

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
JANUARY 8, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Allen
JoanElaine Anderson
Nilo Choudhry
Austin Dove
Cammy DuPont
Elizabeth Espinosa
Zoe Giesberg
Philip Jackson
Myra Mezquita
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Todd Rubien
Russell Tanner
Sofia M. Vergara
David Wyles
Vanda Yung

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alejandro Soschin

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Kelly, Danny Franco, Cesar Garcia, Hillary Kessler,
Liz Spencer, Linda Butler, Aga Spatzier, Deborah Diaz,
Ereida Galda, Rachel Credo, Rosalinda Mata, Sandy
Rivera, Stephen Browning,

GUESTS: Marcia James, Barbara McCants, Sue Williams, Raymundo
Blanco, Rayvone Douthard, Sylvia Fahimian, Danny
Feingold, Brett Gordon, Esther Kelsey, Adriana Madrigal,
Jack Nieves, Sandy Rubenfeld, Wesley Witherspoon,
Ayode Woods, Katherine Alsop, Jallyn Meepps, Matthew
Seymour, Jo Mullins (DDS), Mary Hernandez (DDS),
Megan Mitchell (DDS), Beverly Hutchinson, Christofer
Arroyo, Dayvon Douthard, Elmar Delgado, Ernie Bailey,
Felicia Ford, James Taylor, Kahiir Hall, Leticia Antonio,
Marta Chavez, Silvia Witherspoon, Thaddeus Walker,
Tresa Oliveri, Veronica Green, David Mezquita

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board Vice-Chair Betty Pearson-Grimble at 6:16 pm.

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

It was announced that Alejandro Soschin had stepped down as Board President, so Betty Pearson-Grimble would be leading the meeting. The WRC Mission Statement was read.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Ayode asked everyone to watch a Christmas show by the Performing Arts Studio West, either in person or online. Wesley encouraged everyone to vote because that will help dictate the funding to the Regional Center, as well as for everyone to participate in the upcoming 2020 Census. Chris Arroyo of State Council talked about an Independent Facilitator Training on January 15th at the Lanterman Regional Center. He also brought about 100 surveys to pass out which will help the State Council as they prioritize key areas for focus going forward.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Betty reported that she has been working with Sonya on some things, for example, setting up a brown bag lunch. Betty wants to continue being the chair of the equity task force and see what's going on in the state. Also mentioned was looking at contracts and see where the Board can be more helpful.

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICER (ACTION*)

David Wyles, Board Member (Motion) and Todd Rubien, Board Co-Secretary (Second) the approval of the election of board officer.

**RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICER
DR. SOFIA VERGARA TO BOARD PRESIDENT**

Dr. Sofia Vergara thanked everyone for their support and she looks forward to working with everyone. The motion passed.

**15 AYES
0 NO
0 ABSTENTIONS**

NOMINATIONS TO BOARD DEVELOPMENT (ACTION*)

Joan Elaine, Board Member (Motion) and David Wyles (Second) the Nominations Committee to become the Board Development Committee.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE TO BECOME THE BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

No public comment. The motion passed.

**15 AYES
0 NO
0 ABSTENTIONS**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH AGENCY (ACTION*)

David Wyles, Board Member (Motion) and Dr. Sofia Vergara, Board President (Second) Approval of the Executive Director Search Agency- Envision Consulting.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH AGENCY – ENVISION CONSULTING

The company has relevant nonprofit experience. The motion passed.

**15 AYES
0 NO
0 ABSTENTIONS**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 6, 2019 BOARD MEETING (ACTION*)

Nilo Choudhry, Board Co-Secretary (Motion) and, Zoe Giesberg, Board Member, (Second) the approval of the November 6, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 6, 2019 BOARD MEETING.

No public comment. The motion passed.

**15 AYES
0 NO
0 ABSTENTIONS**

REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Kelly provided a copy of the report (as attached). He expressed optimism and encouragement heading into the New Year, as our community has shown resilience and fortitude throughout all the changes we have had. There are many new opportunities for growth and to bridge gaps, as we are all connected with a common goal. Regarding Human Resources, we have filled 16 new positions, 7 of which are SC's. We have reduced our time to fill positions from 40 days to 13 days. Regarding Housing, the new building project will break ground next Friday the 17th. The move-in date should be in September of 2021. There are also 2 new short term crisis homes in development, and a family teaching home, both to be completed within the month. Regarding Employment, 91 individuals have utilized competitive employment incentives and 77 individuals currently in paid internships. Regarding Disparity and grant requests, we have requested money to support a training series to educate families about Lanterman services for youths. First 5 LA awarded WRC \$25,000 for trainings focused on the social emotional development of kids under 5. We were also awarded \$100,000 from LA Care to develop and implement an oral hygiene program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Cammy DuPont reported Danny gave the information of where we currently are for Operations and POS. For Operations 5 months, 37% of budget, is on track; POS spent 39% of budget, and is on track

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Todd Rubien reported CAC attended a National Advocates Conference in DC for the first time in November. AUCD hosted this conference, and they discussed affordable housing, healthcare and employment. They also attended the Self-Determination Conference, in which they covered various topics. Also in November, CAC went to a training on CalFresh which focused on individuals who are on SSI to get vouchers for groceries. In December, CAC attended a community meeting on health, hosted by the ECF. This meeting discussed how the community was being shaped by different projects. The CAC holiday party on December 20th was a success and a great place to be together for the holidays for those folks who didn't have other family in the area. At the party, three individuals were honored for their hard work and self-advocacy.

CLIENT SERVICES

David Wyles reported they worked on updating the services standards for independent living services and supported living services. They want the language to be easy to read and understand.

POLITICAL ACTION & ARCA

Zoe reported ARCA has not met yet but will be meeting later this month so that report will be coming later; Political Action has not met yet either due to the holidays, but she repeated what was said earlier about voting in the upcoming elections. It is important that folks participate in the 2020 US Census so that our community is accurately represented. This also may impact re-districting. It was noted that citizenship status cannot be asked on the Census and cannot be used against folks who participate.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Nilo reported they had their fourth meeting on November 20th; and came up with two action items. They need to develop an RFP for a needed facilitator. They also will identify representative core members for the strategic planning process. These individuals will need to show the commitment and have the time to serve through 2020.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY

JoanElaine reported that SPAC did not meet last month; however, they have been working on many items in progress including hearing about a survey written that affects vendors. There will be a training for staff to work on it the survey. Malibu Library has new voting machines, and SPAC will check them out to see how accessible they are. Overall SPAC's main focus this month was making sure that all vendors have a great holiday season. Several members participated in the food drive, toy drives, and a shout out to the family resource center at WRC, and all who donated and contributed.

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT CENTER

Liz mentioned it was the 20th Anniversary for the toy and gift drive. Each of the sibling support group children were sponsored by our staff. Also sponsored was an adults wish list. They did some last minute fundraising. Many grants are on the horizon and she will provide updates later. She gave an example of air mattresses being generously donated.

SELF DETERMINATION

Cesar reported DDS gave the second selection for the individuals for the Self-Determination list. They met in December to go over the current status. Cesar reached out to the new members to welcome them and to invite them to the monthly meetings. Only three from the previous list have not completed the orientation at this time

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time

ADJOURNMENT

The regular Board Meeting was adjourned by Betty Pearson-Grimble at 7:28 pm.



Todd Rubien
Board Co-Secretary



Nilo Choudhry
Board Co-Secretary