

MINUTES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Allen  
Nilo Choudhry  
Cammy DuPont  
Zoe Giesberg  
Betty Pearson-Grimble  
Todd Rubien  
Alejandro Soschin  
Russell Tanner  
Sofia Vergara  
David Wyles

MEMBERS ABSENT: JoanElaine Anderson, Austin Dove, Elizabeth Espinosa,  
Philip Jackson, Myra Mezquita, Vanda Yung

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Kelly, Danny Franco, Cesar Garcia, Hillary Kessler,  
Liz Spencer, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Sonya Lowe, Lisa  
Basiri, Linda Butler, Soryl Marowitz, Maureen McKinney,  
Anjanette Robinson, Sonia Soriano, Megan Tommet-  
Ramirez, Faben Fantu, Kaely Shilakes, Ereida Galda,  
Philomena Morais

GUESTS: Francisco Pineda, Trisha Cozine, Ayode Woods, Adriana  
Madrigal, Zak Choudhry, Matthew Seymour, Alyssa  
Jackson, Sharon Etchison, Josh Franklin, Felicia Ford,  
Hope Beale, Josh Collins, Francis Gomez, Delthyea Ate,  
Mary Hernandez (DDS), Sonia Ramos, Rosie Lasca, Alison  
Beier, Janet Astocondor, Beverly Hutchinson, Leticia  
Antonio, Carlyn Meshack, Shellena Leftridge, Rayvone  
Douthard, Katherine Alsop, Vanessa Gomez, Keith Jones,  
Marcia James, Barbara McCants, Sue Williams, Raymundo  
Blanco, Sylvia Fahimian, Wesley Witherspoon, Jack  
Nieves, Judy Mark, Esther Kelsey, Brett Gordon

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Alejandro Soschin, at 6:25p.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 office is less than ten (10)*

### **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Alejandro Soschin, Board President, welcomed everyone to Westside Regional Center and reminded everyone to sign in to make sure they would be informed of upcoming events. Todd Rubien read the WRC Mission Statement.

### **OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

CAC West invited everyone to see their upcoming performance. Judy Marks reported that the Autism Society of Los Angeles is having a free intensive training for people who speak a language other than English on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Judy Marks also reported that there will be a self-determination conference November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at the Double Tree Hotel across from Westside Regional Center. She said that you don't need to be in the self-determination program to attend the conference. Bruce Coffey offered legal help to empower people we serve and he said that he is here to help in any way he can and to visit his website: [www.theconservertaship.com](http://www.theconservertaship.com).

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JULY 10, 2019 BOARD MEETING (ACTION\*)**

**Nilo Choudhry, Board Co-Secretary (Motion) and Russell Tanner, Board Member (Second) the approval of the July 10, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.**

**RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JULY 10, 2019  
BOARD MEETING.**

**No public comment. The motion passed.**

**9 AYES**

**0 NO**

**0 ABSTENTIONS**

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Alejandro Soschin, Board President, wanted to thank everyone here and everyone who has shared their perspectives in July. The Board is hopeful that the things discussed here tonight is moving forward in a positive way.

### **REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dr. Tom Kelly reported he wanted to begin with acknowledgments. He said Westside has been through a lot of change recently and regardless of the change things are still getting done well. Self-Determination is moving forward here and we are very close to completion. He stated he wants to make this transition of leadership as smooth as possible. He ended his report by asking to remember our mission and to remember why we do this job.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **FINANCE**

Cammy DuPont reported they met at 5pm and the summary of the budget is in the back. The expectation is all of the remaining money will be spent by the end of the year.

## **CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Todd Rubien reported CAC attended a police open house and they have attended the person-centered thinking training. They also are working with emergency preparedness groups.

## **POLITICAL ACTION**

Nilo Choudhry reported she submitted and filed her report with the Board and copies are available in the back of the room. She provided a summary of her report.

## **CLIENT SERVICE**

David Wyles reported on the updated standards for Specialized Supervision and Personal Assistance. He provided a copy of the updates and gave a summary of what each would change.

### ***SPECIALIZED SUPERVISION STANDARDS***

#### **APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED STANDARDS OF SPECIALIZED SUPERVISION. (ACTION\*)**

**David Wyles (Motion) and Joseph Allen (Second) approval of the updated standards of specialized supervision.**

**RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE THE UPDATED STANDARDS FOR SPECIALIZED SUPERVISION.**

**After public comment, the motion passed:**

**9 AYES**

**0 NO**

**0 ABSTENTIONS**

### ***PERSONAL ASSISTANCE STANDARDS***

#### **APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED STANDARD FOR ADULTS FOR PERSONAL ASSISTANCE. (ACTION\*)**

**RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE THE UPDATED STANDARDS FOR ADULTS FOR PERSONAL ASSISTANCE.**

**After public comment, the motion passed:**

**9 AYES**

**0 NO**

**0 ABSTENTIONS**

## **ARCA**

Dr. Tom Kelly reported there have been a lot of discussions about imaging. There is a lot of negative perspective from the legislative standpoint. We have been hearing more of what we are not doing and we need to balance out what the legislators are hearing. He

also stated that they are looking into live streaming the Board Meetings to help get the outreach to more of our community.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Alejandro Soschin reported it has felt like a very productive dialogue and they are having stakeholders from all over. They are talking about what it is we can focus on and what we all have in common and how to build on those ideas. They are currently setting the ground rules for a strategic planning meeting to take place. It will be a place of respect, and where there is honest dialogue where we listen to each other. Outreach and engagement is important and they are currently working on what they can do to bring in the people who can't attend the meetings. Some options they have brought up include video streaming the meetings or having the meetings in other locations. They have asked the people at the previous meetings to think of anyone who should be at these meetings who currently is not at them. He let everyone know that if you are invited to come to the meetings or if you are already at the meetings you need to be willing to do the work involved.

### ***EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH***

There needs to be a process to identify the new executive director and involve all the different stakeholders. The Board will ultimately make the decision. A task force will be created to only search for the executive director and identify someone to coordinate the activities. The task force will be helmed by a Board member with a variety of stakeholders, so everyone in the community feels involved in the process. Sofia Vergara volunteered to lead the task force and Betty Pearson-Gamble volunteered to assist her. Other board members will help as well.

### **VOLUNTEER TO LEAD THE TASK FORCE TO LOOK FOR AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**(ACTION\*)**

**Alejandro Soschin, Board President (Motion) and Sofia Vergara, Board Member (Second) the approval of the creation of the task force to find a new executive director.**

**RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE CREATION OF THE TASK FORCE TO FIND A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**No public comment. The motion passed:**

**8 AYES**

**1 NO**

**0 ABSTENTIONS**

### **SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY**

No updates

### **FAMILY EMPOWERMENT CENTER**

Liz Spencer reported that the FREC served 395 families and over the last 6 months had 843 contacts. She reported that Disneyland has notified the agencies that have the discounted Disneyland tickets that the program will be put on hold until the first of the

year. They are revamping the program and Liz will let the Board know when the updates are available. They have sibling support groups starting soon, serving 10-17 year old siblings; beginning a partner group with Tiger group, called Learning Rights and they will be teaching about autism spectrum disorder and the challenges in developmental areas; and a group starting in October with LMU with both undergraduates and graduates working with families on three topics: (1) reviewing your child's IEP, (2) preparing for your child's next IEP and (3) reviewing and understanding rights and responsibilities.

### **EQUITY COMMITTEE**

Dr. Tom Kelly reported that the equity committee has done informational videos for the website.

### **SELF DETERMINATION**

They continue to meet monthly. The next meeting will be October 15<sup>th</sup>. This coming Sunday from 11:30 – 1:30 there is a self-determination fair. Everyone is welcome to attend. They will have a variety of groups there to see if you want to work with them. Statewide about 25% of the people chosen have dropped out and there will be a new draw by DDS on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The names on the waitlist will get the first priority and the draw will be based more on age. At this time there are more children than adults picked, so it is very likely the people chosen to replace those that have dropped out will be 'older adults.'

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

We are currently trying to put together a successful job fair and are looking for people to help out and to help get people in the door.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

After Closed Session, the regular Board Meeting was adjourned by Alejandro Soschin at 9:20pm.

X



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Nilo Choudhry  
Board Co-Secretary

X



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Todd Rubien  
Board Co-Secretary