

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
JULY 10, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Allen
Joan Elaine Anderson
Nilo Chaudhry
Cammy DuPont
Zoe Giesberg
Philip Jackson
Myra Mezquita
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Todd Rubien
Alejandro Soschin
Sofia Vergara
David Wyles
Vanda Yung

MEMBERS ABSENT: Austin Dove, Elizabeth Espinosa, Russell Tanner

STAFF PRESENT: Carmine Manicone, Danny Franco, Cesar Garcia, Tom Kelly, Hillary Kessler, Sonya Lowe, Liz Spencer, Mary Lou Weisse-Stusser, Vanessa Arauza, Liz Basiri, Linda Butler, Ana DaSilva, Ereida Gaida, Barbara Marbach, Soryl Markowitz, Rosalinda Mata, Rhiannon Maycumber, Megan Mendes, Sandy Rivera, Anjanette Robinson, Sonia Soriano, Lourdes Ruiz, Candace Hein, Elaine Wright-Farris, Susan Sylvester, Matiha Butler, Mina Gomez, Teri Huber, Lidia Rosales, Danyelle Schiller, Angela Quinonez, Megan Tommet-Ramirez, Jeffrey Moreno, Monique Lazarus, Kenneth Sears, Philomena Morais, Steve Yi, Stacy Sato, Niaisha Gonzalez, Kevin Byun, Jose Reyes, Valerie Lattanza, Claudia Osorio, Sonia Garcia, Wendy Vargas, Tamara Baker, Kaely Shilakes, Cristina Azantian

GUESTS: Raymundo Blanco, Zakir Chaudhry, Trisha Lurie Cozine, Rayvone Douthard, Sylvia Fahimian, Danny Feingold, Brett Gordon, Beverly Hutchinson, Esther Kelsey, Ari Zeldin, Carlyn Meshack, Shellena Leftridge, Adriana Madrigal, Francisco Pineda, Kim Sinclair, Wesley Witherspoon, Ayode Woods, Christofer Arroyo, Sofia Cervantes, Marcia James, Barbara McCants, Hope Beale, Kahiir Hall, Veronica Green, Leah Holtz, Eila Saxton, Loweeza Bhutti, Mary Hernandez, Elana Bustamante, Matthew Seymour, Leticia Antonio, Efren Guerrero, Antonio Faten, Maria Soto,

Teresa Ayala, Ronell Willialms, Joahna Montes, Claudia Palomo,
Felicia Jackson, Andy Kopito, Josh Kamali, Lisa Szilagyi

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Alejandro Soschin, at 6:28p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

It was established that the members present represented a quorum necessary pursuant to Section 3.03 (g) of the bylaws of Westside Regional Center which states:

(g) Quorum

A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of nine (9) members of the corporation. Provided, however, that a quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of a majority of the Directors then in office at any time when the number of Directors then in ffice is less than ten (10)

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Alejandro Soschin, Board President, welcomed everyone to Westside Regional Center.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Candace Hein read a list of questions and concerns to the Board that had been developed by a number of people about the decisions made recently. She was asked to leave a copy of the questions for the Board so they could go over them and give their answers. Christofer Arroyo is continuing the Independent Facilitator training. There will be a session in Spanish on Monday and a session in English on Tuesday and they are still accepting registrations. He asked that these proceedings remain respectful. A number of various clients, staff and parents all expressed their concern over the decisions that had been made recently and their support for Carmine. A number of clients and parents of clients asked for more transparency from the Board with the big decisions that are made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 5, 2019 BOARD MEETING.

(ACTION*)

Nilo Choudhry, Board Co-Secretary (Motion) and JoanElaine Anderson, Board Member (Second) the approval of the June 5, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 5, 2019 BOARD MEETING.

No public comment. The motion Passed:

13 AYES

ONO

0 ABSTENTIONS

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Alejandro Soschin acknowledged the comments that were made and assured everyone that the Board did not make this decision lightly. He expressed his appreciation for everything that

Carmine has done for Westside. He also stated that when it comes to choosing or finding a new Executive Director, the Board will make sure they get input from all the varied constituencies.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Carmine said the report was submitted, and there are copies in the back. He indicated that all of the dates for the upcoming trainings are included in his report and encouraged everyone to review them. Carmine wanted to thank everyone for their kind words of support. He also wanted to thank the Board for giving him the time to leave with grace and dignity. He will do his best in his remaining time to work with staff: vendors, families and clients so as to have Westside continue its' Mission. The service coordinators deserve our continued respect. They continue to have high caseloads.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Cammy DuPont stated Danny Franco supplied the monthly report, but it does not go fully through the end of the fiscal year. They expect the Operations and POS budget to all be spent. They will get invoices from vendors in the next three months.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Nilo Choudhry and Betty Pearson-Grimble will have more information at the next Board meeting in September. DDS has some ethnicity requirements: two individuals of Caucasian descent and one of Latino/Hispanic descent. Two of the individuals must be family members.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Todd Rubien reported that over the past five months they have been working with Cristofer Arroyo for Self-Advocacy meetings to assist in learning to live more independent lives. They will start to have bi-monthly meetings run by self-advocacy leaders and the locations will change every two months. The next meeting will be July 25¹¹ at the Glendale State Council office.

POLITICAL ACTION

Zoe Giesberg thanked both Rhiannon Maycumber and Megan Mendes for all the liaison support they have given. Her report is in the back. She encouraged all to come to the next meeting which will be the second Tuesday in August. We all need to unite on advocacy goals for the DO system. They shared ARCA is working on a strategic plan going into 2020.

CLIENT SERVICES

David Wyles asked Cesar Garcia to give the report. Cesar stated that they had a short yet productive meeting where they went over guidelines for supported living and personal assistance. There have been changes in funding and classifications and they will be meeting again next month. They hope to bring something to the Board next meeting for approval.

ARCA

Zoe Giesberg filed the report with the Board, and copies are in the back. The report goes over the budget and what happened at the last ARCA meeting.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Alejandro Soschin wanted to thank everyone for helping us through this transition. We value the community feedback and input. He thanked Sonya Lowe in her role as the Interim HR Director.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY

Joan Anderson stated that she will forward the SPAC notes out. The vendors appreciate the very helpful trainings that Westside provides.

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT CENTER

Liz Spencer announced the discounted Disneyland tickets are coming up. For the first two weeks in August they will be gathering names of those interested. Every year more and more people want to participate. Every year the requirements get stricter. It is important to be mindful that the purpose of these tickets is to allow people with financial needs that normally would not be able to attend, to go to Disneyland. However, in the past, families that have the best, quickest access to technology and phones have been the ones that get the tickets. If anyone has any connections to Disneyland or the Disney organization, please let Liz know. Also, FREC has been working with families in applying for CalFresh and there are still some things that need to be worked out. If anyone needs any help in applying, please contact them.

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Dr. Tom Kelly stated ASLA/PEP met with equity chair Betty yesterday and went over finances. ASLA has done an instructional video about Westside and it is currently in edits and should be ready soon. The action item on the agenda has been tabled until further notice. The Enhanced Case Management team has been working in collaboration with the Westside community to create a resource booklet that will go out to all new families, as well as be in the Intake department. It provides an overview of the Regional Center system, provides guides on the Regional Center itself, what the role of a Service Coordinator is, the IPP process, how to request services, and how to apply and appeal if you do not receive the services. There is also a big section on community resources. They are reaching out to families with low/no POS, and helping them in applying for services.

SELF DETERMINATION

Cesar Garcia reported that the process continues to move at a snail's pace, however they are supporting the families we do have. This week they hope to finish the transition of the clients over to their self-determination coordinators. The families that have been selected have been notified via mail. Currently they have 62 active participants and of those 44 have completed the orientation and can continue to move forward with the process of going into the program. There are 18 that still need to complete the orientation program and of those 7 have completed one of the two sessions needed. The next orientation has been scheduled tentatively in late August and they are trying to schedule another self-determination resource fair. They have had 5 participants

now out of the program and they do have a wait list, but DDS has yet to determine how they will reselect the new participants.

They also have 3 FMS (Financial Management Services) that are vendored now with Westside Regional Center. We have Premier, GT Independence and Community Interface Services.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

An inquiry was made if the materials from the Person Centered Thinking training can be sent out so their boss can look it over and approve time off to take the training classes. After each session of the Person Centered Thinking training they have Community of Practice meetings to see what is working, what is not working and how they can fix it. A mother got up and said that her child had not been receiving services and she felt like she was being ignored. Felicia Ford expressed her dissatisfaction with the lack of outreach and support of black families. More staff, clients and families expressed their concern and distress about Carmine leaving and how much they love and appreciate Carmine's support of the community during his time at Westside.

ADJOURNMENT (ACTION*)

After Closed Session, the regular Board Meeting was adjourned by Alejandro Soschin at 9:09pm



Todd Rubien, Board Co-Secretary



Nilo Choudhry, Board Co-Secretary