

**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 Weise-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 office 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

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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 4th and 6th. Judy Marks also reported that there will be a self-determination conference November 15th and 16th 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.

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 15th. 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 1st. 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

Nilo Choudhry
Board Co-Secretary

X

Todd Rubien
Board Co-Secretary

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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, LaVenía 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

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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 Meepds, 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

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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

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MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
MARCH 4, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Allen Jr.
Nilo Choudhry
Cammy DuPont
Elizabeth Espinosa
Myra Mezquita
Todd Rubien
Alex Soschin
Russell Tanner
Sofia Vergara

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joan Elaine Anderson
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Austin Dove
Zoe Giesberg
Philip Jackson
David Wyles
Vanda Yung

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Kelly, Danny Franco, Liz Spencer, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser,
Kate Harvey, Rhiannon Maycumber, Sandy Rivera, Anjanette
Robinson, Aga Spatzier, Kenneth Sears, Megan Mendes, Megan
Tommet-Ramirez, Angela Quinonez, Rochelle Cole

GUESTS: Marcia James, Barbara McCants, Jo Mullins (DDS), Cynthia
Sandoval (DDS), Mary Hernandez (DDS) Chris Arroyo (SCDD),
Raymundo Blanco, Trisha Lurie Cozine, Sylvia Fahimian, Danny
Feingold, Brett Gordon, Esther Kelsey, Adriana Madrigal, Sandy
Rubenfeld, Robert Schwartz, Ayode Woods, Veronica Green,
Matthew Seymour, James Taylor, Renee Taylor, Kahiir Hall,
Jenny S, Sonya Vaughn, , Felisha Ford, David Mezquita, Tresa
Oliveri, Sue Williams, R. Herbert

CALL TO ORDER (ACTION*)

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Sofia Vergara at 6:08pm.

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

Sofia Vergara, Board President, welcomed everyone to Westside Regional Center. Sign in Sheet is in the back. Todd Rubien read the WRC Mission Statement.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Arroyo with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) let everyone know there is a total of \$20,000 available through their 2020 Program Development Grant focusing on the identified areas of Housing, and Health and Safety.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Sofia reported that she is excited to be in the new role. She thanks all of the members of the Executive Committee and others who have helped to guide and support her starting this new role. By attending many committee meetings and speaking with Dr. Kelly and the folks at WRC, she has learned so much in a short time. She also thanks the WRC staff and Dr. Kelly for all their hard work. Sofia reiterates that the Board is asking that the community attend the POS meetings at the end of March. There will be a closed session directly following this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 8, 2020 BOARD MEETING (ACTION*)

Alex Soschin, Board Member (Motion) and, Russell Tanner, Board Member, (Second) the approval of the January 8th, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes.

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

No public comment. The motion passed.

9 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Kelly reported on the theme of the importance of planning and preparation. Given the recent flooding at WRC, the coronavirus epidemic, and the recent ransomware attack at another regional center, we are learning from our past in order to be prepared for the future. This includes a thorough look at our emergency preparedness plan, and a heightened awareness of our health and safety protocols onsite and in the community. Dr. Kelly also highlighted the growth of WRC by 14+ new hires so far this year. WRC has applied for several new grants including one for a project related to assistive technology in the workplace and Mental Health Services Act funding. WRC was awarded \$106,000 for ongoing work to reduce cultural disparity. Dr. Kelly discussed the hard work of the WRC HCBS team and congratulated them on their completion of their Person-Centered training. Finally, Dr. Kelly extended thanks to Cesar Garcia for his work in Self Determination as WRC currently has 17 certified budgets.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

➤ FINANCE

Cammy DuPont reported that the Finance committee met today, and went over the latest Budget status report. That status report is available in the back. The Audit committee will need to meet prior to the next Board meeting, and is tentatively scheduled for March 25th at 5:00pm in the ED office. Danny and Cammy are available if anyone has any questions.

➤ CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Todd Rubien reported that after Chris Arroyo gave his training on Boardmanship, CAC decided to focus on CAC business. They are working with Chris on how to solve statewide issues. CAC has found that WRC is experiencing many issues like other regional centers, and working with Chris to fix. Todd also discussed interpersonal issues within the CAC meetings, and is requesting to meet with the Board to discuss.

➤ EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Sofia Vergara reported that the BOD is working with Envision Consulting to find a permanent Executive Director for WRC. They have met with Matt Kamin from Envision, in order to finalize a survey to help get feedback. The search committee and Matt helped developed the job description, and it has been posted in various online job boards. She encourages everyone to spread the word. Feedback received during meetings will inform the search process moving forward. Looking for two more board members to actively participate in the process; contact Sofia if interested.

➤ CLIENT SERVICES

David Wyles and Cesar Garcia were both absent, so Nilo gave a brief report. The ILS and SLS info will be put forth at next board meeting.

➤ **BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Nilo Choudhry acknowledged a big thank you to Chris Arroyo for providing the informative and helpful Boardsmanship Training to us in February. Chris has also provided board training for WRC in the past. A Mandatory Board Training on the 'DDS Contract with WRC' will take place 4/1/20. The Executive Director search will precede nominations process.

➤ **POLITICAL ACTION & ARCA**

Zoe Giesberg has turned in written PAC and ARCA Report, and that is in the back. Nilo summarized the reports. The Governor's 'May Revise' to the budget will be coming up. Budget hearings are taking place in Sacramento. Today the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1 on Health and Human Services is meeting to discuss and take input on the Governor's budget proposals, oversight items, and advocacy proposals. The Senate Budget Subcommittee will be meeting 3/12 on Electronic Visit Verification (EVV). On 4/19 it will meet on the 'DDS Budget'. Overall we need to continue advocacy for increased funding for sustainability of the system. The state-wide Developmental Services Task Force has four work groups. Vanda Yung is in the Disparity work group. Dr. Sofia Vergara will represent as a Self-Advocate and as the WRC Board Member at the fast-paced Grassroots Day in April. Rhiannon Maycumber will lead the WRC team composed of board member, vendor, staff and Client and family.

➤ **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

This month's meeting was rescheduled because of inadvertent flooding at WRC. The RFP, which was to be discussed at the meeting is in the back for review and posted on the WRC website. Dr. Kelly and team encourages anyone with feedback to contribute. Next meeting will be March 26th, 2020

➤ **SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

No Report at this time

➤ **FAMILY EMPOWERMENT CENTER**

Liz Spencer reported that the FREC and WRC Early Start program are holding the "Moving on Up" conference on April 4th, from 9:30 to 2:30 at WRC. WRC is also continuing their twice monthly I.E.P clinics. FREC is pleased to continue their partnership with LMU, as well as to partner with the Learning Rights Law Center. The center will continue to sponsor seven monthly support groups, as well as the IHSS workshop and Early Start Orientation. Shout out about the transition event this Saturday, March 7th, 2020.

➤ **EQUITY**

Tom Kelly reported that the Equity Committee discussed the theme "where we have been and where we are going". WRC has found that there are challenges for Latino families in accessing services and, managing partnerships with outside agencies. The Equity Committee also notes that transition periods can be sources for confusion for all populations. He emphasizes that education and information are key in helping people access our services, and for overcoming challenges. WRC has been focusing on both multi-media and print materials to help provide more information and to help the community understand the breadth of our services.

➤ **SELF DETERMINATION**

No report at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Myra summarized her experience at the ARCA training in February. Amendments to the law were brought up, more info requested. Other RCs are going through leadership changes, and it was interesting to discuss what this is like and know that they are experiencing similar challenges. This training provided opportunity for discussions about how board/staff collaboration can continue and can improve.

Elizabeth Espinosa reported the latest from the Department of Health is that as of today there are 6 cases confirmed of Coronavirus in LA County. She reiterated concerns for the health and safety of our Regional Center populations. The consistent message is to continue to refer to the Department of Health and the CDC for accurate and up-to-date information, and practice common-sense health habits.

Alex Sochin reiterated the support from the Board to the entire Westside community as we deal with the Coronavirus epidemic. He also said how extremely proud he is of Dr. Sofia Vergara stepping into the role of Board President and working so hard to take on the challenges. He thanked the Board for his opportunity to serve on the Executive Committee and states that it was humbling. 'Thanks to Chris Arroyo of State Council and the DDS Technical Team for their support'.

Ayode Woods states that he seen a lot of people with masks on and wants to know why? Dr. Kelly explained, that as per the CDC, masks should be used by people who are already sick in order to keep them from spreading symptoms to other people. They do not protect the wearers from getting sick.

Kenneth Sears, WRC employee, commented that the coronavirus impacts the entire community, including the folks at Westside who are out in the field.

Nilo thanked everyone for sharing their concerns.

ADJOURNMENT (ACTION*)

The regular Board Meeting was adjourned by Sofia Vergara at 7:26pm and no public comment followed.



Nilo Choudhry
Board Co-Secretary



Todd Rubien
Board Co-Secretary

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
MAY 6TH, 2020
ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Austin Dove, Philip Jackson, David Wyles

STAFF PRESENT: Thompson Kelly, Cesar Garcia, Danny Franco, Hillary Kessler, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Liz Spencer, Sonya Lowe, Kate Harvey, Rhiannon Maycumber, Aga Spatzier, Alyssa Delagnes, Ana Da Silva, Anjanette Robinson, Anna Bonilla, Barbara Marbach, Corey Conroy, Cristina Azantian, Cristina Azantian, Elaine Wright-Forris, Ereida Galda, Feben Fantu, Hien Tran, Joanne Manese, Julie Danneker, Lidenira Amador, Linda Butler, Maria Fukuda, Maria Lipstein, Martha Thompson, Megan Tommet-Ramirez, Megan Mendes, Mina Gomez, Myriam Garcia, Paul Roberson, , Rosalba Orteg, Sandy R. Cabanatan, Stephanie Lee, Stephen Browning, Tamori Parmer, Young You

GUESTS: Marcia James, Judy Mark, Christofer Arroyo (SCDD), Jo Mullins (DDS), Mary Hernandez (DDS), Sonia Hernandez (Interpreter), Pamela Shepard Garcia (Interpreter), Yazmin Lope, Adriana Madrigal, Alyssa Jackson, Beverly Hutchinson, Christina Cannarella, Cristina Azantian, Desiree Boykin, Elena Bustamante, Esther Kelsey, Felicia Ford, Francis Gomez, Kecia Weller, Leticia Antonio, Lisa Basiri, Lisa C Anderson, Martha Chavez, Nichole Mikkelson, Patricia Crook, Teresa Garcia, Tomasa Scaccianoce, Tresa Oliveri, Veta Simpson

CALL TO ORDER (ACTION*)

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Sofia Vergara at 6:04pm.

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

Sofia Vergara, Board President, welcomed everyone to the first Zoom Westside Regional Center Board meeting. She explained the procedure for using the Zoom interpretation features, as well as the procedure for public comment. She also thanks everyone for their patience in this “new normal”.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Arroyo with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) let everyone know there is a total of \$20,000 available through their 2020 Program Development Grant focusing on the identified areas of Housing, and Health and Safety.

Judy Mark let everyone know that DVU has pivoted to work on mostly COVID-19 issues since March. They have created a website with resources for everyone (<http://disabilityvoicesunited.org/cv>), and it is updated regularly. DVU has also been holding weekly webinars (next on Friday) to discuss self-determination and other participant-directed services that have been expanded under the governor’s orders due to the pandemic. Finally, they have a survey that they are conducting, and it will be on their website.

Zoey Giesberg, Board Member, let everyone know that there has been a movie made by Spectrum Laboratory and it will be debuting at an LGBT film festival, this Saturday. Information about the film, “Boys Don’t Wear Dresses” here: <https://threedollarbillcinema.org/translations/films/shorts/joy-catharsis>

Alex Soschin, Board Member, asked that moving forward the Executive Team could track and better publicize the outreach and communication efforts made by the WRC staff.

Elizabeth Espinoza, Board Member, requested that Dr. Kelly post COVID-19 statistics on the WRC website. She also posed the question of if vendors are being paid, or if they are filing unemployment.

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

Dr. Sofia Vergara started by thanking everyone for their hard work through these difficult times. She encouraged everyone to share how they are feeling at this time during public comment, as she and the rest of the board would love to hear from everyone. She everyone know that the work of our committees has continued virtually, and that everyone will hear from those representatives during this meeting. Finally, she requested that Dr. Kelly and the WRC provide more information about their efforts during the COVID-19 shut-down.

Dr. Vergara noted that there will be two action items for approval at the June meeting: the BOD Code of Conduct & Responsibilities (specifically for BOD members) and BOD Code of Conduct for everyone and

anyone who attends the meeting. The intention of these documents is to put forth guidelines to make Board of Directors meetings more productive and positive, and provide a safe place for all to feel heard and maintain an open dialog. These action items are being spearheaded by Board Member Cammy Dupont. Also at the June meeting will be the Board Annual Elections. More information regarding that is forthcoming.

Dr. Vergara also thanked the DDS technical team for the productive meeting with them this past Friday, which had lots of information and open dialog.

Finally, Dr. Vergara let the other board members know that there will not be a closed session following this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 4TH, 2020 BOARD MEETING **(ACTION*)**

Nilo Choudhry, Board Member (Motion) and, Alejandro Soschin Board Member, (Second) the approval of the March 4th, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 4, 2020 BOARD MEETING.

No public comment. The motion passed.

13 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Tom Kelly reported on the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on Westside Regional Center and on our staff, families, vendors, and community. He described both the challenges faced, and some of the creative solutions that have been found in order to continue serving families and providing support to all who need it. Dr. Kelly stated that over 3200 medical-grade N95 masks have been given out to direct care providers who are providing essential support to the individuals we serve. He also noted that WRC has been able to obtain and distribute over 2500 high-quality cloth masks (made by local clothing manufacturer Liz Hirsh Naftali) to families, vendors, and others in our community. Dr. Kelly concluded with expressing his gratitude to the individuals served by Westside (for their tenacity and courage), the staff (for their hard work and creativity), the Board of Directors (for their support and collaboration) and to the families of Westside (for their positivity and input). Dr. Kelly's full report can be found in the Board Packet that was emailed out to meeting participants.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

➤ FINANCE

Danny Franco, WRC CFO, reported that we have gone through 71% POS budget 66% of operation budget. In OPS we have implemented hiring freeze and avoiding new service contracts, evaluating IT projects non critical. DDS asking for COVID expenditures to be tracked. The Governor of California has made 1.4 million dollars avail for COVID-19, and the state plans on seeking 75% coverage of COVID-related expenditures. However, DDS has not given additional funding to the Regional Center due to COVID-19. There is added support that has not been distributed yet. An analysis can be put together for distribution.

The Finance Committee met April 27 to discuss the annual fiscal audit. The audit is being finalized and will be reported to board at next meeting.

➤ CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Esther Kelsey, Vice President of CAC, read the report on Todd Rubien's behalf. This past month CAC focused on a number of self-care related action items to help members during the COVID-19 outbreak. These included: creative ways to do virtual activities as a group, conference calls every day to keep connected, taking steps to learn how to protect yourself and how to fight the virus until there is a cure, and cooking healthy meals (and learning to cook). During the daily CAC phone calls, there have been multiple guest speakers, and these meetings continue open to everyone who wants to call in and speak. CAC sends their thanks to Liz Spencer and the FREC for donating masks to members and their families. CAC also posed a question to the board if they know a therapist to call in to the daily call. They currently have both a personal fitness trainer, and artist who call in regularly.

Zoey Giesberg, Board Member, commented her thanks to CAC for keeping human connection during this COVID-19 crisis and social isolation. This connection has been really great for mental health and morale.

➤ EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Dr. Sofia Vergara reported that work with Matt Kamin from Envision Consulting has continued virtually. Matt is providing the search committee with weekly progress reports and updates to the recruitment efforts. On April 6 phone interviews were conducted by Envision, followed by virtual in-person interviews on May 4th. A majority of the candidates are from the southern California area, but there are a few from out of state. In total, there are twelve active applicants at this time. The final interview panel, with most qualified candidates has yet to be scheduled, in order to find the most safe and productive procedure.

➤ CLIENT SERVICES

Cesar Garcia reported that David Wyles, Board Member and Client Services representative, is still recovering and sends his well wishes. The hope is that the Client Services committee will be able to meet this month and report back at the next BOD meeting.

➤ BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Nilo Choudhry reported that the information from the Sacramento ARCA training in February is now available online, and that Zoey Giesberg has passed it along to the board members who were unable to attend in person. Nilo also noted that the Board training in April, during which DDS was going to present, was cancelled due to COVID-19, but will be rescheduled later in this calendar year. Finally, Nilo reminded the Board members that the annual BOD election will be held in June. More information is forthcoming.

➤ POLITICAL ACTION & ARCA

Zoey Giesberg, Board Member and ARCA representative, reported that ARCA voiced concerns about COVID-19 prior to the government safe-at-home initiative, and therefore the March ARCA board meeting was cancelled. However, ARCA has continued to give lots of digital updates to budget and procedure. To that point, the budget will change tremendously due to COVID-19. ARCA's position is that they will still try to advocate at state level for the budget approval process. Once the May budget revise comes out, it will help define the talking points about future budget use. Overall, we don't know for sure if the budget will be flat or if there will be cuts, but there is anticipation for cuts.

Zoey also reported that due to COVID-19, WRC has increased efforts in digital training and education. LA County is offering free COVID-19 testing. Finally, Zoey reiterated that the community needs to talk to our

Federal representatives about including disabled folks in their distributions. There are more resources, as well as the full reports that can be found in the Board Packet that was emailed out to meeting participants.

➤ **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Dr. Tom Kelly reported that the Strategic Planning Committee has had two meetings via Zoom, one in March and one in April. In those meetings, the committee was able to finalize and post the Request for Proposals (RFP) on the Westside Regional Center website. Megan Mendes, committee member and WRC staff, created a rating tool for the subcommittee evaluating submitted RFPs. The committee also discussed how the COVID-19 crisis has impacted Strategic Planning, and how it will shape the “new normal” by pushing for more use of technology and creativity. Full meeting minutes for both meetings can be found in the Board Packet that was emailed out to meeting participants.

➤ **SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

JoanElaine Anderson, Board Member, gave thanks to all of the vendors and to WRC for the information and training materials being put out on the website regarding COVID-19. She talked about how all the vendors have really stepped up in partnership in order to tackle the challenges faced in creative and resourceful ways.

➤ **FAMILY EMPOWERMENT CENTER**

Liz Spencer, Director of the FREC, reported about the many changes that the world is experiencing due to COVID-19, and noted that everything can change as quickly as one hour to the next. Liz reiterated that the FREC is open and here for everyone no matter what it is that you need. FREC continues to have multiple projects and groups that are running virtually during this time, including CHADD and The Asperger Parent Support Group. The FREC also plans to launch the virtual meetings of the African American/ Black Parents support group, SibShop, Siempre Amigas and the IHSS class.

Liz also discussed the donation letter written to help build up the WRC Client Help Fund which assists families and clients in need. Because of recent legislation, up to \$300 of any COVID-19 related donation will be tax deductible. That letter is available on the WRC website.

Finally, Liz noted that the FREC staff has been helping to contact WRC families, and has been critical in distributing supplies (such as gloves, masks, diapers, and wipes) to those in need by holding weekly supply distribution drives. She shared some of the positive feedback that she and her staff have received from families, and thanked our community for their continued resilience.

The full report can be found in the Board Packet that was emailed out to meeting participants.

➤ EQUITY

Dr. Tom Kelly reported that the Equity Committee met on April 29 via Zoom. The committee discussed their current project “Creating Successful Transitions”. This project has funding of \$106,018 and will last 12 months. There will be two workshops: Early Childhood Transition, and High School to Community Life. The full presentation that includes details for both workshops can be found in the Board Packet that was emailed out to meeting participants. At this meeting, the committee also heard from SCDD Representative Chris Arroyo who talked about the resources being collected on the SCDD website. These resources span a variety of topics and are written in plain language, available in both English and Spanish. The committee discussed the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on families in transitions and how more information will be crucial moving forward. Full meeting minutes for this meeting can be found in the Board Packet that was emailed out to meeting participants.

➤ SELF DETERMINATION

Judy Mark thanked the Board of Directors for their hard work. Judy read the report for Self Determination. The Committee was not able to meet in March, but met on April 29th via Zoom. It was reported that WRC currently has four individuals fully participating in the Self-Determination program, and there are another four who are ready to start. In total there are 86 people selected for the phase-in. At this meeting, the committee also heard from several participants who voiced their experiences with barriers to participation in relation to the COVID-19 crisis. These included not being able to do PCP meetings in-person, and having difficulty with background checks for incoming staff. Self-Determination will be available statewide June 7, 2021. Judy’s full report can be found in the Board Packet that was emailed out to meeting participants.

Cammy Dupont, Board Member, responded by letting everyone know that there is a 1-800 number available on the Department of Justice (DOJ) website that says which locations are open for LiveScan background checks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Liz Spencer, Director of the WRC FREC, let everyone know that FREC has been participating with the Special Needs Network, who are providing excellent information and resources. They are having meetings Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays. More information can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/specialneedsnetwork/>

Alex Soschin, Board Member, let everyone know that there is a resource called LA Represents (part of a legal assistance initiative) to help people who have needs for legal services during this crisis. More information can be found at: <https://corona-virus.la/LARepresents>

Judy Mark expressed her concern for her family’s well being during the COVID-19 crisis, especially given her proximity to someone who was exposed. She also asked about day programs and how they are abiding to the HCBS rules.

Felicia Ford asked a question regarding Self-Determination; when is the meeting and who can attend? Judy Mark responded by letting everyone know that Jim Knight from DDS will be presenting, and that this meeting will be open to the public. More information and the link to join is forthcoming.

Elizabeth Espinosa, Board Member, reiterated that more communication from the Regional Centers is key in helping the families connected and informed during the COVID-19 crisis. She also commented on the dire need for a plan for safety as the world reopens and integrates back into normal.

Francis Gomez thanked the WRC Staff, especially Liz Spencer for the cloth masks that were given to her and to all the other families. She also thanked the Service Coordinators for their hard work.

Lisa Anderson asked about social distancing in regards to the Westside Jam, and inquired as to when it will be rescheduled. She also expressed difficulty in being able to connect with her SC during this busy time.

Chris Arroyo, from the State Council, let everyone know about the Pandemic EBT (PEBTs). Families will get who participate in CalFresh, Medical or Foster Care Benefits will receive up to \$365 dollars, with no application needed. Chris also commented that SCDD has been working with the Department of Social Services (DSS) in order to get them to broaden CalFresh. As a result, people can now use CalFresh to get food delivered. There is also a new guidance that allows families to pick up student meals provided by the school district without the children needing to be present. Finally Chris talked about the hospital visitation rights of our community. Folks are being denied access to their facilitators, and SCDD is working to change this. So far, 350 organizations signed a petition for PPE to be given to IHSS providers.

Zoey Giesberg, Board member, shared that there is a letter form, put out by ARC, that folks can fill out to demand the federal government to give people with disabilities, their families, and people who work with them COVID-19 relief. That form, and more information can be found here:


<https://www.disabilityadvocacynetwork.org/app/make-a-call?4&engagementId=506895>


Megan Mendes, WRC staff member, shared that WRC has partnered with a number of distilleries to procure hand sanitizer that will be handed out to our community. More information about all the distilleries that are making hand sanitizer at this time can be found here:

https://www.distilledspirits.org/distillers-responding-to-covid-19/distilleries-making-hand-sanitizer/?gv_search=&filter_4_4=California&mode=any

ADJOURNMENT (ACTION*)

The regular Board Meeting was adjourned by Dr. Sofia Vergara at 8:45pm and no public comment followed.



Todd Rubien
Board Co-Secretary

Nilo Choudhry
Board Co-Secretary

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
JUNE 3RD, 2020
ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Austin Dove, Elizabeth Espinosa, Philip Jackson, Myra Mezquita, David Wyles

STAFF PRESENT: Thompson Kelly, Cesar Garcia, Danny Franco, Hillary Kessler, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Liz Spencer, Sonya Lowe, Steve Yi, Kate Harvey, Rhiannon Maycumber, Cristina Azantian, Stephen Browning, Sandy Cabanatan, Patricia Crook, Ana Da Silva, Bernadette Daroca, Alyssa Delagnes, Mina Gomez, Susana Gonzalez, Jessica Haro, Claudia Hernandez, Stephanie Lee, Ellen Liao, Joanne Manese, Soryl Markowitz, Megan Mendes, Natalie Monge, Philomena Morais, Jefferi Moreno-Estrada, Rosalba Ortega, Rafael Palma, Nicole Pierre, Nolan Porter, Anjanette Robinson, Sonia Soriano, Aga Spatzier, Martha Thompson, Megan Tommet-Ramirez, Kenia Torres, Claudia Williams, Elaine Wright-Forris

GUESTS: Chris Arroyo (SCDD), Lynne Alba, Lisa Anderson, Vanessa Arauza, John Arauza, Victoria Berrey, Emily Bloom, Evelyn Diaz, Rayvone Douthard, Jeremy Findel, Felicia Ford, Angelie Fulton, Allison Gray, April Griggs, Mariana Guerrero, David Hadacek, Lauren Henderson, Rebecca Hogan, Speech Therapy Partners Inc., Alyssa Jackson, Esther Kelsey, Shellena Leftridge, Andrea Lemus, Maria Lipstein, Adriana Madrigal, Barbara Marbach, Judy Mark, Carlyn Meshack, Odelia Mirzadeh, Joanna Montes, Treva Moore, Alma Morales, L Moten, Jo Mullins (DDS), Tresa Oliveri, Ruby Paparello, Edwin Pineda, Natalia Pokras, Olga Reyes, Glenda Rhea, Carrie Roos, Nicole Rostoker, Liza San Jose, Kelli Smith, Shannon Stevens, James Taylor, Marlyna Wagreich, Kecia Weller, Wesley Witherspoon, Bailly Zubel

CALL TO ORDER (ACTION*)

Meeting was called to order by Board President, 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, thanked everyone for attending this evening.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Arroyo, Representative from State Counsel let everyone know that they are still giving out PPE via the work of their partner organizations. He state that there are delays, however, due to civil unrest. For safety, State employees were forbidden from leaving their homes for work during this week. He apologized for the delays and reiterated that they will get the PPE out as quickly as they can. Chris also mentioned that the legislature has proposed its own state budget and is rejecting the governor's proposal to cut funding to IHSS and to service providers. The Legislature and the Governor will go back and forth until they can come to an agreement.

Wesley Witherspoon asked what WRC is doing in regards to COVID-19 and protecting everyone's health.

Adriana Madrigal commented that she missed interacting with everyone, and that we are all in this together.

Lisa Anderson inquired when WRC will reopen for the public, and if there will be a timeframe for clients to be in the center. Dr. Kelly responded by letting everyone know that we are still subject to the stay-at-home initiative, but WRC will continue to keep the public informed as things change.

Judy Mark, President of Disability Voices United let everyone know about a forum being held on Friday 3:00pm to 5pm to discuss police violence and its relationship to the disability community. More information can be found here: <https://conta.cc/3eFyEdk>

Felicia Ford wanted to thank everyone for the work that they are doing, with a special mention of thanks to the WRC FREC getting PPE out. She also commented on the civil unrest and the importance of the Black Lives Matter Movement. She called for continued conversations surrounding race, especially within WRC and the disability community.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT (ACTION*)

Dr. Sofia Vergara, Board President, stated that the purpose of the June Board Meeting is normally to serve as the Annual Board Meeting. During the Annual meeting, it is the duty of the Board to nominate and reelect Board Officials. However, she noted that the Board has not been able to meet in person due to the safety concerns of COVID-19. Since the Board Elections are typically held in person, and require the use of a anonymous ballot system, the Board is not set up to effectively or fairly hold the elections virtually, at this time. She also noted that the Board Executive Committee has been focusing their efforts on hiring a permanent Executive Director for WRC, and has not extended the search for the two additional board members needed. Therefore, Dr. Vergara motioned to have the Board Elections moved to the July Board Meeting, and have that meeting serve as the Annual meeting.

Sofia Vergara, Board President (Motion), Todd Rubien, Board Member (Second) to postpone annual elections until July.

11 AYES
0 NAYS
0 ABSTENTIONS

RESOLUTION: MOTION PASSED. THE JULY BOARD MEETING WILL BE THE ANNUAL MEETING, AND THE ANNUAL BOARD ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD THEN.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Vanda Yung, Board Member, suggested that the Board use the anonymous polling feature on Zoom to conduct the secret ballot votes for Board Elections.

Dr. Vergara closed her report by reminding the Board members that they will need to complete the annual Whistleblower and Conflict of Interest Forms. Those will be sent by Kate Harvey, Board Liaison. She also stated that there would be no closed session board meeting this evening.

REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Tom Kelly, Interim Executive Director, condemned the racism and intolerance in American society and commented that WRC is committed to promoting equality. Dr. Kelly also reported about the “new normal” that we are living in due to COVID-19. He discussed the continuously evolving procedures to ensure that Westside and our providers are able to be safe and supported as they continue to work. This includes continuing to collect and distribute PPE, isolation procedures, surge homes, and the use of technology to stay connected. Dr. Kelly also discussed the fiscal challenges to Westside, and all Regional Centers at this time. While there are proposed budget cuts, there is hope that the state of California will receive some federal reimbursement, and therefore the budget will be more or less flat.

Dr. Kelly also acknowledged Soryl Markowitz, Autism Specialist for WRC, for her retirement. He thanked her for her 31 years of service with WRC, and reiterated how much hard work and positivity she has brought to the organization.

REPORT ON VENDORIZATION

Dr. Tom Kelly gave an overview explanation of both the types of contracts used by Westside Regional Center, as well as explained the Vendorization Process. For contracts, he explained that every service provider has a contract, and while many are standard, there are some specialized contracts that include additional language.

More information about the types of contracts can be found in Dr. Kelly's full report, which is included in the Board Packet.

Regarding the Vendorization Process, Dr. Kelly explained the basic steps. Individuals or companies submit a proposal, along with various legal documents, agreements, and others, and if approved, a rate is established. Qualified vendors go on a list, and can be utilized by Regional Centers as needed. All vendors are reviewed by a Quality Assurance team for quality standards. More information about the Vendorization Process can be found in Dr. Kelly's full report, which is included in the Board Packet. Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Director of Community Services, answered questions regarding Vendorization and she is the final sign off for the Vendorization Process. She and Dr. Kelly offered to do a Board training for a more in-depth explanation of the vendorization process.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MAY 6TH, 2020 BOARD MEETING (ACTION*)

Nilo Choudhry, Board Member (Motion) and, Vanda Yung, Board Member, (Second) the approval of the May 6th, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes.

11 AYES
0 NO
0 ABSTENTIONS

No public comment. The motion passed.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MAY 6, 2020 BOARD MEETING.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

➤ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (ACTION*)

Cammy Dupont, Board Treasurer, gave a brief summary of the Code of Conduct document proposed. This document can be found on page 13 of the Board packet. This document is intended to set out guidelines for an atmosphere of inclusivity and a safe space during Board Meetings, and would apply to both Board Members and all attendees. The code would designate the Board Chair to be the person who redirects the conversation as needed in order to promote diversity and inclusivity.

Cammy DuPont, Board Treasurer (Motion), JoanE Anderson, Board Member (Second) the approval of this Code of Conduct

11 AYES
0 NO
0 ABSTENTIONS

No public comment. The motion passed.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT TO BE PUT INTO EFFECT AND TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BOARD PACKETS MOVING FORWARD.

➤ **FINANCE (ACTION*)**

Cammy DuPont, Board Treasurer, reported regarding the budget, which can be found on page 14 of the board packet. 79% of POS budget and 75% of OPS budget have been spent. Given that, WRC will have funds available to be able to pay down on CalPERS retirement for its employees. Cammy also noted that the finalized audit will be to the Board for approval at the July meeting. The Tax return 990 form will also be completed at that time. The full Finance report can be found in the Board packet.

CONTRACTS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM (CRP): 24/7 CRISIS INTERVENTION (pg. 15 of the Board Packet)**

Cammy DuPont, Board Treasurer (Motion), Todd Rubien, Board Member (Second) approval of the renewal of 24/7 Crisis Intervention Contract

**9 AYES
0 NO
2 ABSTENTIONS**

RESOLUTION: MOTION HAS PASSED. APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT

PUBLIC COMMENT: Judy Mark inquired about the effectiveness of this program, given that the crisis team are not typically familiar with the families calling in. Mary Lou responded that wellness checks are done by our team, and they have been extremely effective.

- **COMMUNITY INTEGRATED WORK PROGRAM (pg. 16 of the Board Packet)**

Cammy DuPont, Board Treasurer (Motion), Dr. Sofia Vergara, Board President (Second) approval of the renewal of the Community Integrated Work Program Contract.

**9 AYES
0 NO
2 ABSTENTIONS**

RESOLUTION: MOTION HAS PASSED. APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT

- **START Team (page 39 of the Board Packet)**

Cammy DuPont, Board Treasurer (Motion), Todd Rubien, Board Member (Second) approval of the approval of the START Team contract

**9 AYES
0 NO
2 ABSTENTIONS**

RESOLUTION: MOTION HAS PASSED. APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT

➤ **BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Board Elections were postponed to next meeting as per the motion during the Chairman's Report.

➤ **CLIENT SERVICES (ACTION*)**

The Supported Living Services (SLS) & Independent Living Services (ILS) policies were updated to include more plain language and make them more accessible/user friendly. In addition, there was an update to the ILS timeline outlined.

RESOLUTION: The Board requests to see the original document, the mark-ups, and the final edited version to understand what has changed. These documents will be reviewed and put for approval at the July Board Meeting.

➤ **CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Todd Rubien, Board Member and President of CAC reported that CAC members are trying to do things as normally as possible, even in the face of COVID-19. He reports that members are keeping busy by doing healthy activities such as cleaning, taking walks, and doing Zoom calls with each other. He, and the rest of CAC remain strong and continue to persevere.

Esther Kelsey, Vice Chair of CAC, reported on behalf of Joe Allan. She reported that even in the face of COVID-19, CAC members are practicing healthy habits, such as healthy eating, exercise, and prayer, Esther also noted that CAC members have been very active. They are looking forward to the DVU webinar and want to keep up to date with the budget. Finally, CAC sends their thanks to several individuals for their work during this time; Soryl Markowitz on her 30+ years, Aaron Carruthers of SCDD for his advice with writing letters to the governor and legislators so they know what life would be like for clients and families without services, Megan Mendes and the FREC for hand sanitizers and masks, and Chris Arroyo of SCDD for coordinating the large distributions of PPE.

➤ **EXECUTIVE SEARCH**

Dr. Sofia Vergara, Board President, reports that the Board continues to work with Envision Consulting on the Executive Search. They have narrowed down the applicants, and will be inviting four to five of the top candidates for all-day interviews on July 10th. Two or three final candidates will be chosen, and those candidates will meet with the entire Board. The Board members will have the option to participate in-person (while wearing PPE and maintaining social distance) or participate virtually via Zoom.

➤ **EQUITY**

Dr. Tom Kelly reported that the Equity Committee met last week and discussed the Early Childhood Transitions webinar series, the first of two transitions webinars being held. This series, aimed at parents and guardians of African American and Latino children ages two and a half to three years, consisted of four meetings that took place between May 19th and May 28th. The informational flyers for this webinar series can be found in the board packets.

The Equity Committee also continued to discuss the disparity challenges in the face of COVID-19. It was discussed that lower income families in particular, are facing barriers accessing services and technology while businesses are shut down and people are sheltering at home. Another main point of discussion was the difficulties that people with special needs face while trying to receive services for their medical needs

during COVID-19. The committee plans on further looking into ways that people in this community can access services safely, and how exceptions could be made within the medical system to help.

➤ **FAMILY EMPOWERMENT CENTER**

Liz Spencer, Director of the FREC, expressed her heartbreak and dismay during the civil unrest. She emphasized that she, especially as a mother, walks alongside Black mothers and families during this time to support, learn, and advocate for them. Liz reiterated that the FREC is here to support the community through COVID-19, civil unrest, and all other changing times. She and her staff remain committed to timely, accurate and up to date information over the phone, on the website, and through email communications.

Liz also reported that the FREC and WRC have been able to give out over 6000 cloth facemasks to families, providers, and other members of the community. She reminded everyone that the donation letter written to help build up the WRC Client Help Fund, which assists families, can be found on the WRC website. Liz's full report can be found in the Board Packet.

➤ **POLITICAL ACTION & ARCA**

Zoey Giesberg, ARCA Representative and Board Member, reported about the Hero's Act that will help reduce cuts to California Disability Services. Information to contact the senate can be found here:

<https://mailchi.mp/arcanet/senate-protects-dd-system-but-your-call-is-needed?e=e881fc98c6>

Information regarding how to contact your state officials here: <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>. Zoey's full report can be found in the Board Packet.

➤ **SELF DETERMINATION**

Judy Mark, DVU, reported that the Self Determination meeting was well attended this month, and that there are four participants fully in the Self Determination Program as of now. She also noted that there is going to be a statewide meeting in order to discuss reducing barriers to folks who are accessing self-determination at all RCs.

➤ **SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY**

JoanElaine Anderson, Board Member, reported that vendors are continuing to be creative in order to continue to support this community during COVID-19. The vendors are reaching out from different RCs in order to make sure everyone is being supported and sharing ideas. JoanE is proud of everyone coming together to solve problems and be creative.

➤ **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Dr. Tom Kelly reported that the Strategic Planning Committee has received seven submissions in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP) that was posted in April of this year, and due June 1st. A subcommittee, consisting of a board member, vendor, WRC employee, family member, and a WRC client, will be reviewing the submissions to determine who will be awarded the contract. The committee plans to read, review, and score all the submissions, and complete the process by the end of the fiscal year, June 19th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Zoey Giesberg, Board Member, reiterated her support and empathy for the Black community at this time. She commented that she, along with the entire WRC, would like to do whatever is necessary to be allies and use our voices for change.

Soryl Markowitz, WRC Employee, commented her support for the Black community and acknowledges that she has a lot more to learn as a white person. She let everyone know that there is going to be a silent protest in memorial of George Floyd at 9:00pm tonight. People will have flashlights and hold them to the sky for 8 minutes and 46 seconds to commemorate George Floyd and to stand with the Black community. She also thanked everyone for her 31 years at WRC and said how much she will miss everyone.

Betty Pearson-Grimble, Vice President, thanked Soryl for her years of service and hard work at WRC.

Josh (Judy Mark's son) thanked Soryl specifically for all she has done for him. Judy Mark commented that Sydney Kamlager, Assembly Member for the 54th local district, which includes Culver City and several of the surrounding areas, will be speaking at the police forum on Friday.

Wesley Witherspoon requested that the RC reach out to the police to coordinate trainings with the police focused specifically on working with folks who have disabilities.

Vanda Yung, Board Member commented that she participates in Asian American Parent groups and that group members report that they are happy to now be able to attend virtually. Vanda asked that anyone who may be interested in participating in any of these groups be directed to her.

Barbara Marbach reminded everyone that the IEP Support Group is meeting virtually tomorrow, Thursday at 6:30pm. Registration info is on the WRC calendar.

Megan Mendes commented that it is LGBTQIA+ month and discussed that the annual WRC Pride Event will be held virtually. She let everyone know that she and the planning committee would love to hear suggestions of what to do for this event. She can be reached at: meganm@westsiderc.org

Chris Arroyo, SCDD, expressed his thanks and acknowledgement to all of the partner agencies that are helping distribute face shields, masks, and hand sanitizer.

Natalia Pokras asked what the recommendation of WRC for providers conducting services in person.

Rhiannon Maycumber, WRC, let everyone know that there is a plan to bring in a clinical psychologists to do a Zoom presentation regarding mental health during a time of pandemic and civil unrest. Dr. Myra Mendez will be doing the presentation, specifically for providers, next week. Rhiannon also stated that she and her team are putting together a similar presentation for CAC and other folks (third week of June, no solid date yet). Link to how to find your California legislators to email/call regarding the budget

ADJOURNMENT (ACTION*)

Dr. Vergara thanked everyone for their patience and participation during this long virtual meeting. The regular Board Meeting was adjourned by Dr. Sofia Vergara, seconded by Zoey Giesberg, at 8:37pm and no public comment followed.