



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

SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER
Remote Zoom Meeting
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 28th, 2023
7:00pm – 9:00pm

President, Jesus Murillo, opened the **March 28th, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting** with roll call:

Members Present:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Jesus Murillo | Magali Ochoa |
| Ana Da Silva | Sherry Kidd |
| Ascary Navarro | Caycee Ricketts |
| Lauren Black | Luz Curiel |
| Illona Hendrick | Malcolm Harris |
| Raul Munoz | Mireya Romero |

Members Excused:

Sherita Rogers, Cynthia Torres

Staff Present:

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Dexter Henderson | Desiree Boykin |
| Kyla Lee | Wendy Castillo |
| Jesse Rocha | Sarai Cruz |
| Jenice Turner | Armando Sanchez |
| Kiara Lopez | Deanna Corbin |
| Maricel Cruzat | |

Public Present:

Sofia Cervantes- State Council on Developmental Disabilities Advocate
Renard Stanford – Treasure /Co-Chair of Advocate Advisory Committee

I. General

Deanna Corbin opened the March 28th, 2023, Board of Directors meeting with a welcome to SCLARC's board and general public.

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by President Jesus Murillo by taking roll.

B. Public Input

Board Action:

- C. To approve SCLARC Board of Directors Special meeting minutes of January 24th, 2023.**
M/S/C: M. Ochoa / L. Black / Unanimous

II. Board Member Reports

A. Executive Committee Report – Jesus Murillo, President

President Jesus Murillo reported that the Executive Committee was recommending that Ascary Navarro be appointed to the vacant Board Secretary position for a one-year period from March 28th, 2023. It was noted that Mr. Navarro's six-year term ended in November 2022. Leaving one additional year in which he could serve on the Board.

B. Supportive Services Committee – Raul Munoz

Raul Munoz reported brief highlights about March's SSC meeting.

- Mr. Munoz mentioned that the Supportive Services Committee is currently looking for more Board Members to join the Committee. He is also looking for Officer roles to be filled, such as the Co-Chair and the Secretary positions.
- Lanterman Case Management Updates were provided during the SSC meeting by Jenice Turner. She reported when deadlines for certain emergency services would be ending. Such as tailored services and day services. These services will require you to be in-person. Other services will have flexibility and remain remote such as remote IPP meetings.
- Mr. Munoz mentioned the Coordinated Family Support Services Pilot Program for adult clients which provides linkage to resources and training which helps them become more independent.
- Director of Children Services Jenice Turner provided an update on the Personal Assistance Policy, and Case management ratios. For the current fiscal year 2022 – 2023 the state increased funding. So that caseload ratios for Service Coordinators could be more reasonable. The Regional Center will be able to provide more equitable and quality services. More emphasis and support will be provided to foster youth and all clients.
- Chief Advancement Officer, Kiara Lopez introduced SCLARC's new Community Relations Specialist Jose Beltran. He will be assisting SCLARC's Leadership team with logistics and other tasks.

The next SSC meeting will be held on the second Monday of June on June 12th from 6:00pm to 7:30pm.

C. Vendor Advisory Committee – Illona Hendrick

Illona Hendrick reported the following brief highlights.

- The VAC met on February 8th, 2023. Also, in February the Vendor Fair took place at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The attendees were able to interface in-person with the SCLARC Leadership and the Service Coordinators. The vendors and new Service Coordinators were excited to meet each other in person and network.
- During the March 8th meeting the VAC made sure the Regional Center and the vendors were one hundred percent HCBS compliant. The VAC is looking forward to working with the Leadership at SCLARC and the vendor community to organize another event in the future where the vendors can be available for families and self-advocates.

President Murillo asked Mrs. Hendrick if the VAC is planning on having more events like the vendor fair in the future. Mrs. Hendrick mentions that she's hoping that they can do another vendor fair during the summer, possibly in July or August with SCLARC and the self-advocates and families.

D. Advocate Advisory Committee – Caycee Ricketts

Ms. Caycee Ricketts, president of AAC provided a brief update on the February 27, 2023, AAC meeting.

- AAC Treasurer Renard interjected and explained how guest speaker Charles Sailor from Merrill Lynch gave a presentation at the AAC meeting.
- Charles Sailor encouraged everyone to write down their goals to create a financial budget. He suggested that each family should save money for three to nine months to plan a family vacation. He added that most families should save money for an emergency fund for unexpected times, hardships, and situations. He explained the importance of a 401k plan and encouraged the ACC to invest and have financial literacy.

Executive Director, Dexter Henderson mentions that Caycee Ricketts has decided to step down as the Co-Chair of the AAC effective on March 28th, 2023. Renard Stanford is the new Co-Chair of the ACC.

E. Self-Determination – Jenice Turner

Jenice Turner, Director of Children Services informed the Board that the Self-Determination Advisory Committee meeting was held on March 8th, 2023. The committee meetings are now being held every other month. Ms. Turner reported on the following brief highlights.

- The SDP committee received training on how individuals can enroll in the self-determination program and the role of the individual and the family during the process.
- The SDP committee discussed the implementation of the fiscal year 2022-2023 allocation and identified items to purchase.
- SCLARC will have eighty-eight individuals enrolled into self-determination as of April 1st, 2023. The next orientation is in Spanish and will be held on April 18th from 9:30 am – 1:30 pm at our South Gate office. The next English orientation will be held on May 15th from 9:30 am – 1:30 pm at our Los Angeles office. They are offering a hybrid orientation model so zoom options are now available.
- The State Council on Developmental Disabilities is offering self-determination orientation for families who are interested in receiving services under the program. Their schedule for the month of April is posted on their website at scdd.ca.gov. Individuals and families interested in additional information regarding self-determination should reach out to their Service Coordinators or reach out to our self-determination team at selfdetermination@sclarc.org.

The next Self-Determination Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm via Zoom.

F. Training / Recruitment Committee – Ana Da Silva

Ana Da Silva reported the following brief highlights.

- The Recruitment and Training Committee did not meet in February, they met in March.

- Ms. Da Silva introduced two candidates, Nadia Guajardo, and Shavon Spiller-Codio, who met with the Recruitment and Training Committee and the Executive Committee.
- Nadia Guajardo and Shavon Spiller briefly spoke to the board and expressed how excited they are eager to join the board.

President Jesus Murillo indicated that the Executive Committee interview both committees for Board membership and he proposed that the board vote for the approval of the appointment of Nadia Guajardo, and Shavon Spiller-Codio. The Executive Committee recommended the board approve their membership on March 28th, 2023.

G. Finance Committee – Lauren Black

Ms. Black gave a brief overview of the Finance Committee, which was held on March 15th, 2023.

- The Finance Committee minutes for the previous meeting on February 18th, 2022, were approved with one correction. The Harrington Group presented the draft audit report from the fiscal year 2021-2022 and form 990 through June 30th, 2022.
- The Committee reviewed the financial statements as of January 31st, 2023. The Committee also reviewed the financial statements of the DDS SCLARC allocation C4 contract.
- CFO Kyla Lee informed the Committee that DDS will be continually auditing SCLARC by annual audit on May 15th, 2023.
- Ms. Black indicated that SCALRC is having an auditor transition from Harrington Group to AGT CPA Firm starting April 2023.
- An IT risk assessment update was also shared by CFO Kyla Lee.

CFO, Kyla Lee reported that the Harrington Group has been our auditors for the last 5 years and will present their final audit and financial statement because of statutory limits.

- Ozzie Torres, CPA Partner and Tonette Conner, CPA, Managing Partner from Harrington Group introduced themselves. They also thanked SCLARC for the last 5 years of service.
- The 2022 audit scope showed there are no significant deficiencies, no material weaknesses, no non-compliance issues.
- Harrington Group issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statements. As well as an unmodified report on the internal controls.
- Notable Footnote Disclosures: Liquidity and Availability of Resources, Cash Held for Clients and Unexpected Client Support, Contracts Receivable/Contract Advances – State of California, Employee Benefit Plan.
- 2022 Tax Return Summary: No Changes in format or structure for FY ending 6/30/2022.

Next Finance Committee meeting will be held on May 17th, 2023.

i. Staff Reports

H. Budget Update and Finance Report – Kyla Lee

- CFO, Kyla Lee presented to the Board the statement of financial position.
- Ms. Lee informed the board that SCLARC's cash position is positive.
- Ms. Lee moves onto the statement of activities:

- Ms. Lee informed the Board that for the first 7 months of the fiscal year we have spent 272 million and we are projecting to spend 502 million by the end of the fiscal year.
- Finally, Ms. Lee reported that our PEP Report shows our expenses will be in line with our current monthly allocation.
- Finally, Ms. Lee presented the new audit firm:
- Ms. Lee presents AGT CPAs & Advisors as SCLARC's new independent audit firm. Became fee for the next 5 years totals \$395,000. The Board was asked to approve the projected fee of \$395,000. The Finance Committee participated in the selection process for the new auditors. As a result, the Finance Committee is recommending that the board approve the selection of AGT CPA Advisors as well as the 5-year contract for their services totaling \$395,000.
- AGT accounting firm currently audits 10 other regional centers.
- Ms. Lee stated that the staff and Board Members looks forward to a successful transition.
- Next, Ms. Lee presents the Purchase of Service Data Public Forum highlights of POS Town Hall:
- Ms. Lee shared a law that was passed (WIC 4519.5) requiring DDS to share the POS data.
- She explains how funds are broken down, the state of California distributes funds to DDS, DDS distributes to Regional Centers into 2 different categories, POS & OPS.
- Director of Adult Services, Jesse Rocha presented to the Board more information of Authorizations not utilized.
- Mr. Rocha stated that the utilization rate was only at 63% overall, SCLARC would like to increase those numbers.
- He added that the pandemic had a huge impact on these authorizations not being utilized.
- Next, Mr. Rocha presents SCLARC's plan:
- One, continue supporting the Enhanced Case Management Program.
- Two, continue supporting the Participant Choice Specialist Program & Self Determination Program.
- Third, The Department of Children Services and Adult Services was restructured into 2 departments, Department of Children Services and the Department of Adult Services to improve service efficiency.
- Fourth, continue to promote and conduct in-person/zoom training sessions to Parent Groups.
- Fifth, continue conducting In-Person English & Spanish Person-Centered Thinking parent training sessions.
- Sixth, SCLARC is open on Saturdays to provide more opportunities and flexibility for families.
- Seventh, continue the utilizations of SCLARC's case management email and hotline.
- Eighth, SCLARC will continue to collaborate and partner with vendors to improve service delivery and reduce service delays.
- Ninth, continue to implement DDS initiatives and directives. Tenth, continue to promote SCLARC's family portal app and hold in person family workshops.
- Lastly, Mr. Rocha informed of 2 programs coming soon. One being Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) training for individuals and families. Second, Coordinated Family Support Services.

I. UPDATES REGARDING BOARD MEMBERSHIP-Dexter A Henderson
Executive Director, Dexter A. Henderson

- Mr. Henderson stated that any contract that exceeds \$250,000 from POS or OPS has to be taken to the board for approval.
- He stated that as of March 28th, there are 16 board members, one less than the maximum number of people allowed to be part of the board.
- He stated that the last position available to be part of the board should be an individual that SCLARC serves, to get to the point of 25% of people we serve on the board.

Adjournment:

President, Jesus Murillo, adjourned the March 28th, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting at 9:22pm.

Next Meeting: The next SCLARC Board of Directors meeting will be held May 23rd, 2023, via zoom at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by:

Deanna Corbin
Administrative Secretary

Date

Approved by:

Ascary Navarro
Board Secretary

Date