

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
NOVEMBER 6, 2019

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: JoanElaine Anderson, Austin Dove, Cammy DuPont,
Elizabeth Espinosa, Philip Jackson, Myra Mezquita

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Kelly, Danny Franco, Cesar Garcia, Hillary Kessler,
Sonya Lowe, Liz Spencer, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Linda
Butler, Rhiannon Maycumber, Sandy Rivera, Aga Spatzier,
Megan Mendes, Kerwind Portillo, Kaely Shilakes, Jose
Reyes

GUESTS: Marcia James, Barbara McCants, Sue Williams,
Raymundo Blanco, Zakir Choudhry, Trisha Lurie
Cozine, Sharon Etchison, Sylvia Fahimian, Brett
Gordon, Beverly Hutchinson, Adriana Madrigal,
Francisco Pineda, Wesley Witherspoon, Katherine
Alsop, Jodi Gould, Josh Collins, Kahiir Hall, Keith
Jones, Danny Feingold, Alyssa Jackson, Andrew
Whitmore, LaVenia Forte, SusyWilliams, Vanessa
Garcia, Mary Hernandez (DDS), Jo Mullins (DDS),
Silvia Witherspoon, Ayode Woods

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Alejandro Soschin, at 6:15pm.

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. A sign-in sheet is in the back. Russell Tanner read the WRC Mission Statement.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

It was asked if there can be help offered during the holidays for those that have difficulty being with family, or have no family in the immediate area. Some of the support groups will talk to see what they can do to help those people at this time of the year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 BOARD MEETING (ACTION*)

Nilo Choudhry, Board Co-Secretary (Motion) and Russell Tanner, Board Member, (Second) approval of the September 11, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes as amended.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES AS AMENDED FOR THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 BOARD MEETING.

No public comment. The motion passed.

10 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Alejandro Soschin, Board President, expressed concern for the people affected by the fires. Thanks to the hardworking Westside staff who daily help clients and families. Thanks to Sonya Lowe for her H.R. expertise during the recent changes and transition.

REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Tom Kelly provided copies of report in the back. He reviewed several updates, including the current census and increased requests for intakes. With the Performance Contract, Westside is consistent or slightly better when compared to state averages. It is above the state average in ensuring the timely completion of the Individual Performance Plan (IPP) and the CDER. It is below the state average in the intake timelines as Westside does a much more in-depth assessments process. Westside is slightly better than the state average in regards to employment statistics, and continues to work to improve numbers. Westside recently had an Employment Fair and there were over 400 clients in attendance. There were 14 prospective employers and two community resources. The new HR Director Sonya Lowe has been extremely busy with a number of initiatives to improve the HR policies. At the moment, she is working to ensure that everyone in the organization has a current job description that accurately reflects all of their duties, responsibilities and expectations. We are also working on a new employee evaluation tool so we can move toward being a more incentive-based organization. Westside is also continuing to push forward its efforts to be a more person-centered organization.

APPROVAL OF 2020 PERFORMANCE CONTRACT
(ACTION*)

Alejandro Soschin, Board President (Motion) and David Wyles, Board Member (Second) approval of the 2020 Performance Contract.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF 2020 PERFORMANCE CONTRACT.

It was mentioned the Performance Contract Meeting was well-run and questions were answered. The motion passed.

9 AYES
0 NO
1 ABSTENTIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Danny Franco reviewed the financial package. We are currently 25% through the year and we have used 23% of the Operations budget and 24% of the POS budget. We project to be within DDS's allocation. At the meeting the top 10 grossing vendors were discussed. The information will be sent out to the rest of the Board.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Todd Rubien reported CAC attended a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) refresher with the Culver City Fire Department. It was an opportunity to relearn vital fire and disaster techniques such as first aid and emergency rescue. Some other events included an Access Information meeting held at DCRC (Disability Community Resource Center), a memorial service in Norwalk to honor state mental patients who have passed away, the Los Angeles County Fair, the Culver City Art Walk, the ECF Art Show, the LA Goal Art Show and Open House, the Taste of Soul on Crenshaw Blvd., and a fun Halloween Bash. CAC hosted two tables at WRC's second annual Career Fair and Semi-Annual Day Resource Fair. They gained new information and also shared with the community. Their commitment to personal health continues with nutrition classes featuring fitness training and healthy recipes. Due to the time change and it getting darker earlier, the groups will be running a half hour earlier, from 4:30-6:30PM. They will coordinate dates with Dr. Kelly.

POLITICAL ACTION

Zoe Giesberg filed her report in the back. A main concern is how to get as many people as possible to respond to the important 2020 Census. Also 2020 is a key election year. Some major issues are employment and housing. We need to let everyone know about how they can register to vote. This includes information about absentee ballots.

ARCA

Zoe Giesberg summarized her report and there are copies available in the back.

CLIENT SERVICE

David Wyles reported they will be reviewing service standards for supported living and independent living. No meeting in December, but they will try to meet twice in January.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Alejandro Soschin reported that there have been two meetings since the last Board Meeting and they are continuing with the process. Participation is welcome. It is a good venue for sharing ideas, preparing for, and having a better understanding of the challenges going forward. The Nomination Committee will convert to the Board Development Committee. It will cover nominations, trainings and overall board development. They are still accepting nominations, and per DDS ethnicity guidelines, these must be 2 Caucasian, and 1 Hispanic. Two must be family members and one other can be a family member or a professional (non-family) member. They must all have: Fiscal expertise, governance or management expertise.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY

No updates. SPAC is open to vendors and meets the third Tuesday of the month at 10 am.

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT CENTER

Liz Spencer reported Dr. Kelly and Ereida Galda met with a representative from the US Census Bureau to talk about partnering with the goal of reaching people with disabilities and tell them why the Census is so important. Three of the largest under-represented groups are families that have special needs, foreign born people and families with children under the age of 5. The Census is what determines federal funding for many programs. The information within the Census is protected. The 2019-2020 Sibshop Support Groups began in October with monthly Saturday meetings through June. There are currently 17 siblings registered and there is room for four more. In August twice monthly IEP clinics for the 2019-2020 school year began and are designed to help preschoolers. This is a partnership with LMU to pair students with parents going through or preparing to go through an IEP meeting. This project began in October and will be completed next week. It is hoped to be repeated again in the Spring. In August they partnered with Learning Rights Law Center to bring families the Different Thinkers Workshop series. They continue to sponsor seven diverse monthly support groups.

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Dr. Kelly reported they will meet. The next round of funding will be information dissemination. Enhanced Case Management and PEP/ASLA will not be continuing.

SELF DETERMINATION

Zoe Giesberg updated that the second SD drawing will be on November 22nd. Those previously selected must complete the full orientation by November 6th or their names will be withdrawn and more people will be chosen. There 9 current spots to be filled.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A parent noted interest in the board, and was thankful for son's services and Job Fair.

ADJOURNMENT

After Closed Session, there was no Public Comment.

The regular Board Meeting was adjourned by Alejandro Soschin at 8:30pm.



Todd Rubien, Board Co-Secretary



Nilo Choudhry, Board Co-Secretary