



To: Board of Directors

From: Tom Kelly, Interim Executive Director

Date: September 2nd, 2020

Re: Committee Schedule and Agenda for the WRC Board of Directors Meeting,
Wednesday, September 9th, 2020

I am attaching the Agenda for the **September 9th, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting which will be held virtually on Zoom**. Instructions to join are as follows:

1. If you haven't already, sign up for a free Zoom account: <https://zoom.us/signup>
2. Go to: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hleFL2BMT7-NsgrEKfmn4A to register to attend this meeting.
 - a. You will be asked for your name and email address.
 - i. This is so we can take attendance instead of using a sign-in sheet.
3. You will receive an email with a unique-to-you link to join the meeting.
4. On the day and time of the meeting, click the link to join and enter the password
 - a. Spanish interpretation will be available upon entering the meeting.

The Call to Order is scheduled for 6:00PM.

Much of the work of the Board is done in the WRC various committees, including Finance, Political Action, Client Services, Equity, and others. Your participation is needed and welcomed.

The following Committees are scheduled to meet:

Committee Name	Date & Time	*Location
Client Service Committee	September 9, 4:00pm	ZOOM Video Conference
Consumer Advisory Committee	Daily Check-in Call	Conference Call
Equity Committee	September 30th, 4:00pm	ZOOM Video Conference
Finance Committee	September 9, 5:00pm	ZOOM Video Conference
Political Action & Outreach Committee	September 30th, 5:00pm	ZOOM Video Conference
Self-Determination	TBD	ZOOM Video Conference
Service Provider Advisory Committee	September 15th, 10:30am	ZOOM Video Conference
Strategic Planning Committee	September 24th, 4:30pm	ZOOM Video Conference

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
5901 GREEN VALLEY CIRCLE, SUITE 320
CULVER CITY, CA 90230
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2020
ZOOM Meeting
6:00 PM**

AGENDA

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Betty Pearson-Grimble | ACTION* |
| - Welcome and Introduction of Guests | | |
| 2. Public Comment | | |
| 3. Chairperson's Report | Betty Pearson-Grimble | |
| 4. Report of the Interim Executive Director | Tom Kelly | |
| 5. Approval of Minutes from August 5, 2020 | Todd Rubien | ACTION* |
| 6. Committee Reports | | |
| Finance Committee | Danny Franco | |
| Client Services | David Wyles | |
| Consumer Advisory Committee | Todd Rubien | |
| Service Provider Advisory | JoanElaine Anderson | |
| Political Action and ARCA | Zoe Giesberg | |
| Strategic Planning | Nilo Choudhry | |
| Equity | Tom Kelly | |
| Family Empowerment | Liz Spencer | |
| Self -Determination | Judy Mark | |
| 7. Adjournment | Betty Pearson-Grimble | ACTION* |

*Pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4660(c), "time shall be allowed for public input on all properly noticed agenda items prior to board action on that item".

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2020

**WESTSIDE REGIONAL CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MEETINGS CODE OF CONDUCT

Business etiquette is essential to a well-run, successful meeting. Everyone who attends WRC Board Meetings agrees to:

Understand and promote collaboration by allowing for a productive, safe and welcoming environment;

Treat everyone with respect and consideration;

Allow for open and inclusive discussions that do not demean, discriminate or harass others;

Refrain from using discriminatory or demeaning language or language that could be considered bullying, threatening or intimidating;

Critique ideas and suggestions but not individuals;

Respect the responsibility and authority of the Board Chair in preserving order and decorum; and

Avoid disrupting others when speaking and waiting for the Board Chair to determine the next speaker(s).

If after being warned anyone's actions violate this Meetings Code of Conduct, they may be asked to leave the meeting by the Board Chair.

Board Meetings Code of Conduct was Adopted on June 3rd, 2020.

MINUTES
SPECIAL ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
AUGUST 5, 2020
ZOOM VIDEO

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Allen
JoanElaine Anderson
Nilo Choudhry
Cammy DuPont
Elizabeth Espinosa
Zoey Giesberg
Mayra Mezquita
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Todd Rubien
Alejandro Soschin
Russell Tanner
Sofia M. Vergara
David Wyles
Vanda Yung

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Thompson Kelly, Cesar Garcia, Danny Franco, Hillary Kessler, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Liz Spencer, Sonya Lowe, Kate Harvey, Rhiannon Maycumber, Niaisha Gonzalez, Deborah Diaz, Kenia Torres, Aga Spatzier, Joanne Manese, Rachel Credo, Sarah Catherine Golden, Sarah Williams, Susana Gonzalez Rico, Ron Lopez, Natalie Monge, Lidia Rosales, Myriam Garcia, Sonia Soriano, Barbara Marbach, Martha Thompson, Feben Fantu, Stephanie Lee, Liddy Amador, Megan Tommet-Ramirez, Angela Quinonez, Monica Jauregui, Carol Taylor, Jose Reyes, Megan Mendes, Ari Zeldin, Laveeza Bhatti, Candace Hein, Patricia Crook, Linda Butler, Stephen Browning, Anjanette Robinson, Ereida Galda, Bernadette Daroca, Ana Da Silva, Carol Taylor, Claudia Williams

GUESTS: Tonie Schulz (Interpreter), Sonia Hernandez (Interpreter), Carla Castaneda DDS, Edwin Pineda DDS, Megan Mitchell DDS, Sherry Alvarez, Lisa Anderson, Karina Andrade, Leticia Antonio, Janet Astocondor, Elizabeth Bogen, Martha Chávez, Gia Civerolo, Luisa Delgadillo, Linda Demer, Kristen Evans, Felicia Ford, Richard Frey, Teresa Garcia, Francis Gomez, Elizabeth Gomez, Dave Hadacek, Katie Hornberger, Beverly Hutchinson, Marcia James, Kedrin Johnson, Esther Kelsey, Connie Lapin, Shellena Leftridge, Carla Lehmann, Ron Lopez, Adriana Madrigal, Judy Mark DVU, Carlyn Meshack, Katie Meyer, Natalie Monge, Kay Mullen, Teri Mulugeta, Sacha Naschinski, Guadalupe Nolasco, Tresa Oliveri, LaKieya Patterson, Tamra Pauly, Fotini Revivo, Lidia Rosales, Ellen Seldon, Dana Simon, Lisa Szilagyi, Mulugeta Tadelem, Gabriela Uriarte, Mitra Vahid, Marcia Valner, Miriam Ventura, Wesley Witherspoon, Elaine Wright-Forris, Robte, Arlyn, Leilani

CALL TO ORDER (ACTION*)

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Dr. Sofia Vergara at 6:05pm.

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

Dr. Sofia Vergara, Board President, welcomed everyone and explained the process of public comment during a Zoom Meeting. She also noted that there will be a closed session following the first public comment portion of this meeting to conduct contract negotiations for the new WRC Executive Director.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Judy Mark, DVU, let everyone know that DVU is holding its 17th (and final) webinar tomorrow about Self Advocacy. Next week, the DVU meetings will focus on election next November including; the census, how to vote, understanding voting and the issues presented. DVU will continue partnering with the Regional Centers, Disability Rights, State Counsel, and all the other organizations vital to this community. Judy also thanked Dr. Vergara for her service on the Board.
- Felicia Ford asked about the format of the meeting and when the public comment sections will happen.
- Wesley Witherspoon noted that he has gotten calls from his peers about being lonely and wanting more social interactions.
- Liz Spencer, Director of the FRC, asked for clarification of a comment from Alex Soschin from last meeting. Alex clarified that he was committed to staying connected and doing work on behalf of the disability community, even when he is no longer a Board Member.

CLOSED SESSION

Employment and Contract Negotiation and Litigation Update (California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4663(a)(2)(3)&(5))

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JULY 8, 2020 BOARD MEETING

(ACTION*)

Nilo Choudhry, Board Member (Motion) and, Zoey Giesberg, Board Member, (Second) the approval of the July 8th, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes.

No public comment. The motion passed.

**13 AYES
0 NO
1 ABSTENTIONS**

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JULY 8, 2020 BOARD MEETING.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

THE SLATE OF PROPOSED OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS WAS PRESENTED AT THE JULY 8, 2020 BOARD MEETING:

DIRECTORS

**Joseph Allen Jr.
Nilo Choudhry
Elizabeth Espinosa
Zoey Giesberg
Myra Mezquita
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Todd Rubien
Russell Tanner
David Wyles
Vanda Yung**

Note: Joan Elaine Anderson was elected by SPAC as WRC 'SPAC Representative' for 2020-2021

OFFICERS SLATE

**PRESIDENT - Betty Pearson-Grimble
VICE PRESIDENT - Nilo Choudhry
TREASURER - Vanda Yung
SECRETARY - Todd Rubien**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (MEMBERS)

Zoey Giesberg, Board Member (Motion) and, Elizabeth Espinosa, Board Member (second) to approve the Board of Directors Members Slate

**○ 14 AYES
○ 0 NO
○ 0 ABSTENTIONS**

RESOLUTION: Board of Directors Member Slate is APPROVED with 10 members, 11 including SPAC Representative Joan Elaine Anderson

OFFICERS SLATE

Elizabeth Espinosa, Board Member (Motion) and, Mayra Mezquita, Board Member (Second) to approve Officer's Slate as presented

Alejandro Soschin, Board Member (Motion) and Vanda Yung (Second), amended the motion to nominate Dr. Sofia Vergara to the Board members and to the officers slate as President Candidate

Dr. Sofia Vergara had previously submitted a letter of resignation from the Board of Directors at the end of June 2020. Dr. Vergara rescinded her resignation after this nomination.

RESOLUTION: DR. SOFIA VERGARA ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION TO REMAIN ON THE BOARD AND RUN FOR THE POSITON OF PRESIDENT.

VOTING

➤ **SECRET BALLOT FOR THE VOTE OF PRESIDENT:**

VOTING OPTIONS: Betty Pearson-Grimble (Slate) or Dr. Sofia Vergara (Nominated Member)

- **Betty Pearson-Grimble has MAJORITY vote**

RESOLUTION: BETTY PEARSON-GRIMBLE IS ELECTED WRC BOARD PRESIDENT

➤ **VICE PRESIDENT - Nilo Choudhry**

Elizabeth Espinosa, Board Member (Motion) and Todd Rubien, Co-Secretary (Second)

- **14 AYES**
- **0 NO**
- **0 ABSTENTIONS**

RESOLUTION: NILO CHOUDHRY IS ELECTED WRC BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

➤ **TREASURER (Acting) - Vanda Yung**

Cammy Starks-Dupont, Treasurer (Motion) and Mayra Mezquita, Board Member (Second)

- **14 AYES**
- **0 NO**
- **0 ABSTENTIONS**

RESOLUTION: VANDA YUNG IS ELECTED (ACTING) WRC BOARD TREASURER

➤ **SECRETARY - Todd Rubien**

Mayra Mezquita, Board Member (Motion) and, Cammy Starks-Dupont, Treasurer (Second)

- **14 AYES**
- **0 NO**
- **0 ABSTENTIONS**

RESOLUTION: TODD RUBIEN IS ELECTED WRC BOARD SECRETARY

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Various Board members thanked Cammy and Alex for their excellent work on the Board and wished them well in their future endeavors. Various Board members also thank Dr. Sofia Vergara for deciding to remain on the Board as an acting member. Dr. Sofia Vergara stated that it has been an honor to serve as Board President and that she is excited to continue to do this great work as a member of the Board.
- An anonymous participant reminded the Board that as per the by-laws, Dr. Sofia Vergara will be able to remain on the Board Executive Committee as an ex-officio member.
- An anonymous participant suggested that the members of the Board participate in WRC's Person-Centered Thinking (PCT) Training, in order to continue working to uphold WRC's commitment to such practices.
- Judy Mark commented that she appreciates Dr. Vergara's upstanding attitude and grace, even in the face of not being reelected as Board President. Judy also noted that we need to work harder to have more representation of persons-served in officer positions.
- Felicia Ford commented on the importance of language in regards to race, and the implications of using harmful language to make a point. She notes that Black voices still need to be heard but continue to be under represented in all factions. Finally, Felicia thanked Dr. Vergara for her continuing work on the Board.

ADJOURNMENT (ACTION*)

The Board Meeting was adjourned by Dr. Sofia Vergara at 8:49 pm. She thanked everyone for her time as Board President and congratulated Betty Pearson-Grimble as the new President.

Good Evening Board Member & Guest:

Here is the CAC report for August. We have been this call for 176 days while we have been on this call. We have learned how to live healthier lives by eating healthier meals.

We give daily updates about COVID 19, and there are places that you can get tested for the COVID 19 Kaiser Permanente, LA Care and for Inglewood residents the Forum and we encourage people to registered and vote. SLARC did a tribute to David Weaks who was a CAC member of SLARC who passed away in July 2020. CAC wants to keep our Advocates in prayer for those who have lost their love ones during this time. We have had guest speakers such as Sonya Lowe from WRC staff she gave an update on what's going on at WRC, and with COVID 19, and they were going to AC Green a former NBA player. He was going to help out with the COVID 19 testing. Stephan Brownie Service Coordinator he spoke about what he those at WRC and his Artwork. Scott Barron Peer Advocate from Office of Clients Rights of California. He did a tanning on Earthquake Preparedness. Chris Arroyo from SCDD said that his organization will be getting a shipment of the N95 mask and CAC will be included in that count. We also offer prayer at the end of each call for those who are interested.

And That's the report

August 26, 2020

Political Action Notes

Federal

- Current Republican Senate relief package proposal does not include disability or HCBS relief
 - Would reduce unemployment bonuses from \$600 per week to \$200
- **ACTION ITEM - *Call Senators!***
 - **Email forms:**
 - **Feinstein:**
<https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-me>
 - **Harris:** <https://www.harris.senate.gov/contact/email>
 - **Phone numbers:**
 - **Feinstein: (202) 224-3841**
 - **Harris: (202) 224-3553**
 - **Potential script:**
 - My name is [FULL NAME], and I am from [CITY]. I'm [CALLING/WRITING] to ask Senator [FEINSTEIN/HARRIS] to make sure that the Senate's COVID relief package includes Medicaid funding for home- and community-based services for people with disabilities. I personally rely on these services to do things like take basic care of myself and my family and live safely in my own home. If emergency funding isn't added to the current relief package, the agencies providing support to me will close, and I, like many people with disabilities, could risk being forced into places like nursing homes and institutions where I would be more likely to catch COVID-19. I need the Senate to pass a COVID relief package that specifically funds home- and community-based services. This is a matter of life or death for me and my community. Can I count on the Senator's support?
 - Professional script:
 - *Adult and Transition Services:* "My name is [FULL NAME], and I am from [CITY]. I'm [CALLING/WRITING] to ask Senator [FEINSTEIN/HARRIS] to make sure that the Senate's COVID relief package includes Medicaid funding for Home- and Community-Based services for people with disabilities. I personally work in home- and community-based services to provide basic care of people with disabilities so they can live safely in their homes and access community resources. If

emergency funding isn't added to the current relief package, my agency could be shut down and not only will I lose my job, the people I support could risk being forced into places like nursing homes and institutions where they would be more likely to catch COVID-19. I need the Senate to pass a COVID relief package that specifically funds home- and community-based services to save my job and support my clients. This is a matter of life or death for me and my community. Can I count on the Senator's support?"

- *School-Based Services:* "My name is [FULL NAME], and I am from [CITY]. I'm [CALLING/WRITING] to ask Senator [FEINSTEIN/HARRIS] to make sure that the Senate's COVID relief package includes funding for and access to educational supports for students with disabilities and protecting their rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. I personally work in school-based services to provide class support for people with disabilities so they can succeed in school. If emergency funding isn't added to the current relief package, my agency could be shut down and not only will I lose my job, the people I support could risk falling behind in school and suffer major educational setbacks. I need the Senate to pass a COVID relief package that specifically funds educational supports for my clients and protecting their rights to save my job and support my clients. This is a matter of life or death for me and my community. Can I count on the Senator's support?"
- *Therapy-Based Services:* "My name is [FULL NAME], and I am from [CITY]. I'm [CALLING/WRITING] to ask Senator [FEINSTEIN/HARRIS] to make sure that the Senate's COVID relief package includes funding for expanding telehealth services and other flexibilities for disability services and supports. I personally work as a therapist for people with disabilities and if emergency funding isn't added to the current relief package, my agency could be shut down and not only will I lose my job, the people I support could risk losing their mental health supports and regress in their mental and emotional states. I need the Senate to pass a COVID relief package that specifically funds expanding telehealth services and other flexibilities for disability services and supports to save my job and support my clients. This is a matter of life or death for me and my community. Can I count on the Senator's support?"

- ***CAC to simplify!***

- WRC has sent out action alerts on advocating for disability reliefs

Voting Information

- Voter Information Presentation
 - Hosted by Wesley
 - Sept. 16, 2020; 6 pm - 7 pm
 - Pre-recorded video to share (will be interpreted by interpreters while video is playing but sent to them to be familiarized with the material)
 - Topics:
 - How to register to vote
 - How to become an informed and responsible voter
 - 4 layers of government - federal, state, county, city
 - Tracking ballot
 - Ways to turn in your ballot
 - Through mail, county supervisor office, polling station

Disability Vote California

- Looking for speakers for next ten weeks!
- Email zoey.giesberg@gmail.com or judy@dvunited.org

State

- DDS sent possible regulations on Non-Residential Services
 - Need read, analyze them, send comments/issues to DDS
 - Crucial points:
 - What rates will actually going to be paid
 - Doesn't note what quantity of services providers must provide in order to bill for one month's worth of service per individual served
 - Will take comments through August 27, then goes to 45 day public comment
 - Send to board to comment and take positions
 - Important - Burns and Associates will oversee it (did rates study)
- DDS Town Halls for Alternate Service Delivery

Community Outreach

- Reached out to BLM, didn't get response (likely due to current intense protests)
- Continue to reach out and inform of outreach efforts to racial/lgbtq/enviromental/etc. Organization (Megan)

*attach ARCA DDS meeting notes, ARCA statement on regulations, Chris A's material



Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes

Thursday 7/30/2020 at 4:30pm

ZOOM Meeting

ATTENDEES: Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Lisa Anderson, Esther Kelsey, Adriana Madrigal, JoanElaine Anderson, Nilo Choudhry, Linda Butler, Leah Holtz, Claudia Williams, Patricia Crook, Megan Mendes, Sonya Lowe, Dr. Sarah Williams, Douglas & Elizabeth Hedenberg, Rhiannon Maycumber, Danny Franco, Stephen Browning, Betty Pearson, Liz Spencer, Todd Rubien

MINUTE TAKER: Kate Harvey

ACTION ITEMS:

- Anyone interested in being a seated member of the committee, send their interest to Kate via email

Introduction

- Brief recap of Strategic Planning activities in 2020
- Importance of having representation of all folks in the WRC community

Sitting Members of the Strategic Planning Committee (list of interested parties)

- Core members will need to have:
 - Time commitment from this year into next year
 - Representation of all folks in the Westside community (see above)
 - Board Members
 - Community/family members
 - Persons served
 - Vendors
 - WRC Staff
 - Big picture thought process
 - Good listening skills
 - Intention of working with others
 - Goals of the entire organization
- Send your interest to Kate, who is making the list
- Designated spot for the ED on the committee

Update on Strategy Matters RFP

- Will be joining our meetings in September/October

Public Input

- Douglas Hedenberg and his wife Elizabeth introduced themselves to the committee as new participants
- Lisa Anderson asked about the schedule and times for future meetings
- Several folks asked questions about resuming the in-person services for the WRC community as it provides a wonderful space to bring people together

Setting date for next Strategic Planning Committee meeting

- 9/24/20 is the last Thursday of next month (regular meeting)

Equity Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 8/26/2020 at 4:00pm

ZOOM Meeting

✚ **Attendees:** Betty Pearson, Hillary Kessler, Aga Spatzier, Liz Spencer, Sandy Cabanatan, Chris Arroyo, Nilo Choudhry

✚ **Minute-Taker:** Kate Harvey

✚ **Action Items:**

✚ **Introduction/Welcome**

- Thank you to everyone working behind the scenes on all these projects

✚ **Update on current equity and disparity projects**

- Change requests submitted to DDS (see previous meeting minutes)
 - Asked for more feedback/details
- One more change request to be written: moving money around
 - Distance Learning Kits for families
 - Model after SCLARC
 - Informational Binders about WRC services etc.
- Request for Social Security Pre-Employment info training
 - Working/being employed without losing benefits
 - Resource: Joy at West LA SSI office
- Looking into funding an Employment Options Video
 - Organized by the WRC Employment First Business Advisory Committee
- Group of Southern California Regional Centers working on technology lending library
- Current Equity Project: 2 newsletter per month going out to community
 - Information and resources
 - Give your email to your SC to get on the list
 - Challenge: great majority of the population that this would benefit do not have email addresses
 - Considering using USPS to mail out this newsletter