

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cleo Manspeaker stated that she appreciated RCEB and Area Board 5 for their services, supports and their great work.

John Rodriguez acknowledged Sister Marygrace for her recent assistance in helping us address a family emergency. Sister Marygrace and her organization worked collaboratively and creatively to provide necessary accommodations to a family in an emergency situation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Dick Long

Mr. Long introduced Francine Davis, RCEB Director of Community Services. Ms. Davis distributed and reviewed RCEB's Unmet Service Needs Report. Members were updated on RCEB's method for identifying unmet service needs and how the data collected is used to determine how we proceed with new program development. Ms. Davis reminded the group that we continue to have many consumers receiving less than they were promised by the Lanterman Act. It is always difficult to recognize that we are unable to provide consumers with needed services but we continue to work with our community to find innovative ways to provide quality services. Mr. Long thanked Ms. Davis for sharing this valuable information with the Board.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: Steve Whitgob

Dr. Whitgob reported that RCEB has received their B-1 allocation for fiscal year 2005/2006 but since the contract amendment has just been received staff has not had an opportunity to put together projections for the year. The Sufficiency of Allocation Report (SOAR) for 2005-2006 for POS projections must be submitted to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) by September 23rd and will be reviewed by DDS and ARCA in October. With the continuation of the efficiencies put into place last year, we expect to have a balanced OPS budget for the year. Dr. Whitgob also reported that it was not necessary to use our approved line-of-credit so there will be no interest charges added to our OPS budget this year.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Mike Treppa

Mr. Treppa reported that two candidates had been interviewed for Board membership. It is the recommendation of the Membership Development Committee that Rebecca Loya and Emily Whitgob be nominated for Board membership. The election will take place at the September meeting of the Board of Directors.

PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Sister Marygrace

Sister Marygrace reported that her group met on July 8th and summer attendance was evident. PVAC did not meet in August. At their last meeting transportation issues in Contra Costa County were discussed and members were asked to be patient while problems are being addressed. John Rodriguez informed the Board that RCEB's new transportation manager, Gary Hunnicutt, has been very successful in identifying and efficiently resolving transportation problems.

Sister Marygrace also reported that PVAC's July meeting had included an extensive review and discussion of trainings necessary to enable providers to build on excellence in service. The group concluded there was a need for a strong subcommittee to work with RCEB staff to address ongoing training needs.

The next PVAC meeting is scheduled for September 16th and will include a presentation by Lisa Kleinbub on the Medicare Part D prescription drug plans.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Rose Coleman

Ms. Coleman reported that CAC members held their August meeting at the Network Associates Coliseum where they were able to enjoy their annual team building exercises and the Oakland A's baseball game.

Mr. Burton thanked Mr. Rodriguez for putting together the CAC baseball event. He noted that Mr. Rodriguez organizes this event each year and everyone has a great time.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Burton

Mr. Burton reported that much effort has gone into finalizing the Bay Area Housing Plan. This regional center has taken a leadership role in getting this plan into place to serve the consumers transitioning from Agnews Developmental Center. Our staff continues to work with family members and the groups representing family members of the Agnews residents and there is a general recognition that Agnews will close but we have not reached full acceptance of community services.

Mr. Burton confirmed that the approval of the State budget was great news and we did not need to borrow funds. Members were reminded that any interest charged for use of the line of credit would have been repaid through our OPS budget. Work is now being done to prepare the Governor's budget for 2006/2007.

Mr. Burton reminded members that CMS is still in California looking at the Medicaid Waiver program. They are currently at DDS and it is our understanding that they intend to complete their review by September 30, 2005.

Mr. Burton reported that the Medicare Part D prescription program will impact approximately 40,000 consumers statewide and the complexities of the program will be very difficult for consumers to understand. We expect to receive some funding that will allow us to provide good information and that will also allow us to fill in the service gaps where our consumers are negatively impacted by the change.

Mr. Burton informed the Board that the CADDIS project had provided two presentations this month and he was pleased to report that our staff have indicated that significant progress has been made. RCEB is currently projected to be online in April but members were reminded that all regional centers have agreed they will not move forward until the pilot has worked successfully for two months.

Mr. Burton also reported that the Miller Center transition continues to move forward. CCARC has been working to hire staff and have done an excellent job in transitioning some of the programs. We expect to have all of the programs transferred to CCARC by late fall. Mr. Burton acknowledged that the continued efforts of the parents have kept this program together and the transfer process on track. The Board of Supervisors in Contra Costa County, especially Supervisors DeSaulnier and Gioia, have provided tremendous support throughout this very complex process.

Board members were reminded that Self Directed Services were approved for implementation statewide in this year's state budget. These services probably will not be implemented until next summer and this will allow us time to work through some of the challenges that come with this new service model.

ARCA REPORT: Nyron Battles for Anne Struthers

Mr. Battles reported that ARCA has agreed to continue their Consumer Advisory Committee for another year. Seventeen regional centers now have representatives on this committee. Mr. Battles also reported that the recent ARCA meeting had included an extended discussion of ARCA's leadership role in this system.

Mr. Burton thanked Mr. Battles for representing us on the ARCA CAC and noted that he has provided exceptional support to the new CAC Chairperson in preparing her to take over the leadership of the group.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Garcia announced that the East Bay Legislative Coalition has scheduled their legislative breakfast for October 28th in Oakland.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Coleman
Secretary
RCEB Board of Directors