

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
WEDNESDAY JULY 1, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Blumenthal
Courtney Colman
Linda Demer
Austin Dove
Cammy Starks DuPont
Zoe Adams Giesberg
Fernando Gomez
Sandra Gonzalez
Paula Hilton
Priscilla Hoe
Philip Jackson
Portia Lanae Griffith
Gail Louis
Adriana Madrigal
Larry P. Ryan
Maria Soto
Russell Tanner

ABSENT: Ben Davidson (SPAC), Betty Pearson-Grimble, Bob Steiner

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Feeman, Danny Franco, Kevin MacDonald, Carmine Manicone, Kerwind Portillo, Liz Spencer, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser

GUESTS: Joseph Allen Jr., Chris Arroyo, Lisa Basiri, Alicia Bazzano, Desree Boykin, Linda Butler, Nilo Choudhry, Zakir Choudhry, Nick Coplin, Ana Cruz, Mike Danneker, Marcelo DiMauro, Rayvone Douthard, Catherine Eldridge, Elizabeth Espinoza, Cecilia Fabulich, Sylvia Fahimian, Laurene Feldman, Danny Garcia, Elizabeth Gomez, Brett Gordon, Perry Griffith, Betty Grifford, Marcia James, Betsy Johnson, Rafer Johnson, Raquel Johnson, Esther Kelsey, Soryl Markowitz, Barbara McCants, David Mezquita, Mayra Mezquita, Christine Monroe, Todd Rubien, Robert Schwartz, Mark Seidenberg, Vicki Smith, Martha Thompson, Felicia Williams, Wesley Witherspoon, Steve Yi, Ari Zeldin

Board Chair Priscilla Hoe called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves. Chairperson Priscilla Hoe announced changes to the Agenda and set ground rules for an effective and productive meeting. Public Comment has been moved to the end of the Agenda and will be limited to three minutes per speaker. Each speaker will have one turn at the microphone. For Action Items the public will be invited to comment after board discussion is completed but before Action Item is voted

on. The Executive Director's Report will be moved earlier into the meeting. Board members will be recognized by the Chair in order to speak. Board members may speak one at a time and there should be no interruptions when a Board member is speaking. There should be no sidebar conversations, whispering, or private conversations when a Board member is speaking. Each speaker should be given undivided attention. Any questions should be directed to the Chair. The Chair will answer all questions. If a Board member would like support the Chair's response, the Chair will call on that person. There will be no dialogue between the Board members and the public during the meeting.

The Chair was questioned about the changes and the order of the Agenda. In working with the Executive Director the Chair made all the decisions in the changes of the Agenda. It was noted that there was no item within the Agenda asking for the approval of the Agenda itself. This agenda was set by the Chair and the Executive Director because of the advance public notice requirement set forth by the bylaws.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

There was a discussion that the June 3rd, 2015 minutes were incomplete. The following words were added to the minutes and accepted by the Board:

(1) There was discussion from a Board member expressing concern on the validity of how the voting is being carried by the fact that new members were given the right to vote while an outgoing board member continued voting while technically termed out.

(2) Strong objections were expressed to a point made by a member of the public regarding clients holding offices.

(3) Although the motion to split the Office of Secretary and have Co-Chairs carried, the vote count should be corrected to reflect the actual numbers. The actual numbers were 8 in favor, 2 oppose, & 4 abstentions.

M/S/C – (Blumenthal/Jackson) To accept the corrections to the minutes of June 3, 2015

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Priscilla Hoe addressed the issues concerning the Officer elections. There was a tie in the election for Vice-Chair. The solution recommended by the Chair was to have Co-Vice-Chairs pending legal counsel. The attorney's interpretation of the Bylaws shows that it is permitted to share the office of the Vice-Chair. The Bylaws provide that newly elected Board members take their seats immediately and are allowed to vote. A sitting Board member that was vacating their seat by the end of the year also voted in the election. It was the attorney's conclusion that this outgoing Board member's vote should not have been allowed. The need for a re-vote for the Vice-Chair Office was planned for the September 2015 meeting. Judy Blumenthal, Co-Vice Chair withdrew her name from the ballot, thus eliminating the need for a re-vote, but will continue on the Board and continue as Chair of the Client Services Committee. As a result Sandra Gonzalez is the new Board Vice-Chair.

The Nominating Committee will be reactivated. Paula Hilton and Phil Jackson will be on the committee. The Chair would like participation from one of the new Board members. The purpose of the committee will be to recruit and identify two additional Board members. The two new members would need to be Latino in order to bring the Board composition closer in line with DDS guidelines.

A Bylaws Review Committee will be formed and will be chaired by Cammy Starks DuPont. Priscilla Hoe will also serve on the committee and invited other Board members to join.

The Diversity Committee has been reactivated and is being renamed The Equity Committee chaired by Fernando Gomez. Anyone interested in joining this committee may contact Fernando Gomez.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kevin MacDonald announced there is a committee sign up book being passed around for Board members to sign up. All Committees are included in this book with a brief description of each committee. The general public is welcome to sign up for any of the committees except for the Nominating Committee as it is only open to Board members. The Nominating Committee is limited to four members but the Chair has opened it for more Board members to participate.

The Executive Director presented his report to the Board:

- Update on the State Budget and Special Session of the Legislature.
- WRC held a public meeting to address WRC's caseload ratios.
- WRC is number one in the state in bringing in Federal Waiver funding.
- WRC is installing a new security swipe card entry system and there are plans to upgrade the board room.
- Kevin has visited the following programs as part of his goal to meet vendors: UCP, Performing Arts Studio West, Mychal's Place, L.A. Goal, Best Buddies, & College Hospital – Cerritos.
- Kevin and Mary Lou will be holding a series of summits on particular programs in the fall. These summits will include day employment, work activity programs and residential service providers. We will be addressing where the system is going in the future.
- Conflict of Interest forms are included in everyone's board packet. Kevin will assist anyone who needs assistance in filling them after the board meeting.
- The process for Board Orientation was discussed.
- Personnel changes, Kerwind will be moving to Bill's department and working with transfers. A new Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director will be hired.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee reviewed the May financial report. May represents 92% of the year. We are within budget in OPS at 83.2%. POS is at 97.1%. We anticipate being \$11.7 million over budget in POS. The committee looked over the preliminary budget for 2016. Those budget numbers have been increased to meet what are projected expenditures for this year. They covered some Administrative technical issues like signature cards, etc.

ACHIEVABLE

There was no report.

CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Larry P. Ryan presented his report to the board. In May, at the Movers to Self-Advocacy Group, they discussed earthquake kits.

In support of the Lanterman Coalition the group has sent many emails to the Governor's and Senator Holly Mitchell's office. Several self-advocacy members have contacted Assembly

Member Kevin de Leon to support the Assembly 10% funding starting in July and the Senate's propose system reform to the Developmental Disabilities Services system.

In May and June Larry has taken the Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) training class facilitated by the L.A. Fire Department and graduated June 27th. He encourages everyone to get involve in the C.E.R.T. program within their communities. We applauded Larry's efforts, for which he was given an award.

POLITICAL ACTION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Sandra Gonzalez and the committee developed 5 goals the group will be focusing on throughout the year. These goals include, identifying key stakeholders and individuals to develop and maintain strong relationships with, to strengthen our visibility, to look at non-traditional opportunities for connecting, and the possibility of being able to develop their own video and fact sheet that would allow them to tell our story.

CLIENT SERVICE COMMITTEE

Judy Blumenthal and the committee met today and looked at 5 hot topics which they are calling their strategic plan. The 5 categories were defined and they will put them in to goal form. They are outreach and education, employment, the aging population, transition age youth, and housing.

ARCA

Fernando Gomez met with the ARCA committee last month and presented his report to the Board:

- Senator Beall was a guest speaker at their annual dinner.
- They went over the Governor's budget and the May revise.
- In roads were made in participating in the Lanterman Coalition.
- Key areas they want to focus on going forward; better engagement in Sacramento, to include an actual sit down with the Governor.
- The Board delegates group will engage more in a grassroots effort so both parents and individuals that we serve become more involved.
- The board delegates will go back to each regional center with some ideas.
- Fernando is looking to leverage the Equity committee and work with others similar to the PAC to reach out to the communities and multiply participation.
- ARCA will be moving offices in the near future.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There was no report.

WESTSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE/EMPOWERMENT CENTER (WFREC)

Liz Spencer reports 2 mentor programs were/are in the works. One was completed and the other they are in the midst of doing. They've partnered with Clinical Services for a Mental Health Services Act grant to do a parent mentor training. They graduated 11 parent mentors who can now go into the community and support other families with young adults who have a dual diagnosis. They are currently working with Cal State Long Beach and Emily Island from the Autism Society on training "Promotoras," a Spanish language parent mentor, who would be a woman because it is culturally appropriate for women to visit other women in the home. This would be mothers, grandmothers, or sisters of a person with autism spectrum disorder.

Ms. Spencer praised the work that Aga Spatzier and Janea Perez, both from Clinical Services, have done to achieve these grants.

Next week the WFREC will be hosting the Angelman Syndrome Literacy Project which involves about 30 parents from across the county who will be working with a specialist from Canada. They will be trained on how to build communication books.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS VIDEO

Fernando acknowledged Rafer Johnson's attendance, who has been with the Special Olympics since its inception. A private group from Culver City is hosting the Malaysian team for the World Games. There are 44 individuals on that team who will be arriving the week before the World Games. Bill Feeman and Kevin are part of the Culver City committee. Rafer Johnson addressed the board and shared his sentiments about the Special Olympics.

OPEN AGENDA

Chairperson Priscilla Hoe opened the floor for public comment.

Esther Kelsey, Chair of the Consumer Advisory Committee, requested her statement be entered into the minutes of the meeting. "The CAC officers and involved consumers are the voices of the WRC consumers. They want to let the board know that they are not happy for the treatment they have received by this board for the statements made at the last board meeting. They are not happy for how they have been treated lately the past seven months. She directed her statements to the board members and former board members and the Executive Director of WRC. Your treatment of us is unacceptable. We are here to remind you that you are in our house. How dare you mistreat us in the way you have. Last month you made us feel afraid. The board meetings are no longer a safe place. We are afraid to be on the board because you may take our services away to punish us and the people who support us. Stop punishing us. You made us embarrassed you hurt our feelings and you lost the ability to see us as people first. Some of you are even blind. As we were being insulted someone from the audience asked for you to apologize. And you refused by saying that anyone can say anything they want. No they cannot. You and anyone who thinks that it is o.k. to disrespect us, talk down to us, and not help us should not be here. We do not need people like you. You lack character, you lack morals, you lack the ability to speak for us because you do not have any idea who we are and what we are capable of doing. You lack the ability to keep us safe. In fact you are the very people who make us unsafe. You also show prejudice. In the past you acted like you liked us but we've seen that's not the truth. It makes us wonder why you are on the board. You show that you have no respect for us. Just because some of you have relatives with a disability that you don't need that you should use as leverage and use your relatives as an excuse to act like you have an interest in us. We say, shame on you. Frank Lanterman had to help make a law because of people like you. Shame on you, shame on you, shame on you. Since you have made it clear that you agree in supporting someone saying that we are less than, and dangerous, and have no ability to see us as people who can function with some assistance. We are asking that the Chair of the Board, the Secretary, the outgoing Treasurer to step down from the board. We need to go forward with people who are not going to crucify us, penalize us, punish us, destroy our character, or discriminate against us. Thank you for taking the time to hear us and we are expecting to hear a response to CAC soon. Thank you and Madame Chair I would like to have this entered into the minutes."

Brett Gordon spoke to the board and cannot believe what has happened the past few months.

Elizabeth Espinoza announced she is also an ambassador for the Games. She again, wants to submit her consideration for the board.

Elizabeth Gomez spoke against public comments being at the end of the meeting.

Anna Cruz, a parent of a WRC child requested assistance with a psychological evaluation.

Dr. Alicia Bazzano spoke of the Healthy Athletes program through Special Olympics.

Linda Demer spoke of voter registration for clients.

Ayode Woods spoke of his participation in athletics and the Special Olympics.

Portia Lanae Griffith thanked the group for the opportunity to serve as Co-Secretary.

Chris Arroyo from the State Council's L.A. office, formerly Area Board X announced that he is distributing flyers about training opportunities.

Adjournment at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Portia Lanae Griffith and Paula Hilton,
Co-Secretaries

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WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Priscilla Hoe
Courtney Colman
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Linda Demer
Maria Soto
Philip Jackson
Russell Tanner
Sandra Gonzalez
Zoe Adams Giesberg

ABSENT: Bob Steiner, Betty Pearson-Grimble, Judy Blumenthal

STAFF PRESENT: Kevin MacDonald, Bill Feeman, Carmine Manicone, Danny Franco, Danise Lehrer, Denise Fernald, Liz Spencer, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Vanessa Arauza

GUESTS: Nilo Choudhry, Carmen Ibarra (Achievable), Zakir Choudhry, Connie Lapin (Autism Society L.A.), Chris Arroyo (SCDD), Ari Zeldin, Sylvia Fahimian, Wesley Witherspoon, Sandy Rubenfeld, Harvey Lapin, Brett Gordon, Jennifer Mantell, Allen Erenbaum, Cesar Garcia, Barbara McCants, Tom Ryan, Shawn Casey O'Brien, Esther Kelsey, Elena Bustamante, Denise Thornquest (DDS), Martha Thompson, Judy Mark, Barbara Marbach, Betty Griffith, Betsy Johnson, Cecilia Fabulich, Judy Enright, Elizabeth Gomez, Ana DaSilva, Markowitz, Todd Rubien, Joseph Allen Jr., Alicia Bazzano, Linda Butler, Nick Coplin, Laurene Feldan, Aga Spatzier, Ereida Galda, Malcolm Ross, Leshon Jackson, Steve Yi

Board Chair Priscilla Hoe called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves by Chairperson, Priscilla Hoe.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

Chairperson, Priscilla Hoe, motioned for the approval Board Meeting Minutes of July 1, 2015. Board Director, Fernando Gomez, motioned for postponement of the approval of the July 1, 2015 minutes due to receiving them late. Chairperson second the motioned to postpone the

approval of the minutes of the July 1, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes to the next Board Meeting scheduled on November 4, 2015 at 6:00 PM along with September 16, 2015 meeting minutes.

*M/Postponed/C (Hoe/Gomez) To approve the July 1, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes –
Postponed to the next Board Meeting on November 4, 2015 at
6:00 PM.*

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson, Priscilla Hoe, informed that they had their first Executive Committee Meeting in early August. Members included Priscilla Hoe (Chairperson), Paula Hilton (Co-Secretary), Portia Lanae Griffith (Co-Secretary) and Courtney Colman (Treasurer). Together they went over the response to the Whistle Blower letter and tonight's agenda. Chairperson would like to schedule a meeting with the CAC Members to go over concerns and to bring everyone together.

Several Board Members voiced their apologies and regrets for not speaking up in the June Board meeting when someone made inappropriate statements concerning a Co-Secretary's candidacy. They are all looking to move forward and never let this happen again.

Board Education Training

Chairperson, Priscilla Hoe, Kevin met with the new Board Members for basic orientation and now we need a full Board Training session and an email was sent to the Board. There are three topics for the training session:

1. Board Protocol by Judy Enright
2. Diversity, working on a speaker
3. The Roll of a Facilitator by Marcia James
4. Finance Basics for Regional Center Funding 101 presented by Danny Franco
5. Provide a forum for everyone to weigh in and try and bring everyone together again.

There is a sign up sheet going around with four dates in October. Please select the dates that would work best for you and we will contact you with the date that works best for everyone.

Chairperson, Priscilla, we had committee sign ups at the last Board Meeting and we had a good attendance tonight. Please sign up for at least one committee. After the July Meeting, we accepted Gail Lewis's resignation. Board Member, Sandra Gonzalez, in the committee report section will talk more about the nominating committee, because with Gail's resignation we now have three Board seats that need to be filled.

The Agenda item number 8. Following this Board Meeting there will be a closed Board session. A legal issue will be addressed so that meeting will be restricted to Board members only. We don't anticipate any Board Action will occur at that meeting.

Board Member, Fernando Gomez, spoke of his concerns regarding the response to the Whistleblower letter to DDS.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kevin MacDonald would like to add-on to what was said earlier. He met with the CAC group following the last Board Meeting and some of the Executive Team Members joined him in early mid-July. They had a heart-to-heart during an hour and half conversation with CAC Members and family members. They made the same the same commitment to not let anybody come and

attack or question the abilities of people with disabilities at Westside. If someone comes in to bash anyone in here we will cut them off or kick them out. We are not going to let anyone take advantage of the people we serve or question their abilities. You can question policies and procedures but do not question the people we serve or the people in this room.

The Executive Director presented his report to the Board:

Immediate

- Introduced new Executive Assistant, Vanessa Arauza
- Met with staff several times this summer
- Waiting on the Gold Medal Services Task Force
- State budget - focusing on it.
- Westside Budget – working with Danny Franco and the team to make sure that is tight.
- Operational Plan for our staff. Developing an in house operational plan to provide better services for people with disabilities.
- New swipe card entry service thanks to Steve Yi.
- Paperless – we are starting with Cesar Garcia's Team in Early Start.
- Upgrades to the Boardroom in the next few months– Quotes have been very high priced so he's looking at lower budget and look at other option.
- Has been on the road meeting people out in the community.

Near Future

- Caseload ratios - our major focus has been to bring them down.
- Mary Lou and Community Services are working on the Summit and CMS changes that are coming down by Fed's coming soon.
- Employment Summit – new priority for us and a strategic plan
- Mental Health Resource Team – an internal team is being out together to help the multiple mental health issues going on in our community
- A more structured training program for our staff
- "My Support Software"

Next 6-12 Months

- WRC gives back
- Westside International
- New Westside Welcome Center
- Outreach Project to our Community
- Employment Center
- Healthcare – try to stay ahead of that with the great doctor's we have at WRC
- Inclusion 2016
- Westside Seniors

We have a lot a lot of projects. We will include the Board and the community in the process.

The Budget Dance has had quite a cycle since the Governor released it in January. The big three met with the governor around June 15 and everything was blue lined by the governor. Then Governor called for a special session to look at California infrastructure and Public Health and Developmental Services. We are back at the battle because it starts again January 4th, but it starts again at our local district now because everyone is home for a few months and this is time to go after them and get that 10% back we put on the table.

This Saturday will be having training with Dr. Falvey, we still have some space available. We will have a public hearing on October 11th regarding our Performance Contract.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee met today at 5:00 pm, we are in transition time in terms of year-end. We are just starting the new year and we are only 8% of the year and as you can see OPS was little under budget and on POS we were just on budget target, but it is very early. We reviewed last year's numbers, but we won't go over it until that is finalized with the audit and the auditors just came in this week. The auditors are here and we are on track for this year financially.

ACHIEVABLE

Carmen Ibarra presented her report to the board. They have been very busy and more than doubled in patients. As a result, we are in the process of looking for a new physician or mid-level practitioner so they can open up more access to people. In terms of direct services, we just started a new partnership with the Chicago School of Professional Psychology so we have expanded our services to include psychology. They are here three times a week and they just started in August and it's been a real good experience so far. We just submitted our competitive application for continued funding to HRSA which is federal department that basically funds all federally qualified health centers. It's competitive because it is basically open to others that may be interested in serving this particular area. We feel very strongly about it in terms of what we turned in. We have asked for about \$550,000 each year for the next three years. We should hear about that in three months or so.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Cammy Starks DuPont reported to the board that the committee has not met. She has reviewed the bylaws and they have not been revised since 2012. She also looked at the bylaws of seven other California Regional Centers to see if there were things there that made sense to put in ours. She thinks they need a lot of work. Anyone interested in joining this committee is asked to have a side bar between sessions today to figure out when we can meet or do things by email. The bylaws need to be easy for anyone to read and understand them.

CLIENT SERVICE COMMITTEE

Paula Hilton presented to the board in the absence of Judy Blumenthal. After introductions and welcoming Zoe and Portia to the committee, we heard from Pam Arturi and Jill Hewes of the Community Services Department. They are doing some incredible things with inclusive programs, focused on employment for our clients, and tailor made support days. They work with students attending West LA College in the school to college program, which is a vocational program, to get the students in a career. We have about eight of our clients at the West LA College now. The Project Search Program was started in Cincinnati in 1995 and has been picked up at UCLA and it primarily takes place in a hospital setting at UCLA and at Kaiser. It's a yearlong program where our clients work in rotations in different areas of the hospital. Many of them, in fact 70% success rate, end up with a paying job. Their internship is for a year. There's a "Project Search" video on YouTube and it is a very successful program and they are opening doors for our community. The idea is we are moving towards more inclusion and everyone has the opportunity to work.

CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Larry P. Ryan presented his report to the board by reading a letter composed by the members of CAC. Here are some bullet points of their concerns:

- Multiple requests have been made for the Board to respect the consumers, but they continue to feel disrespected.
- As Board Members, we expect you to be well informed in order to effectively represent and support our needs.
- All we have seen you do is argue and blame one another for your lack of knowledge and attack our supporter.
- You refuse to do what has been asked of you. You being here is harmful and we'll never feel safe with the current board chair or board secretary.
- The board chair and Executive Director have made changes that are not voted by anyone else.
- The Chair and Executive Director did not stop Rene Rivas from saying those mean things because you agree with him.
- You have finally apologized, but it is very unfortunate that you had to be forced to make your apology. It took three months for you to apologize.
- Priscilla we ask that you to step down, because you do not have the experience to run this board. We ask to step down because you do not respect us, our wishes and feel you have no intention to protect us.
- You and the executive director hide behind words.
- Priscilla's term is up in June of next year. Instead of stepping down you are going to destroy CAC, Self Advocacy, our rights, our abilities to use our regional center and the Westside Way.
- We feel we cannot trust you, but will keep our promise once Priscilla and Paula step down. We are willing to meet and discuss how to heal and how to move forward.
- You harm us. You hurt us. The only reason you will not step down is your ego.
- We are asking each and every board member if this is how you see us? Do you think that our wishes are not to be respected?
- We no longer have any confidence in what was once a great board. For those of you that are you who are new, why did you apply?

Several Board Members spoke up and agreed there should be no personal attacks allowed towards anyone at WRC Board meetings. This includes clients, family members, Board Members or staff. Our goal is to move forward and build better, stronger relationships between CAC and the Board.

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Fernando Gomez had an amazing first Equity Committee Meeting and quickly found that an hour is not enough time. For the November Board Meeting they will need to schedule a two hour meeting. We have a guest attending the Equity Committee meeting, Ana DaSilva, South Central Regional Center Board Chair. They want to start an Equity Committee there too and wanted to sit in the meeting to collaborate and pull resources. They had 8 people at today's meeting, but are expecting about 15 people to attend the November Meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sandra Gonzalez would like to schedule their first Nominating Committee Meeting. Last Board meeting a sign up sheet was passed around and about four Board Members signed up. Asked those that signed up to meet with her briefly after the Board meeting to identify a date and time

to meet within the next 2 weeks. There they will discuss timelines, the process and nominating a Committee Chair.

Fernando Gomez added that the Committee is open to individuals who wish to take part, but will not be able to vote on issues, according to the Bylaws.

Priscilla Hoe said she would look into it to confirm but believed Fernando's comment was correct.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Sandra Gonzalez commented that the Political Action Committee met today at 5:00 p.m. They discussed the importance of focusing and emphasizing on advocacy by means of visiting local senators and assembly members. We get a group together inclusive of staff, Board Members, parents and clients. We will pass around a sign up sheet for everyone to sign up. We welcome everyone to sign up so we can get this started as soon as next month.

ARCA

Fernando Gomez, ARCA has been extremely busy. Kevin's report covered a lot of the elements that they have been involved with. He has completed his two year term as the ARCA Chair and has moved sideways Chairing the Board Delegates group for the remaining year. Should there be anyone interested in the Board Delegate option, he warned it does require a lot of traveling. However, if you are not in an officer position you only need to go to Sacramento once a month for the ARCA Board Meeting. We are in the last year of the 3 year strategic plan. In October there will be a 2 day retreat in San Diego to create the next 3 year strategic plan. There will be a lot of new things covered as ARCA continues to expand.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ben Davidson reported they had the SPAC meeting yesterday. Chris Arroyo spoke at the meeting about the role of SCDD. There were about 30 service provider agencies present at that meeting. On Monday, Service Chairs from all the different regional centers and reviewed the special session that we heard about tonight. Tony Anderson who heads up that committee is also a big voice of the Lanterman Collision was there. They will have one of chief legal officers from Uber who will come in October and talk to SPAC about transportation and some of the issues there.

Someone from the public said they did not like Uber because they heard someone got hurt while riding on an Uber vehicle.

Ben invited the person from the public to come to that meeting. Does not know exactly what is on the agenda for that October meeting, but said it's a big deal they will be coming to that meeting to speak to them. Currently Uber only has two vans accessible to our population and that needs to be improved.

The Fair Labor Standards Act amendment is in and out again. It's a big issue for all the service providers, but at this point we do not have any ground to stand on.

WESTSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE/EMPOWERMENT CENTER (WFREC)

Liz Spencer reports that Ereida Galda put together the packets that were being handed out on upcoming trainings. Kevin touched on the training taking place on Saturday, September 19, 2015 with Dr. Falvey. We have had a long standing buy-in to the life of inclusion, beginning with elementary and preschool age kids. Dr. Falvey has had a long relationship with WRC. She is a national authority on inclusive education, an international author of four books, was a professor at CSLA and retired last year as dean of the Charter School of Education. Dr. Falvey is an amazing trainer and we still have a few slots open for this training. Our ongoing In Home Support Services workshops that Ereida does are amongst of the best in town. We are working with Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK) who is our parent training institute. They will be doing APP trainings for all devices. Most Apps are free and TASK will teach them how to download them and how they can be useful.

We are also working with Early Start, Cesar Garcia, invited us to work on two training we are developing that will be launched rather quickly.

1. One is an orientation for our early start families. Their infant/toddler just got diagnosed and they have been thrown into systems they know nothing about. Orient them to what the Westside Regional Center, Family Resource Center, Education Support and Early Start are and walk them through how we will support them.
2. For the toddlers that are 2 ½ years old and above we will work on what happened after they turn 3 years old and whether they will stay with Westside Regional Center or move on.

OPEN AGENDA

Chairperson Priscilla Hoe opened the floor for public comment.

Shawn Casey O'Brien spoke of the comments made in June about Portia and the lack of action from the Board. He recommended the Board take sensitivity and diversity training as well as have professional third party parliamentarian come in to give the Board orientation on how to properly use Robert's Rules of Order. Regarding the Executive Director, he would like to see a copy of the criteria the Search Committee used to choose the new him. He questioned selection process and experience of the Executive Director.

Kevin MacDonald, thanked Shawn Casey O'Brien for his comments and apologized for not knowing each other. He stated he questioned his facts, assumptions, and his remarks.

Allen Erenbaum requested that before going into closed session the Board follow the law and transparency and give the specific reason to go into closed session. The bylaws of the Regional Center and the Lanterman Act specify that the Board needs to give specific reason to go into closed session.

Judy Enright, WRC attorney, stated that the statute provides exactly that when counsel has determined there is the likelihood that WRC may be sued, we may go into closed session and that is the matter that is before us tonight. We will announce the reason before we go into closed session and when we come out of it.

Connie Lapin stated they left the Northern LA Regional Center to come here for the Westside Way. She begged the Board, to listen to people with disabilities. They are one of the last civil rights movements in our country and they need to be respected.

Judy Mark stated that public comments should be allowed to be made throughout the meeting. Including action items, new business announcements, and at the end. She acknowledged CAC for what they did tonight. Judy invited the Board to come to the Self-Determination meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in this room. We need to include consumers and parents who feel disenfranchised in moving this Board and the Regional Center forward.

Priscilla stated that the public comments are on the Agenda at the end, but the compromise was that if there was an action item or if there is a motion made following the Board discussion we will open up to public comment, but before the vote. This was announced at the July Meeting.

Elizabeth Gomez spoke against public comments being at the end of the Board meetings due to transportation issues for the clients. She doesn't feel welcomed and feels very controlled. She doesn't feel the freedom we always had at Westside Regional Center. New Board Members are too quiet, but we are parents and we will not be quiet because this is our Regional Center.

Harvey Lapin spoke of never being in a Board Meeting like this. This is a civil rights movement. This Regional Center had the best reputation in the state of California by far. Sometimes you need to just walk away for the greater good.

Fernando Gomez spoke of permitting public comments in the beginning and end of their Board Meeting.

Betty Griffith commented that these Board meetings are emotionally draining. There is a lot of things this Board needs to work on and it needs to get this under control.

M/S/C: Adjournment at 8:15 p.m.

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
OCTOBER 12, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ben Davidson
Fernando Gomez
Sandra Gonzalez
Portia Griffith
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Adriana Madrigal
Larry P. Ryan
Bob Steiner
Russell Tanner

ABSENT: Judy Blumenthal, Courtney Colman, Linda Demer, Austin Dove,
Cammy Starks DuPont, Zoey Giesberg, Paula Hilton, Priscilla
Hoe, Phillip Jackson, Maria Soto

GUESTS: See attached list

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Sandra Gonzales at 6:28 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

Board Members attending the meeting introduced themselves to the public. It was established that the members 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)

WRC STAFFING AND OPERATIONS (ACTION*)

Fernando Gomez moved and Larry Ryan seconded a motion to adopt the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors expresses grave concerns that the actions taken by the Executive Director in terminating senior staff have jeopardized the Westside Regional Center and that the actions need to be taken quickly to prevent further threats to the existence of the Westside Regional Center.”

After public comment, the motion passed:

9 AYE

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

BOARD RESPONSE TO CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACTION*)

Larry Ryan moved and Adriana Madrigal seconded a motion to adopt the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors direct the President of the Board to provide the members of CAC with a clear, direct and thorough written response to their request made at the September Board meeting no later than October 15, 2015.”

After public comment, the motion passed:

9 AYE

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

WRC CONTRACT FOR FACILITATION OF CONSUMERS (ACTION*)

Larry Ryan moved and Bob Steiner seconded a motion to adopt the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors expresses grave concerns that the actions taken by the Executive Director to terminate the contract of the consumer’s trusted facilitator have jeopardized the Westside Way and that actions need to be taken quickly to prevent further threats to the existence of the Westside Regional Center. “

After public comment, the motion passed:

9 AYE

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

**CLOSED SESSION – Appointment, Employment and Performance Evaluation.
(California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4773(a)(3))**

Actions taken in closed session were not announced in the open meeting prior to adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m. by Vice President Sandra Gonzales.

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
NOVEMBER 4, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Gonzalez
Portia Lanae Griffith
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Zoe Giesberg
Cammy DuPont
Maria Soto
Adriana Madrigal
Ben Davidson
Russell Tanner
Austin Dove
Bob Steiner
Larry Ryan
Fernando Gomez

MEMBERS ABSENT: Judy Blumenthal, Courtney Colman, Paula Hilton, Philip Jackson

GUESTS: Mike Danneker, Judy Enright, Zakir Choudhry, Nilo Choudhry, Mary Jane Steiner, Alex Soschin, Cesar Garcia, Ari Zeldin, Connie Lapin, Lisa Basiri, Alicia Bazzano, Steve Browning, Danny Franco, Liz Spencer, Bill Feeman, Danise Lehrer, Denise Fernald, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Vanessa Arauza, Hal Kirkland, Robert Martin, Mayra Mezquita, Kerwind Portillo, Alice Rademacher, Valerie Lattanza, Primo DeJesus, Nick Coplin, Brian Dennis, Vikki Luke, Karol Scotta, Jack Nieves, Christine Monroe, Robert Schwartz, Laurene Feldan, Chris Arroyo, Brett Gordon, Jennifer Mantell, Ayode Woods, Barbara McCants, Esther Kelsey, Marcia James, Mrs. Robinson, Francis Gomez, Todd Rubien, David Wyles, Candace Hein, Leah Holtz, Sylvia Fahimian, Phil Kamena, Carlyn Meshack, Kent Robertson, Marcelo DiMauro, Elena Bustamante, Elizabeth Gomez, Raymundo Bronco, Judy Mark, Allen Erenbaum, Harvey Lapin, Linda Butler, Wesley Witherspoon, Cindy Chiu, Vicky Smith, Denise Thornquest, Mrs. Quito, Angela Paz, Susan Sylvester, Barbara Marbach, Alex Hernandez, Patty Smith, Dave Smith, Betty Griffith, Joe Allen

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Sandra Gonzalez at 6:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

Board Co-Secretary, Portia Lanae Griffith, did roll call and it was established that the members 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)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Fernando Gomez, board member, welcomed everyone and asked Bill Feeman, Vikki Luke, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser and Marcia James to please stand up for a warm welcome back.

Vicky Smith, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, commended the Board for being here and for those who were present at the October 12th meeting. At that meeting, SCDD requested three things from the Board and to have those items reported by October 31st. Thank you for getting back to SCDD before that deadline. The first item was to research the issue of cause of termination for the contract for the facilitation services for the CAC. The Board was specifically asked to identify if it was Purchase of Service (POS) contract or an Operations contract. There are procedural safe guards that need to be put in place when it is a Purchase of Service contract and whether the consumers were notified and given those safe guards. Although it was a POS contract there were no safe guards put in place, but the authorizations themselves had not been terminated. Thank you for recognizing that fact and make sure that in the future if the Board needs training on those safe guards are to make sure we are doing things in the right way so consumer rights are being protected. The second issue that we asked the Board to investigate into and provide copies of the recording notice, transcripts, voting record, of the supposed vote that was to postpone the Special Meeting on October 12th and there was no such action taken and the meeting on the 12th was a legitimate meeting. The third item we asked for was a current roster of the members and we have received it and it identifies the ethnicity and type of disability. I want to commend you, the Board, for following through and taking responsibility to investigate those issues and ensure the client's rights are protected. Vicky also commended the clients for setting new standards for everyone.

Fernando Gomez, board member, thanked the Vicky Smith, Chris Arroyo and Cindy Chiu from State Council for their intervention and participation to get to this point. It's now time to stay on track and move forward.

Several members of the public expressed their gratitude to Mike Danneker for returning to Westside Regional Center, CAC for their intervention and involvement and for bringing back those employees who wrongly lost their jobs and the facilitator who has always been so supportive of our clients. They also asked for transparency in the process of electing a new Executive Director.

Fernando Gomez acknowledged Judy Mark and Allen Erenbaum for their leadership, commitment and support in the past months. He also presented those individuals that support and participated in the World Games with a beautiful commemorative book, "Olympic World Games Los Angeles Westside Host Town" put together by the hosting committee for Team Malaysia. Those recipients were Bob Steiner, Ben Davidson, Karol Scotta, Bill Feeman and Petit Constantine.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES (ACTION*)

Vice Chair, Sandra Gonzalez, motioned for the approval of the Board Meeting Minutes of July 1, 2015, September 16, 2015 and October 12, 2015 Board meeting minutes.

RESOLUTION: TO VOTE ON APPROVAL OF THE JULY 1, 2015, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 AND THE OCTOBER 12, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES. BOARD MEMBER, ZOE GIESBERG, REQUESTED HER COMMENT DURING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON PAGE 8 ON THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 BOARD MEETING TO BE STRIKED AND REMOVED FROM THE MINUTES. VICE CHAIR, SANDRA GONZALEZ, ALSO REQUESTED HER NAME TO BE REMOVED FROM THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES ON PAGE 2 UNDER CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT AS SHE WAS NOT IN ATTENDANCE AT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. FERNANDO GOMEZ MOTIONED TO APPROVE ALL THREE MEETING MINUTES TO INCLUDE THE CORRECTIONS MENTIONED ABOVE.

No public comments were made, the motion passed:

13 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

Vice Chair, Sandra Gonzalez, reported that Priscilla Hoe, Board Chair has resigned from the board. As a result, Sandra is currently filling in and presiding over the meeting.

On October 19th and 20th, Santi Rogers, John Doyle and Brian Winfield visited Westside Regional Center. On October 19th, they met with the Board to start the process of dialog, moving forward and offer their support. On October 20th, they met with the Consumer Advisory Committee group to hear their concerns and offer their support.

An Opinion Letter was generated based on many concerns raised regarding the validity of the notice, quorum and vote for the October 12, 2015, Special Board Meeting. As a result attorney, Judy Enright, who after review, was able to validate that the notice, quorum and vote were valid for that meeting.

The Board has also generated an apology letter to the Consumer Advisory Committee apologizing for all the challenges and obstacles they have faced. The letter also thanked them for their courage, leadership and perseverance during this whole process.

A sign-up sheet was passed around in the September 16th Board Meeting for the Nominating Committee. We will be passing it around to the Board again today as we need to select four candidates for the Board. Also, if you are interested in joining the Board, please obtain a Nominating application from Vanessa Arauza and turn it in to her. We will be sending out a date to those Board Members who sign up for this committee with possible dates of our next meeting.

There is another sign-up sheet going around for the Search Committee. The Search Committee will be in charge of starting the process and identifying the next Executive Director. With this we are asking Board Member who are interested, to please sign up and we will be scheduling the first committee meeting. At that meeting we will be discuss the composition of the actual Search Committee, timelines and process. The goal is to ensure that it is a fair and transparent process and that everyone is informed in terms of the logistics. We will be emphasizing on diversity of the committee and include non-board members be a part of that committee.

Lastly, there is a list of the proposed Board Meeting dates for 2016. Please review the dates and let us know if there are any conflicts with your schedules.

Bob Steiner asked if those Search Committee Members that are not Board Members have the ability to vote for the candidates. It was clarified by Judy Enright that the Committee can choose candidates and make recommendations to the Board, but only the Board Members can actually vote.

Fernando Gomez nominated Sandra Gonzalez as Interim Board Chair in lieu of the Chair's resignation through June when there will be new elections. After some public discussion and input, it was decided that Sandra Gonzalez may act as Interim Chair and a vote can be added to the agenda of the January 13, 2016 Board Meeting to nominate her as the Chair of the Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Cammy Starks-DuPont, Board Member, reported in lieu of Courtney Colman's absence. The Finance Committee met at 5:00 pm this afternoon and consisted of the Regional Center CFO, Danny Franco, Interim Executive Director, Mike Danneker and Board Member, Cammy Starks-DuPont. The Regional Center is now in the second quarter of its fiscal year so the report is as of the end of September which was the first quarter. The Westside Regional Center's projected expenditures are within the budget allocations and the Purchase of Services, based on the budget allocation, looks like we may exceed the budget by just a little bit. City National Bank requires certain signatures for checks that are issued or payments that the regional makes. With the resignation of the Board Chair

the prudent thing to do is to make Mike Danneker, Interim Executive Director, as the signatory of the Regional Center as well as the elected Chair who will be voted on at the next Board Meeting in January.

ACHIEVABLE

Ben Davidson reported that Carmen Ibarra could not make it tonight. Thanks to a grant from an organization called Tap Root, Achievable is finally redoing their website. There was an Achievable Clinic website and Achievable Organization website and the two didn't necessarily mesh and is being redone thanks to the grant from Tap Root. Thanks to the grant from the John Gogian Foundation, Achievable will be updating their phone system to make it easier to contact the clinic and organization.

CLIENT SERVICES

Bill Feeman reported that very few people showed up for the Client Services Committee. He pleaded for Board Members to please sign up as the committee does a lot of interesting things. We had a geriatric specialist, Stephen Browning, come in because we have over 500 people over 55 years old. Within the next 5 years we will have over 900 people over 55 years old. Stephen has networked and has done an incredible job. Please join our committee.

Maria Soto, Board Member, invited other Board Members to join the committee to learn how to better support our clients.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Larry Ryan, Board Member reported that a major cancer that was killing the Regional Center has been removed. We are grateful to those who came to support us and wish we had something for everyone who supported CAC. At this time they want to recognize those Board Members whose votes and belief in them saved the Westside Regional Center. They chose a plant because of its potential to grow. CAC is working hard to heal and looking forward to enjoying the coming season of peace. We look forward to working toward an even better Regional Center. CAC Members then presented each Members of the Board with a plant.

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Fernando Gomez reported that they met today. Highly encourage each and every one of you to consider the Equity Committee. They have a lot of fun and great discussions and a lot of open dialogue. In regards to the Disparity when it comes to the POS every year there is an annual report that DDS sends out. Mary Lou Weise-Stusser and her team help put it together. This report gives us a snap shot of where we are at in regards to connecting to the community we serve and if there are any pockets within that community that need to be paid close attention too. As part of the report, there are two new categories the Committee has agreed to include the expenditures by ethnicity and age as well as primary language. These areas will be included on the report that Mary Lou and her team will give to DDS. The other part of the meeting addressed the overall concept of Disparity or what we call Equity and how we can be forward thinkers and other elements we can discuss to help impact at the State level. We might meet again one

more time before the next Board Meeting in January or early December. .

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Sandra Gonzalez reported that the committee met today at 5:00pm and revisited the goals they had outlined a few months ago. One of those goals is to continue our Political Action Movement. Particularly a couple of bills that are currently active, the Provider Rates Increase and Cocktails for Healthy Outcomes Act, the last one will generate five cents for every drink and those funds will go to DDS. The Political Action Committee agreed to start writing letters in support of that bill and to continue our advocacy on an ongoing basis. We must continue to be visible in the community and contact our local representatives.

ARCA

Fernando Gomez reported that the Director of Department of Developmental Services (DDS), Santi Rogers, will be retiring at the end of the month after 45 years of service. He will continue to provide updates in the search for a new Director of DDS. The ARCA Board of Director met last month, October 15 and 16, 2016. It was a retreat to go over the strategic plan for the next three years. It covered the four key categories that ARCA will be focused and there was a lot of information. We came away with great things that will be helpful and impactful to the community. The next ARCA meeting will be in December.

Service Provider Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Ben Davidson reported that SPAC met in October and we had a few guests who had just returned to work and they were met with a cake that read "It Was All Just A Bad Dream" and it was a good meeting. Uber also came to meet with us as they are trying to improve access to transportation for our community. They did a presentation and they recognized that they have a long way to go. Lastly, the vendor community is looking at the Fair Labor Standard Acts and how the state will respond. We are waiting on that and how it will be addressed as it affects our community.

Family Resource Empowerment Center (FRC)

Liz Spencer reported that the Disneyland tickets codes should be received via email this week in order to purchase their tickets online. Please make sure to check all your emails sources before calling the FRC. The Holiday Toy Drive is upon us and we will be asking everyone to please donate. We invite families to choose gifts for their children this includes siblings of the clients we serve. We have fliers in the room this evening and if you cannot make a donation or donate gift wrap, you can also donate your time to wrap gifts. We appreciate anything you can do. Also, on November 19th from 6:00pm – 8:30pm, we will have a continuation of our Inclusion Group from the training we had on September 19th with Dr. Mary Falvey.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Mike Danneker thanked the clients, the Consumer Advisory Committee and everyone involved for their courage and decisiveness in bringing Westside Regional Center back on track and now we can move forward. Our staff is committed to the Westside Way

and to our clients. There are a lot of good changes coming to Westside and my best recommendation is to let it go and let's move forward together.

CLOSED SESSION – Pending Litigation (California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4663 subdivision (a)(5))

Judy Enright, attorney, provided summary of closed session stating the Board took action on potential litigation.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Mark updated that the Self Determination Advisory Committee meets the second Tuesday of every month. We have a wonderful group of people who meet every month. We have twelve committee members, Office of Clients Rights Advocate, providers, consumers and family members. We usually take one topic every month and go into depth. Last month we decided to have two sub-committees. For the first hour we will split them for the first group and the second hour we will report back and have a discussion about the ideas that came up. We will talk about outreach to tell people about self-determination, training and working with staff on that training. Judy requested for Self-Determination to be a part of the agenda under Committee Reports. Other Regional Centers have it as part of the Agenda.

Connie Lapin thanked everyone and acknowledged we are all living history and we should memorialize this event. They did not attend the October 12th meeting because of fear, but it was a historic event.

Fernando Gomez stated that Board Members need to continue to stay committed to our clients and CAC and listen to their requests.

Portia Lanae Griffith thanked her mom, Betty Griffith, for supporting her in her role as Board Secretary.

Esther Kelsey stated that as CAC chair and CAC Members they have asked for Priscilla Hoe and Paula Hilton to step down and they stand on that request. They want them both to step down from the Board.

Brett Gordon requested for the Board to have Paula Hilton to step down.

Betty Griffith expressed her appreciation to CAC Members for their fortitude and standing for what they believe in. She wanted to publicly acknowledge and commend all the CAC Members and thank them for all they have endured.

Primo DeJesus, advocate, encouraged all clients to read the Bylaws and get to know them because they will empower the entire organization.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m. by Interim Chair Sandra Gonzales.

RESOLUTION: TO VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.


After public comment, the motion passed:

13 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS JANUARY 13, 2016.

X 

Portia Lanae Griffith
WRC Board Secretary

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
DECEMBER 16, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Gonzalez
Portia Lanae Griffith
Ben Davidson
Fernando Gomez
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Adriana Madrigal
Larry Ryan
Bob Steiner
Russell Tanner
Cammy Starks DuPont
Maria Soto

MEMBER ON
CONFERENCE CALL: Austin Dove

MEMBERS ABSENT: Courtney Colman, Zoe Giesberg, Paula Hilton, Philip Jackson

GUESTS: Mike Danneker, Denise Fernald, Liz Spencer, Danise Lehrer, Judy Enright, Nilo Choudhry, Joan Anderson, Chris Arroyo, Todd Rubien, Judy Mark, Esther Kelsey, David Wyles, Catherine, Alice Rademacher, Barbara Marbach, Marcia James, Vanessa Arauza

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Interim President Sandra Gonzalez at 6:28 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

Board Co-Secretary, Portia Lanae Griffith, did roll call and it was established that the members 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)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (ACTION*)

Ben Davison, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee is recommending the Board composition to be reduced to 18 Members including the Service Provider Chair. He then motioned the Board of Director's to vote and approve for the Board to consist of 18 Members.

RESOLUTION: TO VOTE FOR THE NUMBER OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION TO BE EIGHTEEN (18) INSTEAD OF TWENTY ONE (21).

After public comment, the motion passed:

12 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

STAKEHOLDERS REPRESENTATIVE GROUP (ACTION*)

Fernando Gomez, Group Chair, reported that the Stakeholders Representative Group is essentially the search committee that is going to help identify and establish the process for finding a candidate for the Executive Director position. He then introduced Judy Enright, legal counsel, to go over some items that need to be addressed and voted on by the Board.

Judy Enright explained that the Board and other individuals had put together the idea for a search committee composed of two representatives of each stakeholder: Consumers, the Board of Directors, Staff and Vendors. It was brought to their attention this week that there are too many staff representatives. Therefore, moving forward Alice Rademacher will be representing front line staff and Denise Fernald will be representing the exempt staff.

Fernando Gomez reported there that the group voted for him to be the committee chair and Bob Steiner would be the Board Representative. He also confirmed the second vendor representative would be Joan Anderson.

Judy then mentioned they need the Board to accept the representation that has been put together as follows:

Board President:	Sandra Gonzalez
Executive Director:	Mike Danneker
Committee Chair:	Fernando Gomez
Staff Representative:	Denise Fernald
Staff Representative:	Alice Rademacher
Board Representative:	Bob Steiner
Board Representative:	Russell Tanner
Consumer Representative:	Esther Kelsey
Consumer Representative:	Portia Griffith
Community Representative:	Betty Grimble-Pearson
Community Representative:	Nilo Choudhry

Vendor Representative:
Vendor Representative:

Ben Davidson
Joan Anderson

Their charge will be to set forth the criteria for the search of the new Executive Director and to conduct the initial searches so they can reach a point of having a panel of people to recommend to the Board. If the Board approves, we are requesting that there be a motion to that effect and approval by vote tonight so the committee can go forward under the provisions of **Corporations Code Section 52.12**, *"The Board may create committees that do not exercise the authority of the Board. These committees may include persons regardless if they are Directors."* Search Committee cannot bind the board and can only make recommendations and expands the ability the Board to consider people of high quality and to consider them more broadly and deeply than the Board has time to do by itself. That is why we are requesting and requesting there be approval of establishment of the Search Committee and each of the individuals on the committee that have been named.

During public comments a member of the public commented on her concerns that she was just finding out that she is no longer a stakeholder representative for the staff and how this decision may affect those who voted her to represent them.

Another member of the public also mentioned that transparency is crucial in the process.

Fernando, Judy and Denise Fernald, Director of Human Resources, explained that originally there were two line staff representatives. Denise will be replacing one of those staff members who received a lesser amount of votes in order to represent the exempt staff and Alice would represent line staff. This would make it a more equal representation of all stakeholders. Fernando also explained that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the issues in hand and once the issues are resolved and approved by the Board, there will be emails sent out to all employees to advise them of the changes.

Portia Lanae Griffith, Board Co-Secretary, asked for clarification if the Board will be able to vote on the candidates for the Executive Director position. The Board went into discussion to clarify her concerns. Portia stated she understood.

RESOLUTION: TO VOTE ON A COMMITTEE TO BE CREATED WITH THE INDIVIDUALS NAMED TO CONDUCT A SEARCH IN THE NATURE OF WHAT WOULD BE DONE BY A SEARCH FIRM, SETTING UP THE CRITERIA FOR THE INDIVIDUAL TO BE CHOSEN, REVIEWING RESUMES, INITIAL INTERVIEWING AND SCREENING SO THE BEST CANDIDATES CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE BOARD FOR DETERMINATION.

After public comment, the motion passed:

12 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Mark informed she went to the Inland Regional Center's Self-Determination Committee last night and provided updates of their current status after the tragic incident in December.

Fernando announced that tomorrow fellow Board of Director, Larry Ryan, will be celebrating his 60th birthday.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m. by President Sandra Gonzales.

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS JANUARY 13, 2016.

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
JANUARY 13, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Gonzalez
Portia Lanae Griffith
Paula Hilton
Courtney Colman
Ben Davidson
Fernando Gomez
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Adriana Madrigal
Larry Ryan
Bob Steiner
Russell Tanner
Cammy Starks DuPont
Zoey Giesberg
Maria Soto
Austin Dove

MEMBERS ABSENT: Philip Jackson

GUESTS: Mike Danneker, Denise Fernald, Liz Spencer, Danise Lehrer, Nury Gomez, Zakir Choudhry, Nilo Choudhry, Alicia Bazzano, Ari Zeldin, Cecilia Fabulich, Shuyan Decker, Kerri Nelson, David Shockey, Soryl Markowitz, Lisa Basiri, Leah Holtz, Candace Hein, Latrice Baker, Ereida Galda, Hector Madrigal, David Wyles, Allen Erenbaum, Robert Schwartz, Nick Coplin, Esther Kelsey, Wesley Witherspoon, Sylvia Fahimian, Jack Nieves, Todd Rubien, Cindy Chiu, Chris Arroyo, Ayode Woods, Brett Gordon, Jennifer Mantell, Judy Mark, Judy Enright, Betty Griffith, Linda Butler, Barbara Marbach, Marcia James, Vanessa Arauza

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Interim Board Chair Sandra Gonzalez at 6:31 p.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

Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves by Interim Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Mark invited everyone to an Autism Society of Los Angeles conference on February 18th and 19th called "It's A New Day, It's A New Life" it's about the new Self-Determination Program and the new Federal Mandates for inclusion and new HCBS Rules. She has fliers if anyone is interested in attending.

Danise Lehrer informed there are two new psycho educational/psycho therapeutic support groups that are not on the training calendar that already went out. It is for parents of children and adults with developmental disabilities. The Spanish speaking group will meet the first Friday of the month beginning on February 5th at 12:30pm – 3:00pm. The English speaking group will meet the first Monday of every month beginning February 1st at 5:00pm – 6:30pm. It is open to all parents including the community, Board Members and staff.

Soryl Markowitz informed there will be a new Spanish speaking group for families who are newly diagnosed on February 1st with an orientation. It will be an eight week group at Westside from 10:00am – 11:30am on Monday's and they will be posted on our website. The Spanish group came together first, but we are looking into putting together an English group too.

PRESENTATION OF THE PERFORMANCE CONTRACT (ACTION*)

Pam Arturi, Community Services, presented as Mary Lou Weise-Stusser's designee. Everyone was given a copy of the contract as it was being displayed on the projector in the front of the room. WRC is on target and actually ahead with some of the goals. New goals were added, 2 measures for diversity and 2 for employment. Pamela proceeded to review with detail every portion of the contract.

Austin Dove, Board Member, suggested that there be a key added to the contract in the future with the meaning of all the acronyms for better understanding.

Bob Steiner, Board Member, asked how is it that we still have people earning below minimum wage. Pamela explained that we are addressing this issue and with CMS final rule and changes that have come forth as of 2019, programs that are providing opportunities for persons to be paid at below minimum wage will not be Medicaid waiver funded. We are pushing very hard to promote employed consumers to be paid minimum wage or greater. There are workshops and work support employment settings where

people are paid below minimum wage and it is legal to do so. Many years ago, that was the only way we could get consumers employed and it is still happening. That is not our philosophy or best practice standard and now we have supported employment providers that are coming to us to start new groups, but we are not approving anything that is below minimum wage. It needs to be minimum wage or higher.

During public comments a member of the public asked various questions regarding the report and Pamela Arturi, Mike Danneker and Judy Mark answered them with detail.

**RESOLUTION: TO VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF PERFORMANCE
CONTRACT PRESENTED BY PAMELA ARTURI.**

After public comment, the motion passed:

11 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Sandra Gonzalez reported that the Nominating Committee has started meeting and Ben will provide more details on his committee report. In addition, the search process has begun for the new Executive Director and Fernando will provide more detail in his committee report.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 16, 2015 SPECIAL BOARD
MEETING (ACTION*)**

Sandra Gonzalez asked if anyone had any corrections on the minutes distributed through email. No corrections or amendments requested.

**RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 16, 2015
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING.**

After public comment, the motion passed:

11 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Courtney Colman, Board Treasurer, reported the committee met this afternoon and reviewed the November 30th financials. We are meeting the budget in terms of Operations. In terms of the Purchase of Services we are looking at having a slight deficit of about 2.8 million. They discussed three other issues, one of which was signatories on the main bank accounts of about 5 or 6 bank accounts at CNB. All checks require two signatures and the current signers are Kevin MacDonald and Danny Franco and the signatures are automated. With Kevin no longer at WRC we need to decide if we only have the signer be Danny or leave it as is with Kevin's signature for two more months

until the new Executive Director is elected. Courtney recommended that the signers be left as is with Kevin and Danny as there is no risk on having Kevin's name on it.

Judy Enright, legal counsel, is concerned that leaving Kevin MacDonald's name on checks that get circulated through the world, tells the world that he is still that Executive Director that isn't appropriated with what is going on right now and recommended against keeping his name on the account. Mike Danneker suggested that a call be made to the bank and DDS to find out what is their recommendation if the checks should solely have Danny Franco as the signer or if it should have Danny and Mike Danneker for the next few months while he is Interim Executive Director. He then asked the Board for their opinion and everyone agreed.

The next point discussed was Post-Retirement Medical Trust which we need to send to the bank. We changed the signers to be Danny Franco and Courtney Colman because the trustees are currently Rene Rivas and John. Danny clarified that the change took place and he is currently the only signer for the Post-Retirement Medical Trust. Courtney mentioned the documents were sent in separately and that may have caused the issue. Denise Fernald commented that we do not pay anything out of that account and in its entire existence we have only deposited into it and administratively it is a non-event.

ACHIEVABLE

Ben Davidson reported that Carmen Ibarra could not make it tonight. Achievable had a record year last year and visits went up by 200% and we are very excited about it. 2016 should see more growth with staff and personnel added. They receive about 15-20 visits a day.

CLIENT SERVICES

Bill Feeman reported that they did not meet this month as the Committee is very sparse and last time only one person showed up. We would love to have new members and they meet at 5:00pm on the same day as the Board Meeting in Bill's office.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Adriana Madrigal reported that CAC is still healing from all the activities and mixed feelings of being attacked. They are trying to help the advocates who are afraid to return to the WRC. Many of the advocates are still saying that they are afraid and stressed out because part of their support system is still being attacked. Back in July they made a request, so far they haven't been given the respect of complete answers. How long are you going to make us wait?

Sandra Gonzalez asked Adriana if she could be specific in regards to the request. Adriana said it was from the July Meeting.

Marcia James, Consumer Facilitator, clarified that in the July meeting there was specifics asked to be addressed about personnel on the Board and whether they would step down or not. Then it was revisited and it was not addressed when that would happen or if there was a work around it.

Cammy Starks-DuPont, Board Member, asked Adriana if CAC would be willing to speak to certain members of the board to discuss those specific things so they are clear on exactly what you want and how to move forward. Cammy stated she wants to make sure everyone is on the same page about what they are requesting.

Sandra stated that she would like to meet with CAC as well.

Esther Kelsey, Chairman of CAC, said they were clear with what they wanted and nothing is changing. She said she will meet with her group and set up a time to meet with Sandra and other Board Members the specifics they want the Board to address.

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Fernando Gomez reported that committee meeting was rescheduled for the first part of February. There were a lot of meetings taking place. An email will be sent out to all Equity Committee Members with a couple of options to meet in early February.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ben Davidson reported that the committee met and they are moving forward. They have scheduled 6 interviews in January for potential candidates for WRC Board of Directors. Those begin next week and another set of interviews the following week. They have begun the process of interviewing and identifying candidates for the Board.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Fernando Gomez clarified the difference between the Nominating Committee and the Search Committee. He reported the Committee met and a time table was sent out, thanks to Denise Fernald who put together. In there, we had actually extended the application deadline for the Executive Director position to December 15th. For those who want to know any updates on the process, please visit the website under news. It is being populated with information as it becomes available. There was an impressive turn out of applicants and they have already started the process of vetting that out. The next meeting is on the 27th of January at 5:30PM.

Courtney Colman asked who is on the committee. Fernando pointed out the details were provided in the last Board meeting and are on the minutes from the last meeting and we have copies of them today.

In effort to have complete transparency and have buy-in by from the different stakeholders we have identified, we created a group based on representation from the key stakeholder groups. The groups are the Board, staff, vendors, CAC and the Community and we have two members of each group on the Search Committee.

Judy Mark asked to give us the time line.

Fernando explained that they are incorporating an assessment that each candidate will go through and every committee members have also taken the Harrison Assessment. We are

in the middle of that and anticipate that mid-March to bring their recommendation to the Board and they will act on a decision to appoint a new Executive Director starting the 1st of April.

Judy Mark asked if at any point there will be public input. Fernando confirmed there will be. He encouraged everyone to reach out to your representative to voice your suggestions and concerns.

Courtney Colman asked if the Board will see all the candidates or just the final candidate.

Fernando confirmed there will definitely more than one candidate.

Judy Mark stated she appreciates the transparency of the process and community input because that is exactly what is needed to heal the community.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Zoe Adams-Giesberg reported they met with Chris Arroyo from State Council to talk to us about the governor's new proposed budget. It looks very similar to last year's budget where they are putting more money into the rainy day fund and Brown seems to be treating the rainy day fund as his personal bank account instead of going back to services post-recession.

SSI and SSP will be going up to \$17 for an individual and \$31 for a couple. IHSS cuts are now done and over with and will be restored to their 17%. We will be receiving about \$17 Million for more service coordinators throughout the state and about \$79 million for DC Closures and community development services. Biggest gain we will see over the next three years \$900 million will allocated for career technical education centers to help people get technical and vocational and life skills to transition into the community.

ARCA

Fernando Gomez a lot of activity about the governor's budget presented on January 7th. ARCA has been having meeting after meeting to address the questions and issues that have come out of the budget. ARCA did put together an overview based on its perspective. He will send that overview to Vanessa Arauza in case someone wants to take a look at it.

As of the end of the year, DDS Director, Santi Rogers, resigned. His resignation was not a surprise. He committed to a year and he stayed for almost two years. They have been actively looking for a replacement and there is no defined timelines as to when the new director will be announced.

In addition, ARCA has maintained its position along with the Lanterman Coalition on 10% for POS and OPS. There will be an ARCA Board Meeting next week on the 21st and 22nd in Sacramento. On the 21st we will be having a celebration in honor of Santi Rogers and Jim Shorter. I'm happy to announce that as part of his transition, he will be terming out of the Board in June and have been the ARCA Board Delegate, so Sandra

Gonzalez will be stepping in and will be coming to some of the ARCA Board meetings so we can pass the baton and she can become more engaged with the ARCA activities representing WRC.

Service Provider Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Ben Davidson reported that SPAC met in December for a big party to celebrate the year. We will have a meeting next week, Tuesday from 10:30am – 11:30am, everyone is invited. Pam Arturi will update the website with information on Moving in the Job Program.

Family Resource Empowerment Center (FRC)

Liz Spencer reported that FRC is sponsoring or co-sponsoring eight support groups and two workshops. The specific of the groups can be located on our website.

One of the new ones we are co-sponsoring with Para Los Niño's grant funded through First 5 LA. It is a four month group that will be meeting every other Monday for January, February, March and April for self-care for parents. The facilitators are fully trained by a very rigorous group through the University Center on Excellence and Developmental Disabilities and their parents.

The IHSS workshops that Ereida Galda coordinates once a month, one day in English, one day in Spanish, will undergo some changes beginning as of timecard entries for February. We are working closely right now with Clients Right Advocates and PASC and the union to make sure the information we give is correct. IHSS have informed families they need to return a signed document saying they have been trained on the new rules for overtime, but they will not begin to provide the training until January 26th with PASC. We will have them come and train our families in Spanish and English. However, if they do not return the notification saying they have been trained, without being trained yet, their payment can be delayed. We are working really hard to get to the bottom of it and ensure we provide accurate information to our families. There are a lot of working parts to this. We are not faulting IHSS; they got notification of the court ruling and trying to get all the information out.

Liz reported that the Posada in December 2015 had 30-35 moms who attend these groups provided home cooked meals and fed 150 WRC staff as thank you for supporting and strengthening the community. The 2015 Toy Drive was amazing! We had partner from CAC, Premier, 24 Home Care and all who gave so much. I will discuss and recognize all those involved in the next Board Meeting. Community Service fundraised throughout the year and does so much for FRC. Liz read a letter from a family who we supported with the toy drive.

Liz & Mike Danneker recognized Leah Holtz with a Director's Award Star for providing assistance to the FRC, especially during the Toy Drive.

Self Determination Advisory Group

Judy Mark reported the Committee has been meeting on the second Tuesday of every month and it is open to everyone. They get a fantastic turn out of about 30-40 people every month. They have formed sub-committees of the committee that deal with outreach of the community and training of the staff, providers, families and providers. From the sub-committees, they have come up with concrete things they are working on like materials, training programs, and specific ways of communicating through social media. We will continue to give you reports, we are not sure when the Self-Determination waiver will be approved so the program will not go into place until the federal money is approved. The waiver proposal was submitted and the federal government has come back with about 180 questions which is a lot of questions, except about 150 of them are standard. Once DDS gets those answers to them they have 30-40 days to respond and get this approved shortly. We do need to pressure DDS to respond these questions. One of these ideas is to start a letter writing campaign to DDS to tell them how important this is. WRC is the leader in Self Determination our advisory committee has been meeting longer than any other Regional Center. We started in 2014 and we people from other Regional Centers come to our meetings.

Self Determination is a law that passed on 2013 that allows consumers of Regional Center the right to choose the providers that give them the services and the support that they need. These providers do not need to be vendor providers. They're given person center plans and through the person center plans they come up with a series of ways to meet their IPP goals. Then they negotiate a budget with the Regional Center. Those funds are then given to a fiscal manager and that manager writes the checks to the providers of the services that individual is going to receive. You can't take your Self Determination dollars and go to a sheltered workshop or day program that is segregated. These new rules will go into effect this year. For the first three years, it's a phase in period and only 2500 people who are in Self Determination based on the population. WRC is one of the smallest of the Regional Centers will only get 67 participant in the first 3 years. They will be decided through a lottery based on a series of diversity factors including ethnic, geography, gender and age. DDS will select them not WRC. There might be bumps on the road, but she will continue to update you at Board Meetings.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mike Danneker reported that Kevin MacDonald filed a Whistle Blower complaint with DDS suggesting there were improprieties. DDS asked the Department of Finance was asked to come down and to see what is going on at Westside. They auditors have been here since last Monday and will be here for a couple of weeks. WRC has never been audited by the Department of Finance, so it is unusual, but we are cooperating and answering all their questions and inquiries. There is no hostility and we are working together.

Kerri Nelson, evaluator of Department of Finance, clarified that they are not officially conducting an audit and it is more of an operational review. We are looking at the general operations and we were tasked to do this at the request of the Department of Developmental Services. There are certain things you do when you do an audit and we

are not doing everything that encompasses that. Everyone has been very cooperative and they have learned a lot of the Regional Center.

Mike Danneker explained that once they are done with the review and there will updates given as the Westside gets them from the Department of Finance.

Austin Dove asked if the findings will be published. Kerri Nelson reported they would not be published. However, their findings will be reported to the DDS.

A member of the public commented that he knows little about audits and finance, WRC is known to be one of the best practices Regional Centers. WRC has done a lot for his son since he was diagnosed about 20 years ago. Other Regional Centers deny services to their clients to send money back to the state and look good in the state's eyes. Westside spends its money on its consumers and the Westside Way is the way to go. It should be a model for the entire state of California and the Department of Developmental Services should know that. All regional centers should be expected to meet the same expectations.

A member of the Public also asked if all regional centers are being audited or just Westside Regional Center. Mike Danneker confirmed it is only Westside Regional Center due to a whistle blower complaint.

Mike gave an update of the budget. the new budget, the state is anticipating an increase of clients of about 12,000 consumers, about 4% increase statewide. Purchase of Service money will be increased \$267 million dollars about 6.3% increase. There is also \$62 million for minimum wage increases, \$54 million for overtime payments that vendors have to do which is new, \$26 million to close down the developmental centers, \$46 million dollar increase for funding people to develop four bedroom residences and \$15 million dollar increase to come to compliance with the final rule 2018.

In operations, there is a \$42 million dollar increase, which is 7% over this year. More than 50% going to caseloads and propose to close developmental centers. The governor also put \$17 million dollars for additional staff for case load ratios.

Robert Schwartz's father recently passed away at 91 years old. We extend our condolences. Laurene Feldan, a dear client, passed away a few weeks ago. She was 64 years old and we will be having a memorial service on the last Tuesday of the month here at Westside Regional Center. You are all invited and the time is from 4:00pm – 6:00pm.

CLOSED SESSION – Pending Litigation (California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4663 subdivision (a)(5))


Sandra Gonzalez, Interim Chair, provided summary of closed session stating the Board discussed employee issues.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m. by Interim Chair, Sandra Gonzales.

X 

Portia Lanee Griffith
WRC Board Secretary

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
MARCH 2, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Gonzalez
Portia Lanae Griffith
Fernando Gomez
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Adriana Madrigal
Larry Ryan
Bob Steiner
Russell Tanner
Cammy Starks DuPont
Zoe Adams-Giesberg
Maria Soto

MEMBERS ABSENT: Courtney Colman, Ben Davidson, Austin Dove, Philip Jackson

GUESTS: Mike Danneker, Denise Fernald, Danny Franco, Carmine Manicone, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Nilo Choudhry, Judy Enright, Zakir Choudhry, Alice Rademacher, Carmen Ibarra, Marcia James, Ari Zeldin, Cecilia Fabulich, Esther Kelsey, Brett Gordon, Jennifer Mantell, Joe Allen, Judy Mark, Todd Rubien, Sandy Rubenfeld, Robert Martin, Sharon Smyth, Vikki Luke, Wesley Witherspoon, Sylvia Fahimian, Nick Coplin, Robert Schwartz, Linda Butler, Chris Arroyo, Ivy Diaz from USC UCEDD, Andrea Davis, A.P. Hubbard, Denise Thornquest, Hector Madrigal, Linda Lesser, Michael Lesser, Joan Anderson, Barbara McCants, Shalonda Simms, Jasmine, Ayode Woods, Alicia Bazzano, Jack Nieves, Marti Thompson, Vanessa Arauza

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Interim President Sandra Gonzalez at 6:31 p.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

Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves by Interim Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Arroyo, reported that the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD), will be having two trainings coming up and he handed out fliers for both events. The first one is an independent facilitators and self-determination at CSUN on April 30th and the event will be translated in Spanish. If you are interested in attending please take a flyer and contact them because they do sell out rapidly. The second training will be a presentation on Friday, March 18th in Spanish Self-Determination for Westside Tigers in the third floor Boardroom.

Andrea Davis passed out flyers for her Day Program.

Jack Nieves mentioned today is his birthday.

Judy Mark read to the Board her opening statement for Big New Day Conference that she dedicated it Laurene Feldan.

Russell Tanner updated everyone that his roommate Charles "Carlos" Richardson passed away last night.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Sandra Gonzalez mentioned her report is brief as more details will be covered in the Nominating and Search Committee reports. As a Board this is an important time with the search for the new Executive Director and recruiting of new Board Members. Cammy DuPont and Fernando Gomez will be providing more details during their committee reports.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 13, 2016 BOARD MEETING

(ACTION*)

Portia Griffith, Board Secretary, motioned to postpone the approval of the minutes to the next Board Meeting on May 4th, 2016.

RESOLUTION: TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 13, 2016 BOARD MEETING THE NEXT BOARD MEETING ON MAY 4, 2016. NO ACTION TAKEN.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE (ACTION*)

Cammy DuPont, Board Member, reported the committee met this afternoon. Westside's

expected expenditures will be within the budget allocations. We are half way through the current fiscal year and Operations has used about 55.8% of the budget and Purchase of Services about 56.1%. There is a contract for new copiers that require Board approval.

Danny Franco, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the lease contract with Ricoh for the copiers is up. WRC put out a request for bids and it is in their best interest to go with Canon. The contract is for about \$330,000 over the five years. Bottom line we will save about \$145,000, 15 new copiers, improved service and equipment with software that will help manage the needs of the agency.

RESOLUTION: THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTE ON THE NEW PRINTER CONTRACT WITH CANON, WHICH WILL SAVE WRC \$145,000, 15 NEW PRINTERS AND IMPROVED SERVICE AND EQUIPMENT WITH SOFTWARE THAT WILL HELP MANAGE THE NEEDS OF THE AGENCY.

After public comment, the motion passed:

11 AYE

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

ACHIEVABLE

Carmen Ibarra, Achievable CEO, reported they just hired a new pediatric/psychologist and a new Development Director. Achievable also received a consultant grant that is being sponsored by Cedars and it will help continue to improve the process systems and the care they provide.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Adriana Madrigal reported that CAC Members have been volunteering in the community in places like the senior center, church, food banks and Meals on Wheels. They also attended UCLA's 10th Annual Fight Against Cancer event. Advocates put together a basketball team to open dialogue with other Regional Centers. They played their first game against South Central Regional Center and look forward to playing more games. The team is coed and there are teammates with and without disabilities. If you are interested, please leave your contact information with Linda Butler. With the support of WRC, some attended the Self Determination Conference. It was a two day event that had a lot of great information. For more information, the Self Determination Meetings are held at WRC Boardroom every second Tuesday of the month from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Some CAC Members joined the Special Olympics Sports in swimming, track and field, basketball, golf and bocce. Westside Jam will be held at the Veterans Center on April 22, 2016 from 4:00pm – 8:00pm. The Westside Jam is a celebration of self-advocacy for individuals with developmental disabilities who are celebrating their goals and their accomplishments. They promote self-advocacy so they can become more independent and have a good quality of life. This event is used to inform peers of programs that help individuals be more independent build skills and find jobs. The Hero In Me Award will

also be given at the Jam. They still need donations. If you are interested in participating, please contact Linda Butler, Pam Arturi or Jill Hewes.

Esther Kelsey, CAC Chair, read aloud her presentation from Big New Day Conference to the Board.

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Fernando Gomez, Committee Chair, reported that MCO Tax was approved by the Senate and the governor signed it yesterday. This means there will be funding for a lot of programs in desperate need. When we talk about equity we are talking about disparity in the system and the ability for all individuals to have equal access to the programs and services that are mandated by the Lanterman Act. There are reports that \$11 million were allocated towards disparity specifically to enable additional staffing that is bilingual and will engage programs and services that will talk to disparity. They are working on getting a study commissioned and working closely with Children's Hospital USC in implementing it. It looks like we will be talking to disparities and have some resolution. There will be a public forum based on the performance report that talk to disparity on Monday, March 7, 2016 from 10am – 12pm at WRC and on Saturday, March 12th at Speech and Language Center.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Betty Pearson-Grimble, Board Member, reported for Ben Davidson as he could not attend the board meeting. The committee has met three times and has interviewed seven candidates since the last board meeting. At the next board meeting a slate will be presented to the Board for their approval and vote. The next committee meeting we will begin the task of putting together the slate of Board officers for Board approval. Thank you to all the members of the committee for their time and effort in identifying the number of Board Members needed to get us to the capacity of 19 members by June. It is our intention to approve the candidates at the next Board meeting so we can begin training prior to them being officially on the Board on July 1, 2016.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Fernando Gomez, Committee Chair, stated that the committee's responsibility is to secure the process of identifying a new Executive Director that will be presented to the Board. The committee has met several times and he explained the process. Fernando then identified the committee members that represent each of the stakeholder groups and explained that that the committee is ready to present their recommendations to the Board. Denise Fernald, Human Resources, explained the rigorous process that the candidates went through to get to this point.

A member of the public asked what the process will be after the meeting tonight. Fernando explained that that they will present all the information to the Board and they will take it from there. Next week there will be another Board meeting in which the final candidates will be interviewed in a public forum.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Zoe Adams-Giesberg reported Developmental Services just approved and awaiting signatures, but will provide \$300 million in new state general funding for developmental services in the 2016-2017 budget year starting July 1st. Revised Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax reform will draw down over \$1.1 billion in federal funding annually for three year to offset the states mental health and human service program costs. We need to start preparing for the new HCBS Rules especially concerning traditional day programs residential and transportation. No states have been approved and there is no transition plan. Chris Arroyo informed the committee that the State Council is going to develop training and guide books for parents, agencies and clients. There are some resources available already. We encourage everyone to contact their assembly members and senators and thank them.

ARCA

Fernando Gomez reported there will be a meeting later this month.

Service Provider Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Joan Anderson reported that she and Ben Davidson, as the stakeholder representatives for vendors, created a survey with 10 questions and sent it out to all the service providers. They narrowed those down to two questions that they asked during the interview process. SPAC will be working with Joe Montez and the Regional Center to come up with 6 to 7 brainstorming sessions on sight to discuss Final Rule.

Family Resource Empowerment Center (FRC)

Carmine Manicone reported for Liz Spencer who is not feeling well. Next Sunday, March 13th at 3:00pm in the WRC Boardroom, we will have a concert by the Flutesonic Orchestra and the event is sponsored by CHADD. There will not be an entrance fee, but they will be accepting donations. The Personal Assistance Council, the agency that monitors IHSS, will be doing two informational seminars on overtime and travel time. These are big issues with the change in the overtime laws. That's on Thursday, March 24th from 9:00am to 11:00am in Spanish and in English from 1:00pm to 3:00pm both on the same day and at the WRC Boardroom.

Self Determination Advisory Group

Judy Mark reported that they are meeting the second Tuesday of every month and invited everyone to attend their meetings. Judy has trained 5 of 7 units on Self-Determination at WRC. They are working on materials, outreach, reaching out to providers and educating them. Each of the regional centers has an advisory committee and for the first time tomorrow from 10:00am to 4:00pm all the Chair's from all 21 regional centers are meeting for the first time for the Statewide Advisory Committee at Westside Regional Center. It is open to the public, but you may not be able to ask questions until public comments. One thing that became clear last week at the conference is that Self Determination and HCBS Rules are so intertwined. California has done a poor job of moving forward on the HCBS Rule. We need to get federal approval for self-determination and that is being held up. They are kicking off a campaign called Self Determination Now tomorrow, so please stop by.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mike Danneker reported that he would like to start a task force to get in touch with the local high tech companies to find employment for our clients. If any of you know some people at these places, please let us know. We already talked about the MCO package the governor signed for the \$1.1 billion that is going to bring new money to the system. Part of that is going to a proposed 7.5% increase for staff and providers. There is also a 2 1/2% for operations. Also, there's another pot of money of \$17 million dollars for regional centers to increase their number of service coordinators so we can tell the federal government that we are meeting their mandates of 1 to 62. The Department of Finance will have their exit interview over the phone next week.

Judy Enright, stated she is speaking as a member of the public and not an attorney, because she did not want to create an attorney client privilege. She updated the Board on the status of the litigation filed by Kevin MacDonald against the Westside Regional Center.

Mike Danneker reported this is officially his last board meeting. He acknowledged the Board for all they have done to bring back the Westside way. He stated he is very impressed by everyone on the Board.

Judy Mark stated how amazing Mike Danneker is and thanked him for his support.

CLOSED SESSION – EMPLOYMENT AND CONTRACT NEGOCIATE. (California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4663, subdivision (a)(3)) (ACTION*)

Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzalez, reported that the Board went into closed session to vote on the three top candidates recommended by the Search Committee to pass to the final round for the Executive Director position. These candidates will part take in an open forum interview next week at a Special Board Meeting.

“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTE ON THE THREE TOP CANDIDATES RECOMMENDED BY THE SEARCH COMMITTEE TO PASS TO THE FINAL ROUND FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION. THESE CANDIDATES WILL PART TAKE IN AN OPEN FORUM INTERVIEW NEXT WEEK AT A SPECIAL BOARD MEETING.

The motion passed:

11 AYE

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. by Interim Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

X

Portia Lanae Griffith

Portia Lanae Griffith

WRC Board Secretary

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
MARCH 9, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Gonzalez
Fernando Gomez
Portia Griffith
Cammy DuPont
Courtney Colman
Ben Davidson
Bob Steiner
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Phil Jackson
Zoe Adams-Giesberg
Russell Tanner
Adriana Madrigal
Larry P. Ryan
Maria Soto

ABSENT: Austin Dove

GUESTS: Mike Danneker, Denise Fernald, Liz Spencer, Marcia James,
Barbara McCants, Shalonda Simms, Esther Kelsey, Nilo
Choudhry, Carmine Manicone, Vanessa Arauza

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzalez at 6:21 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

Board Members attending the meeting introduced themselves to the public. It was established that the members 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)

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

CLOSED SESSION – Employment and Contract Negotiation. (California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4663, subdivision (a)(3))

Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzalez, reported the Board went into closed session to interview the top two candidates for the Executive Director position.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m. by Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

X 

Portia Lanae Griffith
WRC Board Secretary

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
MARCH 16, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Gonzalez
Fernando Gomez
Portia Griffith
Cammy DuPont
Ben Davidson
Bob Steiner
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Zoe Adams Giesberg
Phil Jackson
Maria Soto
Larry Ryan
Adriana Madrigal
Russell Tanner

ABSENT: Courtney Colman, Austin Dove,

GUESTS: Carmine Manicone, Liz Spencer, Danise Lehrer, Bill Feeman, Denise Fernald, Vanessa Arauza, Barbara McCants, Marcia James Shalondra Simms, Mike Danneker, Linda Butler, Nilo Choudhry, Zakir Choudhry, Sylvia Fahimian, Wesley Witherspoon, Brett Gordon, Babak Kamjou, Esther Kelsey, Jack Nieves, Todd Rubien, Ayode Woods, Soryl Markowitz, Alice Rademacher, Carmen Ibarra, Val Lattanza, Denise Thornquest, Teresa Keller, Karen Williams, Jocelyn Towler, Anselma Heredia, Martha Thompson, Stephen Browning, Janine Rambo, Elizabeth Gomez, Sophia Miljanich, Vania Akda, Marlene Garcia, Tunisia Dix, Jose Reyes, Hector Resendez, Nolan Porter, Aga Spatzier, Cristina Azantian, Lindsay DuPlessis, Gwen Holmes, Norma Delgado, Daniel Hoyos, Candace Hein, Wyatt Holtz, Jace Romanowicz, Vikki Luke, Carlyn Meschack, Evelyn Johnson, Carol Taylor, Jennifer Mantell. a

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzales at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

Board Members attending the meeting introduced themselves to the public. It was established that the members 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)

INTERIM CHAIR UPDATE

Sandra Gonzalez, Interim Chair, reported that the Board will be making two important decisions. There are two new action items on the agenda that will be voted on tonight. Sandra acknowledged the Search Committee, the Committee Chair, Fernando Gomez, Nominating Committee and Committee Chair, Ben Davidson, for their dedication, work and energy into both of these processes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Harvey Lapin stated he has been involved for 46 years and has never witnessed democracy involving a community like he saw it here at WRC.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (ACTION*)

Ben Davidson, Committee Chair, reported that three months ago the Board received a letter from DDS asking about the composition of the Board. The Nominating Committee has been tasked with making the Board more representatives of the demographics of our regional center. The Committee has had three meetings and interviewed about 10 candidates. They now have a slate of six candidates that they would like to propose to the Board to be voted on today.

Zoe Adams-Giesberg requested a copy of the slate to be emailed to her by the end of the week. Ben will provide her with the slate of the recommended candidates.

Ben then proceeded to read the candidates name aloud as follows: Alex Soschin, David Wyles, Richard Breen, Myra Mezquita, Elizabeth Espinosa and Nilo Choudhry. If they are approved by the Board today they would be brought on July 1st, in the meantime they will receive training. He has reached out to the Gogian Foundation who does a wonderful job of training non-profit board member and sometimes they do it for free. They are also looking into sensitivity training, Robert Rules and procedure training for all new board members so they are ready by July.

“BE IT RESOLVED, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTE ON THE SLATE OF SIX CANDIDATES THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE HAS RECOMMENDED TO JOIN THE WRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE CANDIDATES ARE ALEX SOSCHIN, DAVID WYLES, RICHARD BREEN, MYRA MEZQUITA, ELIZABETH ESPINOSA AND NILO CHOUDHRY.”

After public comment, the motion passed:

13 AYE

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

PUBLIC FORUM

Mike Danneker served as mediator and asked the candidates 37 questions that were submitted to Human Resources by the various stakeholders prior to the start of the meeting. The same questions were asked of both candidates.

CLOSED SESSION – EMPLOYMENT AND CONTRACT NEGOCIATE. (California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4663, subdivision (a)(3)) (ACTION*)

Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzalez, reported that the Board went into closed session to vote on the new Executive Director of Westside Regional Center. Sandra announced that Carmine Manicone was elected as the new Executive Director of Westside Regional Center.

“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTE ON THE CANDIDATE TO ASSUME THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WESTSIDE REGIONAL CENTER.”

The motion passed:

9 AYE

3 NO

1 ABSTENTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public welcomed Carmine Manicone and voiced their gratitude towards Mike Danneker, Board and the Search Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m. by Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

X



Portia Lanae Griffith
WRC Board Secretary

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
APRIL 7, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Gonzalez
Portia Griffith
Cammy DuPont
Bob Steiner
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Russell Tanner
Adriana Madrigal
Larry P. Ryan
Maria Soto

MEMBER DIAL IN: Fernando Gomez

ABSENT: Courtney Colman, Ben Davidson, Austin Dove, Zoe Adams
Giesberg, Phil Jackson

GUESTS: Carmine Manicone, Marcia James, Shalonda Simms, Naomi
Harrel, Denise Fernald, Judy Enright, Vanessa Arauza, Francis
Gomez

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzalez at 6:24 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:

Board Members attending the meeting introduced themselves to the public. It was established that the members 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)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Francis Gomez congratulated Carmine Manicone. She stated that she feels we are all in good hands.

CLOSED SESSION – Employment and Contract Negotiation. (California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4663, subdivision (a)(3)) - (ACTION*)

Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzalez, reported the Board went into closed session to review and vote on the Executive Director's employment contract for Carmine Manicone,

RESOLUTION: THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTE ON THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S EMPLOYEMENT CONTRACT FOR CARMINE MANICONE.

After public comment, the motion passed:

9 AYE

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

Francis Gomez stated she is happy with the Board decision on Carmine as well as bringing back the employees who had been terminated by the previous Executive Director.

Fernando Gomez asked Carmine to share with everyone regarding the interview for PBS "Studio SoCal" with our newly elected Board of Director, Elizabeth Espinosa.

Carmine Manicone informed the Board he did an interview with PBS "Studio SoCal" earlier in the day and it will be broadcasted on Sunday night at 7:00pm. The purpose of the interview is to let people know of the existence of Regional Centers and resources families have available.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m. by Interim Board Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

X


Portia Lanae Griffith
WRC Board Secretary

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
MAY 4, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Gonzalez
Portia Lanae Griffith
Fernando Gomez
Russell Tanner
Larry Ryan
Adriana Madrigal
Maria Soto
Phil Jackson
Ben Davidson
Betty Pearson-Grimble
Zoe Giesberg
Austin Dove

MEMBERS ABSENT: Courtney Colman, Bob Steiner, Cammy Starks DuPont

GUESTS: Carmine Manicone, Mike Danneker, Danise Lehrer, Liz Spencer, Denise Fernald, Danny Franco, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Bill Feeman, Marcia James, Barbara McCants, Richard Breen, Alex Soschin, Elizabeth Espinosa, Myra Mezquita, Nilo Choudhry, David Wyles, Carmen Ibarra, Joseph Allen, Chris Arroyo, Alicia Bazzano, Linda Butler, Zakir Choudhry, Nick Coplin, Cecilia Fabulich, Sylvia Fahimian, Wesley Witherspoon, Elizabeth Gomez, Brett Gordon, Esther Kelsey, Judy Mark, David Mezquita, Christine Monroe, Jack Nieves, Sandy Rubenfeld, Todd Rubien, Robert Schwartz, Ayode Woods, Carmen Ibarra, Denise Thornquest, Latrice Baker, Carlyn Meshack, Brandon Alvarez, Claudia Palomo, Francis Gomez, Vikki Luke, Gabrielle Zadra, Martha Thompson, Vanessa Arauza

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Interim President Sandra Gonzalez at 6:39 p.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

Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves by Interim Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Gabrielle Zadra, has two children who are clients and are 18 months old. She stated that Rosalva Ortega, Cesar Garcia and the insurance specialist have been very helpful and she is grateful for the services her sons have received. However the state requires that after 6 months of age the family's private insurance is required to cover the services. The insurance says it covers in-home therapy however they have not been able to find a vendor that works with their insurance. She would like to be a part of the advocacy to improve the process. Carmine thanked Gabrielle for her comments and asked for her please provide her contact information. He would like to connect with her to see how we can ease the burden to our Early Start families.

Several clients shared their experiences at the Westside Jam. They all had a great time. One person commented the speakers where a little loud, but still had fun.

Chris Arroyo, SCDD, mentioned he brought several fliers and placed them on the front table for everyone to take one. One is a save the date flyer for Person Center Planning for June 25th. Also, they are accepting applications for a \$20,000 mini grant they will be giving out on Housing and Health and Safety. If you are interested in applying that would help accomplish one of their state goals. The third flier is their training flier. If you are interested in training, all you need to do is get a place and 15 people and they will come to the location and do the training in English or Spanish in the Los Angeles County.

Judy Mark, Autism Society of Los Angeles, met on April 30th at WRC and thanked them for allowing them to use the Boardroom. There they recognized individuals with Autism for their achievements. Judy invited everyone to attend an event on May 15th "Who Decides Conservatorship and Decision Making" from 10:00am – 2:30pm at Mychal's Learning Place in Hawthorne. Judy commented that she is excited that WRC is moving forward in a very positive way in the past few months.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Sandra Gonzalez welcomed the new Board of Directors and asked them to please say a little about themselves. Myra Mezquita, Alex Soschin, David Wyles, Richard Breen, Nilo Choudhry, Elizabeth Espinosa all introduced themselves and shared a little about themselves and why they want to be a part of the Board. Sandra clarified to that they will join the Board as of July 1st, but will begin Board trainings that the Nominating Committee will be putting together. Sandra also mentioned that the Annual Board Meeting will be held on June 1, 2016 at WRC.

Sandra introduced Fernando Gomez, Board Member, to make an important announcement.

Fernando Gomez shared how important the Boardroom has been at WRC and how we have shared many memorable moments in that room. He motioned for the Boardroom to be renamed The Danneker Boardroom.

RESOLUTION: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTE TO RENAME THE BOARDROOM TO "THE DANNEKER BOARDROOM" IN HONOR OF MIKE DANNEKER.

After public comment, the motion passed:

12 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

When resolution was approved, Fernando presented Mike Danneker with the plaque that will hang in the Boardroom and read the Westside Way.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR 11/4/15, 1/13/16, 3/2/16, 3/9/16, 3/16/16 & 4/7/16 BOARD MEETINGS (ACTION*)

Portia Griffith, Board Secretary, motioned to approve the November 4, 2015, January 13, 2016, March 3, 2106, March 9, 2016, March 16, 2016 and April 7, 2016 Board Minutes. Zoe Giesberg asked that moving forward we not put her middle name on the minutes.

RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE OF MINUTES FOR THE 11/4/15, 1/13/16, 3/2/16, 3/9/16, 3/16/16 & 4/7/16 BOARD MEETINGS.

After public comment, the motion passed:

12 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Danny Franco, Director of Finance, reported the Committee met earlier today with the independent auditors who presented the prior year financial audit and reviewed the March 31st financial. We are within the budget allocations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Fernando Gomez asked how the new printers are working that the Board voted on back in March and if indeed WRC has saved the projected money with the upgrade. Danny Franco confirmed the printer transition has been smooth and the savings was as projected.

ACHIEVABLE

Carmen Ibarra, Achievable CEO, reported she has been at Achievable for two years and a lot has happened and reflected on the achievements. They are anticipating on having a new pediatrician starting in June. They are also recruiting for a family practice physician who can connect with their patients. They just implemented a new phone system and

they already see great results. Achievable recently hired an enrollment specialist, Danny Delgadillo, who previously worked at FRC and is a parent as well. They upgraded and joined the two websites they had into one. If anyone has any suggestions for improvements, please let them know. They will be having a speaker series beginning late June.

Mike Danneker acknowledge Carmen Ibarra for her dedication and hard work in making Achievable what it is today.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Larry Ryan reported that CAC has been volunteering in various organizations in the community and participated in the Tools for Transformation Conference. They also participated in the Autism Speaks resource fair that took place at the Rose Bowl, a book festival at USC, the Westside Jam, Fiesta Broadway Cinco de Mayo Festival in downtown, Special Olympics and ASLA Reimagine Autism Awards. CAC also welcomed the new the new Executive Director, Carmine Manicone. They also thanked Mike Danneker for stepping in and getting WRC back on its feet.

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Fernando Gomez, Committee Chair, reported that there was some confusion on the location and the committee did not meet. He stated he will be terming out of the Board, and encouraged the board to put focus and energy in Equity. The \$11 million dollars will be going to bilingual staff. IS the staff trained? These are the things the committee needs to look into. This committee needs to regroup and remain focused.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ben Davidson, Committee Chair, reported that the new Board of Directors were introduced earlier. In the April Nominating Committee Meeting it was discussed that we would have some Board Trainings. One is WRC 101 to have the Executive Team tell the Board how WRC is run. The other is Governance and DDS as a whole which Chris Arroyo from SCDD will be conducting at WRC. In June they will be voting on the new Executive Committee for the Board. They are still taking nomination from Board Members. The slate as it stands is Sandra Gonzalez, Chairperson, Nilo Choudhry, Vice Chair, Cammy DuPont, Treasurer, Larry Ryan & Alex Soschin as co-secretaries.

Sandra Gonzalez asked if there are any other Executive Committee Nominations, but there was none.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Fernando Gomez, Committee Chair, thanked every member of the committee for their dedication and hard work in the process. Thanks to Mike Danneker for his years of service. Fernando welcomed and congratulated Carmine Manicone.

Carmine Manicone expressed his gratitude to everyone for the opportunity, the support and encouragement.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Zoe Giesberg reported they are expecting a May revise for the governor's budget. The committee discussed the ABX21 which means we will see an increase of about \$300 million going into the regional center services. That's about 5% raises for ILS, SLS, Respite, Personal Assistance as of June 30th. It will increase the amounts we receive for operations, administrative costs, bilingual staff and disparity correction. Zoe proceeded to give the breakdown of the allocations. If it all goes well the federal government may match this. Thanked CAC for getting the community to go and register to vote. Medi-Cal funding will be extended to every child without insurance under the age of 19.

ARCA

Fernando Gomez commented that governance is very important. It will be a main focus in trainings as it is an area DDS and the Department of Health is really focusing on within the regional center system as a whole.

Service Provider Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Ben Davidson, Committee Chair, reported they met a few weeks ago. Josh from Achievable came to their meeting and spoke about the upcoming event in June. They also formally introduced Carmine to the group.

Family Resource Empowerment Center (FRC)

Liz Spencer reported that in April the FRC and Early Start staff got to attend the Early Start Symposium in San Jose. The insurance issues are very different across the state as Gabrielle mentioned during public comments. It's not an issue about the services being approved, but how we can get them to the community so they can use them. The FRC is involved with the transition fair on May 21st with Community Services and QA. Mary Falvey will continue to provide full inclusion trainings through the fall and we are happy to provide them. Liz thanked Vikki Luke for building a new training system.

Self Determination Advisory Group

Judy Mark reported that the committee meets the second Tuesday of the month and they have been meeting for a year and a half, but in last month's meeting we had over forty people attend. Judy explained the process of submitting the application to the federal government for Self-Determination and the purpose of HCBS. The committee discussed talking about legislative visits to have them contact DDS and pressure them to find out where we are at with the status of the application. Judy invited everyone to attend the next Self-Determination Meeting on May 10th. Judy suggested she and Mary Lou give training to the staff on Self-Determination.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Carmine Manicone reported he spent a few days in Sacramento last week with DDS and ARCA and it was a very informative trip. The Department of Finance did a financial review and the outcome of that review was discussed with DDS and ARCA and it really was not concerning at all. ARCA is talking about a mentorship for new Executive Directors and a lot more oversight of regional centers. We will have an influx of funds coming into the regional center, but with that comes more oversight. If the money is not

used the way they want us to use it, the money will have to be returned. WRC is hoping we can hire 10-12 service coordinators to help meet the caseload ratios. The challenge at WRC is the limited office space. We are looking in every corner for potential office space.

Carmine also announced that Erica Reimer Snell will be joining WRC as the Assistant Director of Client Services.

Carmine reported there was a lot of great feedback from the JAM. He thanked everyone involved for its great success especially CAC.

Carmine acknowledges the Executive Team, Vanessa Arauza and the Board for all their support.

Portia Lanae Griffith thanked everyone for their support throughout the years she has served on the WRC Board of Directors.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Mark is working with a group on how we can look at the budget to see how we can use the money to reach out to families who normally do not get services. Urged that the training for the new Board Members to be focused not only on the Lanterman Act, but also budgets. The role of a member of the Board of Directors is very serious.

Fernando Gomez shared he and his wife accompanied Elizabeth Espinosa last week when she was honored for her advocacy work in the community.

Wesley Witherspoon thanked Mike Danneker, welcomed Carmine and welcomed all the new Board Members and wished all the mothers a happy mother's day.

Ayode Woods invited everyone to the Special Olympics tournament in Whittier and in Long Beach.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by Interim Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
JUNE 1, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Gonzalez
Portia Lanae Griffith
Fernando Gomez
Cammy DuPont
Russell Tanner
Larry Ryan
Adriana Madrigal
Maria Soto
Phil Jackson
Bob Steiner
Ben Davidson
Zoe Giesberg
Austin Dove

MEMBERS ABSENT: Courtney Colman, Betty Pearson-Grimble

GUESTS: Carmine Manicone, Denise Fernald, Danise Lehrer, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser, Danny Franco, Liz Spencer, Joseph Allen, Christofer Arroyo, Sylvia Arroyo, Alicia Bazzano, Linda Butler, Nilo Choudhry, Zakir Choudhry, Nick Coplin, Elizabeth Espinosa, Sylvia Fahimian, Elizabeth Gomez, Brett Gordon, Marcia James, Esther Kelsey, Judy Mark, Robert Martin, Barbara McCants, Myra Mezquita, David Mezquita, Jack Nieves, Sandy Rubenfeld, Todd Rubien, Robert Schwartz, Soryl Markowitz, Carmen Ibarra, Alejandro Soschin, Jennifer Mantell, Felisha Williams, Hector Madrigal, Ari Zeldin, Lisa Anderson, Wesley Witherspoon, Naomi Harrell, Lisa Glasgow, Richard Breen, David Wyles, Julie Ocheltree, Vanessa Arauza

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Interim President Sandra Gonzalez at 6:44 p.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

Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves by Interim Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Sandra Gonzalez, Interim Chair, welcomed everyone and reported that the Board started the first of a series of trainings today on Governance. She thanked Chris Arroyo for conducting the training and providing valuable information.

Sandra announced that the Board will be having the Annual Board Dinner at Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel on June 22nd and Vanessa Arauza will be emailing all Board Members with more details.

The Board received a letter from DDS addressed to Sandra and Carmine to confirm receipt and completion of the case load survey that was emailed to DDS. We are out of compliance with our case load numbers and they are asking that WRC put together a plan of corrective action. Carmine will cover this in his report later this evening.

Sandra acknowledged two Board Members, Portia Griffith, who turned in her resignation this evening and Fernando Gomez who has termed out. She acknowledged their dedication, commitment and years of service.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MAY 4, 2016 BOARD MEETINGS (ACTION*)

Portia Griffith, Board Secretary, motioned to approve the May 4, 2016 Board Minutes.

RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE OF MINUTES FOR THE MAY 4, 2016 BOARD MEETINGS.

After public comment, the motion passed:

13 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sandra Gonzalez reported that not all committee's may have a report as they did not meet this evening due to attending the Board Training.

FINANCE (ACTION*)

Danny Franco, Director of Finance, reported that the committee did not meet today, but has four contracts for the Board to review and approve.

Mary Lou explained there are a total of four contracts that need Board approval because they are over \$250,000. Two of them are for Brilliant Corners for housing acquisition and renovation. They are existing projects and need to be approved by June 30, 2016. The third one is for crisis teams, Community Integrated Work Program and it's an ongoing service we provide to all of our clients and families. It is set-up as a contract so families can readily access in a time of crisis without having to wait for a total of \$350,000 for the year. The final one is for family behavior services which we have a contract with an agency and they provide family training about behavior intervention and a series of trainings for a total of \$717,300.

Fernando Gomez asked for clarity and on the Brilliant Corners contracts and requested for the Board to review one contract at a time. Mary Lou answered his questions on the first contract and clarified these homes are for children up to 18 years of age. Fernando motioned to approve the first contract.

**RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE THE FIRST CONTRACT FOR \$400,000
BRILLIANT CORNERS HOUSING ACQUISITION FOR
CHILDREN UP TO 18 YEARS OF AGE.**

After public comment, the motion passed:

12 AYES

0 NO

1 ABSTENTIONS

Fernando asked if there is anything different from the second contract versus this new contract. Mary Lou explained it is the same as the first contract except these homes are for adults 18 years or older. Judy Mark asked if these new homes would be compliant to the new HCBS rules. Mary Lou confirmed they are. Zoe asked what SCIHLP stand for. Mary Lou explained it stands for Southern California Integrated Health and Living Project and it increase the services we have available.

**RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE THE SECOND CONTRACT FOR \$450,000
CONTRACT FOR BRILLIANT CORNERS HOUSING
ACQUISITION FOR ADULTS OVER 18 YEARS OLD.**

After public comment, the motion passed:

12 AYES

0 NO

1 ABSTENTIONS

Fernando inquired on the third contract for the Community Integrated Work Program and wanted to know renewal and is it at the same rate or is there an increase? Mary Lou confirmed it is a renewal at the same rate. CRP is a Crisis Response Project. They provide crisis services such as wellness checks and visit people on their list. They respond to crisis calls or come out to avoid hospitalization when things are out of control. They monitor closely and provide crisis behavior training and that is a unique feature. They also have a crisis intervention specialist with a masters and/or license that will offer support and strategies to help stabilize the situation. Carmine also added that service coordinators are encouraged to make referrals before people are in crisis so they can help the family anticipate problems so we are not constantly dealing with crisis and it is an

extremely valuable feature to everyone.

**RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE THE THIRD CONTRACT FOR \$300,000
CONTRACT FOR COMMUNITY INTEGRATED WORK
PROGRAM (CRP).**

After public comment, the motion passed:

12 AYES

0 NO

1 ABSTENTIONS

The final contract is for family behavior services which we have a contract with an agency and they provide family training about behavior intervention and a series of trainings for a total of \$717,300.

Soryl Markowitz, Autism Specialist, explained how these programs help families. Elizabeth Gomez encourages WRC to provide surveys for families to complete after completing the training to find out how successful the training was for each family. Board Members asked questions and shared personal experiences. They also requested more information on these contracts and moving forward, there be more detail about the contract rather than a summary.

Sandra asked if instead of signing the contract now, if could we get a one month so they can gather more stat's and bring a vendor to further explain this contract.

**RESOLUTION: TO APPROVE THE FOURTH CONTRACT FOR \$717,300
CONTRACT FOR FAMILY BEHAVIOR SERVICES FOR
AN AGENCY TO PROVIDE FAMILY TRAINING ABOUT
BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION AND A SERIES OF OTHER
TRAININGS.**

After public comment, the motion passed:

11 AYES

1 NO

2 ABSTENTIONS

ACHIEVABLE

Carmen Ibarra, Achievable CEO, mentioned they offered a program that is not health care for individuals with autism so they can experience summer camp. They had over 100 applicants from both Westside Regional Center and Lanterman Regional Center. They funded about \$60,000 worth of scholarships to 35 individuals so they can attend the camp of their choice. They are also working on a speaker series. The next one is on June 29th and it will be taking place in the Danneker Boardroom at Westside Regional Center from 6pm – 8pm. If you are interested and have not received your save the date, please let Carmen know. It is a free event.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Adriana Madrigal reported that the CAC members continue to do volunteer work in the community. Some of the events they attended or participated in were 3rd Annual Culver City Car Show. For those involved in the Westside Special Olympics they had their 2nd competition for track and field and basketball at Whittier College. The summer games

are quickly approaching and will be held at Cal State Long Beach on June 11th and 12th. They also went to a free health fair in Hawthorne, the Annual Police Canine barbeque and the Expo Line has been expanded and attended the opening celebrations.

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Fernando Gomez, Committee Chair, reported there was no meeting this evening. Based on ABX21 and the implementation of it, DDS will be hosting three stakeholder groups across the state in July somewhere near South Central. These will be open meetings for all to attend. You will be getting more information as it becomes available. There is a lot of activity and funds available through ABX21 to talk to the Disparity issue. DDS may put together a small stakeholder group that will help advise them from across the state. They met a couple of days ago via conference call. The study they were pushing for that included some pilot programs would cost over \$250,000 and it has not been funded yet. Each regional center would participate and submit best practices on services they provided to talk to disparity.

A guest requested the dates of those meetings be made available to everyone and posted on the website. Another guest asked if Fernando Gomez will lead the Equity Task Force at WRC. Fernando confirmed he will.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (ACTION*)

Ben Davidson, Committee Chair, thanked Chris Arroyo for the Governance training earlier this evening. The next training, WRC 101, will be Tuesday, June 28th at 4:00pm at the Danneker Boardroom.

In March, based on the information they had then they approved six new board members. Counsel has informed them earlier today, that due to no prior notification of that vote happening, that vote was not valid. Also, six new board members were brought on, but they found out today that they only needed four. In December, the Board voted to move the number of board members from 21 down to 19, but according to today it is actually 18. There has always been some confusion on the appointed Vendor Board Member as to whether this board member would be counted as a board member or not as this individual cannot vote on some contracts. However, legal counsel has notified them that the bylaws were not amended in December to increase the amount of Board Members and this Board Member should be accounted for as a full board member.

Fernando Gomez explained that the bylaws section 4.1 states the composition of the board is 18. We do not have it on the agenda for today to vote to change the bylaws to increase it to 21, but it will be on the July agenda. You will receive no less than 10 day notice of that item being on agenda to vote on. Right after that we can vote on the additional four members who are part of the six. It will be four because tonight they will vote in the other two because they will be on the officer's slate.

Sandra reported that this process was reviewed by legal counsel and it has been approved to move forward with Fernando's proposal.

Ben summarized the options at this time, prior to voting on the Executive Slate, is to vote on bringing Nilo Choudhry and Alejandro Soschin on the board and then we will have the agenda notification go out prior to the July meeting to be able to expand the board to bring on the other four members that had been voted on in March.

A guest asked the Board to ensure the composition meets the requirement of 25% minimum of consumers and meeting all the qualification for diversity. Ben explained that they will have a better representation and significantly improved the demographics area with the members coming in July.

RESOLUTION: TO VOTE ON ADDING TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS, NILO CHOUDHRY AND ALEJANDRO SOSCHIN, TO THE BOARD THIS EVENING.

After public comment, the motion passed:

13 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

Ben Davidson presented the Board with the Nominating Committee's proposed Board Officers slate for the next fiscal year and opened the floor to any other nominations. There were no other nominations and the board proceeded to vote on the slate presented.

RESOLUTION: TO VOTE ON THE EXECUTIVE SLATE FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR AS FOLLOWS:

PRESIDENT:	NILO CHOUDHRY
VICE PRESIDENT:	SANDRA GONZALEZ
TREASURER:	CAMMY DUPONT
CO-SECRETARY:	LARRY RYAN
CO-SECRETARY:	ALEJANDRO SOSCHIN

After public comment, the motion passed:

13 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTIONS

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Zoe Giesberg reported they did not meet this evening as the board training this evening superseded the meeting.

ARCA

Fernando Gomez reported that for five years he has been the ARCA Board Delegate, but with him terming out the new ARCA Delegate is Sandra Gonzalez and Alejandro Soschin will be the co-Delegate.

Service Provider Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Ben Davidson, Committee Chair, reported they met a week ago and received a report on the May Revise and the budget as a whole from Carmine Manicone. They also discussed new pitfalls for employers regarding overtime.

A guest asked questions about the overtime changes.

Family Resource Empowerment Center (FRC)

There was no report.

Self Determination Advisory Group

Judy Mark reported that the committee meets the second Tuesday of the month and the next meeting will be June 14, 2016. Their meetings recently, has been focused on the fact that the Self Determination waiver has not been sent back to the federal government to get approved. They had a statewide advisory committee meeting last week in Sacramento and the alleged dates DDS is coming up with is that this week they will sending the new language to CMS and work with them in the next month on ensure the language is correct and the is something the federal will support. Then around mid-July resubmit the waiver. It would go for public comment for thirty days and sending it back in mid-August. The Self Determination Now Campaign in two weeks they met with all the legislators and talked to staff members and asked them to write letters to DDS to ask what the status of our waiver application is and there was a consumer at every one of their meetings. They are also sharing this with other Advisory Groups so they can do the same. A directive is being sent from DDS to all regional centers a curriculum for training for staff as early as July throughout the state. Judy provided HCBS Rules Committee updates.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Carmine Manicone acknowledged the Nominating Committee Chair, Ben Davidson and Fernando Gomez for working hard to figure out a workable solution and you did a great job. There was a shooting at the UCLA campus today. We have a consumers and groups that operate at UCLA and our vendors made sure they all got out safe and kept us informed alongside with Mary Lou's group.

May Revise was given on May 13th and Governor Brown left the DDS Budget untouched. All of the Southern California Executive Directors were called for a meeting at San Gabriel with John Doyle from DDS Finance Department tomorrow perhaps to go over allocations.

We are already interviewing to add two Service Coordinator positions on the Early Start Unit because they have really strong mandates on their numbers and we are adding another Intake Coordinator. We have a lot of positions posted and interviewing. We are anticipating that the money we will be getting we will be able to hire 10-12 new service coordinator positions to address the caseload ratios. This may still not get us into compliance with the Federal mandate of 62/1 but we will be much closer than we already are. The only challenge we have is that we do not have enough space for the new staff. We are working at looking into the space we already have and looking at other spaces in the building.

The Equity Task Force will meet at 4pm on the date of the next Board Meeting on July 6th. I encourage you to join that committee.

Part of the corrective action plan on the Caseload Ratios is that we need to do a public meeting. We believe a lot of people will be at the Self Determination meeting so we are having this meeting at 5:00pm to impact more people.

Carmine Manicone reported that Pamela Arturi is our employment specialist and is working with many companies and he offered to distribute the information on the info sessions we are having. We will invite Pamela Arturi to join us and present at a future meeting.

There are several new programs like College to Career at West LA College where we have had 16 people who are already working on a career path. We also have the Project Search we are doing at UCLA and Kaiser. Liberty Employment, our newest vendors are employing a lot of our clients and we are making positive leads.

It's projected that we will be within our allocated budget for our Ops & POS expenditures. We attribute this due to the effects of the insurance companies picking up the behavior services.

Alejandro Soschin mentioned we should reach out to all these new companies moving in to the area to look for jobs for our clients. Mary Lou Weise-Stusser mentioned that we are already working on this through one of our SPAC members.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Alejandro Soschin recognized Sandra Gonzalez, Interim President, for stepping up this fiscal year and leading us in the right direction.

Chris Arroyo, SCDD, just found out that the statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee meeting is now scheduled for June 21st from 1:00pm – 4:00pm telephonically. He also brought fliers for upcoming events. He also acknowledged the outgoing board members for their commitment and leadership.

Judy Marks acknowledged Portia Griffith and expressed her sadness to hear she resigned from the Board. She also thanks Fernando for his leadership, perseverance and commitment.

ADJOURNMENT (ACTION*)

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m. by Interim Chair, Sandra Gonzalez.

Larry Ryan & Alejandro Soschin
Co-Secretaries