

Alta California Regional Center  
Client Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, June 9, 2020  
Minutes

**Present:**

Kimberly Terrell, Chair  
Michelle Rewerts, Design. Dir.  
Lisa Cooley  
Tom Hopkins  
Amy Lampe  
Anthony Stone  
Karen Young

**Visitors:**

Jackie Armstrong  
Susan Hess  
Robert Levy  
Ashley Robertson  
Cindy Ruder  
Alex Shockley

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Michelle Hulse\*  
Tiffany Johnson  
Romilda Jones\*  
Steven Sanchez\*  
Patty Wallace\*

**Staff:**

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director  
Lori Banales, Deputy Executive Director  
John Decker, Director of Community  
Services  
David Lopez, Client Advocate  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

**Facilitators:**

Amy Fulk

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:05 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2020, by Webex/teleconference to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Updates; and 3) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

**Without objection, Lisa Cooley made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of May 12, 2020 as submitted.**

1. ***Executive Director's Report***



- Phil shared that Alta's office are still closed to the public, but we remain open to serve our clients. He asked how everyone was practicing social distancing.
- Per a directive from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), regional centers are paying retainer payments to day programs. Because the state is facing a huge budget deficit, those retainers may stop at the end of July.
- Most clients are not attending programs right now due to COVID-19. Phil asked those present to think of some creative solutions that programs might possibly use as they consider re-opening.
  - Wear masks and gloves.
  - Stagger participants coming back; limit attendance.
  - Have virtual programs (e.g., Zoom, Webex, etc.).
- The pandemic has affected the state's budget. Unemployment has increased and money has shifted to deal with COVID-19. The Governor has proposed cutting our statewide service system's budget, but the

California legislature (both the Assembly and Senate) both passed budgets that do not include any cuts to our system. On Friday, the Senate will be holding their final virtual hearing before the budget gets handed over to the Governor for his signature.

- Phil encouraged everyone to advocate for our service system.
- For those that are registered to vote, please exercise your right.
- Phil reminded those present that this committee acts as an advisory committee to the Board of Directors and members represent all of the clients that are served by Alta – over 26,000 individuals.

## 2. **Updates**



- ◆ Peer Advocacy Network (PAN)
  - Amy L. shared that the group has decided to have a Zoom Regional Meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Speakers that were originally scheduled will present at the virtual meeting.
  - The PAN is holding weekly Zoom meetings so that Chapter members can connect with each other. These chats are every Wednesday at 10 a.m.
  
- ◆ ARCA-CAC
  - Amy L. participated in the May 22<sup>nd</sup> teleconference.
  - On May 29<sup>th</sup>, they are holding a Zoom meeting for staff about dentistry.
  - Members will be voting for their next Chairperson for the 2020-21 fiscal year (FY) at the June 19<sup>th</sup> teleconference meeting. Interested individuals must submit their application by June 15<sup>th</sup>.
  
- ◆ Alta Board
  - Michelle R. attended the last Board meeting which was held by Webex on May 28<sup>th</sup>.
    - Board members were recognized for their year of service to the agency.
    - The Slate of Officers was approved for the 2020-21 FY:
      - President – Rita Walker
      - Vice President – Ron Mainini
      - Secretary – me (Michelle Rewerts)
      - Treasurer – Yang Sun
    - The Board approved the Executive Director Succession Policy.
    - The group reviewed the March 31<sup>st</sup> financial report and approved two contracts for a Community Crisis Home for Children.
    - Phil shared what was happening at the regional center due to COVID-19 and gave a budget update.
  - The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 4 p.m.

## 3. **Public Comments/Announcement**

- This has been a great meeting – thanks to all of the visitors today!



- California Autistic Self Advocates (CASA) is holding a Zoom talent show on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, at 12 noon. They also hold weekly Zoom chats from 10 to 11 a.m., to connect with others with disabilities.
  - More information can be found on Facebook and [www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com).
- Last week, Kim and her husband, Kevin, obtained new mobility devices.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, July 14, 2020**, at 2 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Phil Bonnet