center (HRC). She was extremely impressed with ARCA and the representation from this agency. Mr. Kaweski will be drafting his report and forwarding it to Ms. West, so that she can email it to everyone prior to the Board meeting.
- The Personnel Ad-Hoc Committee met and discussed Mr. Bonnet's annual evaluation. They will be meeting again on Thursday, September 11th.
- Ms. Gibson has formally written a letter to Nancy Lea to invite her to be an advisor to ACRC's Board of Directors.
- A draft agenda for the Annual September Retreat was distributed for review.

4. Executive Director's Comments

- Mr. Bonnet shared that ACRC has been approached by a housing developer that wants to apply for some HUD 811 funds for up to 14 units in a 250 unit complex for our clients. The apartment complex is located in the south area off of Florin Road. While these units are not exclusively reserved for our clients, they would have a good chance of getting these subsidized units. The developer has applied for a grant, and would like this committee to sign a resolution to increase housing options for our clients.
 - Mr. Tiedemann gave a brief overview and read aloud the resolution. He clarified that ACRC clients would be the first applicants and then receive the subsidized funding if chosen.

M/S/C (Cindy Benson) To approve the resolution as presented. (5 in favor)

- Mr. Bonnet provided committee members an update regarding the two Requests for Proposals (RFPs) that came out of the Living Options Workgroup (LOW) this

past February. Two providers have expressed interest in the "Essential Life Skills Training and Support Program". While the agency is still looking for interested providers for the "Out-of-Home Respite Services", DDS has given ACRC the approval of using our Family Home Agencies (FHAs) for this purpose. ACRC's RFPs are posted on our website and Mr. Bonnet continues to be excited about the new possibilities for our adult clients.

- Mr. Kaweski suggested having providers look into the community for roommates for our clients; he would like the agency to move away from segregation in every form.
- ACRC staff have been meeting with Digital Deployment to discuss designing our agency's new website, which will focus on success stories of our clients and be photo rich. Once we have a draft in place, we will give the Board access to a "soft launch" of the website so that Board members can provide feedback prior to it going public.
- ACRC has received 54 Fair Hearing (FH) requests so far this calendar year; seventeen regarding eligibility and 37 regarding services. Seven cases have gone before the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH); five decisions supported ACRC's position, one supported the claimant's position, and the other was a split decision (granted in part, denied in part). We currently have 13 FHs pending; six regarding eligibility and seven regarding services. Mr. Bonnet shared that most cases are resolved at the informal level.

5. **Announcements**

- Ms. Benson entered one of her necklaces that she made into a contest at the fair in August and won best in the division!
- Mr. Nelson shared that Ms. Fulk watched a video from 28 years ago and saw him walking.
- Mr. Kaweski is now working at California State University, Sacramento and is monitoring Student Teachers in the field.

6. **Closed Session** – at 4:29 p.m. the Executive Committee adjourned to executive session in order to discuss personnel issues.

7. **Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion** – at 4:43 p.m. the Executive Committee reconvened in open session following a closed session in which personnel issues were discussed.

The next Executive Committee meetings are scheduled on **Monday, October 6, 2014**, at 3:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet