



South Central Los Angeles
Regional Center
for persons with developmental disabilities, inc.

**SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Bell Community Center
January 22, 2019
7:00pm – 9:00pm**

President, Alfredo Farfan opened the **January 22nd, 2019 Board Meeting** with roll call:

Members Present:

Alfredo Farfan	Jesus Murillo
Ascary Navarro	John Wagoner
DeShawn Kelly	Ramona Gallegos
Diana Ugalde	Sherita Rogers
Irma Nunez	Teyanna Williams
Javier Cortez	Wanda Cathran

Members Absent:

Kristen Gozawa
Mark Grimes
Stephanie Arlaud

Staff Present:

Chris Soto	Ida Dacus	Kim Bowie	Norma Ortiz
Cresha Pree	Jesse Rocha	Kimberly Bernardez	Sarai Cruz
Deanna Corbin	John Probst	Kyla Lee	Teodoro Bilbao
Desiree Boykin	Joseph Velasquez	Maricel Cruzat	Valeria Salceda
Dexter Henderson	Karmell Walker	Marsha Mitchell	

Public: (From sign in sheet)

Alejandra Gonzalez	Jaclyn Balanay	Maricela Donate	Rubi Saldana
Amada Reyes	Juana Avila	Marta Alvarado	Sandra Maravel
Angelica Orellana	Karina Saldana	Martha Camacho	Sandra Marchelli
Bertha Gonzalez	Kimberly Bernadez	Martha Gasca	Sara Martinez
Carolina Pineda	Leticia Rea	Mary Farfan	Sofia Cervantes
Cecilia Granados	Lourdes Ocampo	Maxine Milam	Tania Rivera
Cendy Topete	Maria Leonor	Odulia Juarez	Yudira Zepeda
Emma Orosco	Dimas	Raul Munoz	
Herlinda Rodriguez	Maria Lopez	Rosa Guzman	

Approval of BOD Meeting Minutes

President Alfredo Farfan apologized for his absence at the November 11th, 2018 Board Meeting.

Board Action:

Wanda Cathran made a motion to approve the November 11th, 2018 Board Minutes, Sherita Rogers seconded, motion unanimously approved.

SCLARC Board Membership Update and Recruitment

Mr. Farfan introduced new Board Member, Raul Munoz. He had the pleasure of interviewing Raul and was very impressed with his accomplishments, dedication to self-advocacy and professionalism.

Mr. Munoz thanked the Board of Directors for welcoming him and giving him the honor to serve on the Board. As a consumer, his goal is to help advocate for the needs of those we serve and is looking forward to bringing ideas to the table that will provide more services to the consumers and families.

Board Action:

Wanda Cathran made a motion to approve renewing Stephanie Arlaud into a Second, 3-year, Term, Teyanna Williams seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Executive Committee Report – Alfredo Farfan

Mr. Farfan reported that Irma Nunez and he recently toured SCLARC. They both witnessed staff at work and were very impressed with the amount of dedication they showed. All cubicles were occupied with no space for incoming employees showing the importance of adding more space and opening an outreach office. It is highly recommended that the entire Board take the opportunity to take a tour when available.

Mr. Farfan reported that the Board is looking to start a Consumer Advisory Committee to provide a place for exiting Board Members. Having served on the Board would add that experience in being able to provide advice on decisions trying to improve how we serve our consumers and families.

Mr. Farfan would like to remind all sub-committees to make sure and continue providing minutes from meetings being held.

Consumer Advisory Committee – Ascary Navarro

Ascary Navarro gave an overview of the Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings held on November and December.

The CAC meeting is held on the fourth Monday of each month from 10:00am – 12:00pm at SCLARC, 2500 S. Western Avenue, 4th Floor; Legacy Community Room 435.

Consumer Services Committee – Wanda Cathran

Wanda Cathran reported on the Consumer Services Committee (CSC) meeting held on December 3rd, 2018. The committee primarily spoke on the jobs and responsibilities of the CSC members.

The CSC meeting is held the second Monday of each month from 6:00pm – 7:30pm at SCLARC, 2500 S. Western Avenue, 4th Floor; Legacy Community Room 435.

Finance Committee – Kyla Lee

Kyla Lee, CFO, presented the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures, the Balance Sheet and the Point of Services Expenditure Projection Report to the committee. These reports are a part of the meeting packet, finance section.

The finance committee meets on the third Wednesday, of every other month, the week prior to SCLARC's BOD meeting.

Vendor Advisory Committee – John Wagoner

Mr. Wagoner reported on the Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) meeting held on January 3rd, 2019 where the members had Self-Determination training. VAC meetings are generally for vendors but they do welcome all who want to participate and voice any questions or concerns.

The VAC meets the second Wednesday of every month from 10:00am – 12:00pm at SCLARC, 2500 S. Western Avenue, 4th Floor; Legacy Community Room 435.

Agency Directors Reports

Budget Update and Finance Report – Kyla Lee

Kyla Lee was welcomed to her first SCLARC Board of Directors Committee Meeting, where she presented to the board the November 30th, 2018 financials for FY 18-19. Kyla Lee presented the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures, the Balance Sheet and the POS Expenditure Projection (PEP) summary. The following financial highlights were reported to the board:

The Statement of Revenue and Expenditure Report shows the agency is projecting a balanced budget in operations as of November 30, 2018. In POS we are projecting expenditures of \$250,440,032. In the same report we project a POS deficit of \$14,849,093 with the reason being SCLARC has not received all of its allocation for the year.

The Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2018 shows we have \$23,715,223 in cash compared to the same time last year when the agency had \$28,699,192.

The POS Expenditure Projection (PEP) summary indicates our current month projection for our annual estimated Purchase of Service (POS) Expenditures totals \$250,440,032.

Board Action:

Teyanna Williams made a motion to accept and approve the amendment to the 2017/2018 Fiscal Year, DeShawn Kelly seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Executive Office – Crystal Smith

Crystal Smith presented to the board an overview of the Early Start New Parent Orientation. Ms. Smith reported that although the numbers of attendees sound low, there has been an increase since moving into the new building.

Clinical Services – Maricel Cruzat

Maricel Cruzat presented to the Board a general overview of the DDS Medicaid Waiver Audit Findings. Findings showed SCLARC was 99% in overall compliance with 100% overall compliance for the records review.

Executive Directors Report – Dexter Henderson

Dexter Henderson gave a thank you to Mr. Munoz for accepting their invitation to serve on the Board.

A notice will be sent to have two or three members at a time sign up for a SCLARC tour over the next year. Vendors have also offered to receive any Board member that is interested in touring a program and Mr. Henderson would like to include these visits and find a way to implement all of them together. These visits would be very instrumental and eye-opening; connecting any policy issues and responsibilities you have, along with the day-to-day problematic responsibilities.

In May of 2017, the Board reviewed and discussed a policy of Adaptive and Social Skills and has recently received an official approval from the Department of Developmental Services. Per Mr. Rocha, both the Respite and Personal Assistance POS Policies have also been approved by DDS.

What are our budget priorities? Mr. Henderson suggests we provide a presentation at the March Board meeting highlighting the key initiatives we are involved in, along with the cost connected to them. Currently, there is money in the budget to sustain where we are and our growth as well as the minimum wage increase provided this January and January 2020. There will be no additional money for increases on both the operational and vendor side. There is an advocacy effort to modify the budget to make that happen, but the Governor's budget presented on the 7th of January does not provide it. SCLARC will be advocating to the new Governor for an 8% increase to Service Providers due to the constant raise in rates but lack in raised increases. On July 1st, a 14 day Uniform Holiday Closure will be implemented that will take \$57 million out of the budget for vendors. We must continue to advocate to our Legislators during the Legislative Process.

Public Input

➤ Emma Orozco:

Emma Orozco suggested providing information on Self-Determination in Spanish. She stated she had previously spoken of this with Chris Soto at the January reunion. In addition to this, there is also some confusion in regards to the Board Meeting dates. It is not clarified where these meetings will be taking place and asked that we provide that information as well.

➤ Juana Avila:

Juan Avila asked what this Regional Center really offers. His son is 18 years old with 12 years as a SCLARC consumer and only receives Respite. He has been told there are no funds available. Mr. Avila asks, "Are the funds the government provides per child or per disability? And if it is per child or disability, then they are not being properly evaluated." Mr. Avila disagrees with the 100% audit results, saying his child is not included in that category. He pays out of pocket and is now in debt due to lack of assistance from his Service Coordinator. He questions what this Regional Center offers so that these children will be successful or so they won't have to depend on the government for help.

Mr. Henderson responded by asking Ms. Avila that she speak with Mr. Rocha at the end of the meeting. The staff attending the meeting is for the public to be able to speak to them directly regarding their concerns. There is a menu of services that talks about what anyone in the Regional Center at a certain age will be eligible to receive depending on whether or not they meet the criteria. On an annual basis, you should receive a document that informs you how much was spent on your loved one. Mr. Henderson informed Ms. Avila that you are able to appeal if a service has been denied.

Mr. Rocha responded by explaining to Ms. Avila the process of our funds. You receive a service with no cap on how much you receive or on spending. We provide you the service, and we contact the state requesting a reimbursement.

➤ Maria Cruz Moreno:

Maria Cruz Moreno explained that she has also stood in front of the committee very frustrated, feeling as though there is no service that could be given to her son, a consumer. She now has seen all the effort that the Regional Center has put forth. Ms. Moreno gave a thank you to Mr. Henderson for his attention and all his hard work, as well as Mr. Rocha for always listening and providing her with all of her families basic needs.

Mr. Farfan responded by giving a thank you to the public for joining us in these meetings and giving us your suggestions of what we could be doing better.

➤ Amanda Arambula:

Amanda Arambula thanked the Board all for all of their help. She has stood before the Board voicing her concerns and feels she has been heard. Ms. Arambula gave a thank you to Mr. Rocha, Ms. Salceda and Mr. Soto for all of their support.

➤ Herlinda Rodriguez

Herlinda Rodriguez stated she is aware that parents are a part of the change, which is why they all meet to try and make that happen. Ms. Rodriguez voiced her concerns about the location of the services offered by the Regional Center and how difficult it is for parents to get to them.

➤ Angelica Orellana

Angelica Orellana asks the Regional Center to provide more support for parents who receive a first diagnostic for their child. For example, when parents receive that first diagnostic, they are not aware of what is out there for them and do not want to accept that their child has a disability. In addition, Ms. Orellana believes having therapies early can help, as well as holding Self-Determination in the morning instead of the afternoon.

➤ Maria Lopez

Maria Lopez voiced her concerns on Service Policies. She has seen that the Service Policies are generalized and would like all Board Members to be aware. Unfortunately, these policies are not including many of our consumers. For example, many of our kids in the Autism spectrum will not qualify the same as someone with Cerebral Palsy. Ms. Lopez would like the board to take into consideration every individual and make sure the policies meet the different needs.

Adjournement:

President, Alfredo Farfan adjourned the January 22nd, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting at 9:00pm.

Next Meeting:

The next SCLARC Board of Directors meeting will be held on March 26th, 2019 at SCLARC 2500 S. Western Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90018.

Submitted by:

Deanna Corbin
Executive Assistant

Date

Approved by:

Irma Nunez
Board Secretary

Date

