

Board of Directors' Meeting

February 27, 2006

Presiding: Dick Long

Board Members
Present:

Nyron Battles
Bill Dycus
Chi Lee
Carmen Quinones
Steve Whitgob

Rose Coleman
Ralph Griffin
Becca Loya
Emily Whitgob
Theresa Woo

Board Members
Excused:

Tom Florin
Claudia Sladen

Will Sanford
Anne Struthers

Staff Present:

Jim Burton
Susan Driggs
Nancy Kubota
Marc Sugars

Francine Davis
Lisa Kleinbub
Maggie Raintree

Guests Present:

Mike Culler
Gina Jennings
Rocio Smith

Barbara Garcia
Cleo Manspeaker

CALL TO ORDER

President, Dick Long, called to order the regularly scheduled business meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay at 7:10 PM. Self-introductions were made.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C "The Board moves to approve the Consent Agenda as presented."
(Battles/Loya) Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Manspeaker thanked RCEB and North Bay Regional Center for all their many years of support. She also announced that CAHR will hold their annual fashion show on April 21st and tickets can be purchased through the CAHR office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Dick Long

Mr. Long reported that the Provider Vendor Advisory Committee (PVAC) members have elected Will Sanford to be their representative to the RCEB Board of Directors. Mr. Sanford is the Executive Director of Futures Explored and will be joining the Board at the March meeting.

Francine Davis and Nancy Kubota distributed and reviewed RCEB's annual report on our Strategic Plan Performance Objectives for 2005. The year-end report captures only a portion of the work completed by RCEB staff while illustrating our clear presence in supporting consumers and families in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Rocio Smith acknowledged that incredible support comes from RCEB and noted that our community would not be able to accomplish such success without our collaboration and partnership.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: Steve Whitgob

Dr. Whitgob distributed and reviewed the Financial Status Report for January 2006. RCEB is currently projecting a year-end POS budget balance of (\$712,752) to \$918,232 but expect that the POS budget will reflect a balanced budget at year-end. RCEB continues to project a balanced Operations budget for the year.

Members were reminded that the independent audit findings for the year ended June 30, 2005 had been presented for their review at the January meeting of the Board and the report was very favorable for RCEB. Members were asked to consider acceptance of the document.

M/S/C "The Board moves to accept the independent audit report for FY 2004/05 as presented at the January 23, 2006 meeting."
(Lee/Battles) Unanimous.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Ralph Griffin

Mr. Griffin reminded members that Lauri Parks had been nominated for Board membership at the previous meeting. Following a ballot election, Mr. Griffin reported that Ms. Parks had been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for a three year term from March 2006 through February 2009.

PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There was no report this evening.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Rose Coleman

Ms. Coleman reported that Mr. Burton had attended the last CAC meeting and provided a review of the Governor's budget proposals for the coming year. Members shared their concerns about how proposed reductions would impact consumers.

Ms. Coleman also reported that members had received copies of "The Riot", a national newsletter from the Self-Advocate Leadership Network. The newsletter had included a good article on words that can be disrespectful and hurtful and the group discussed possible ways to address this problem.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Burton

Mr. Burton reported that budget hearings will soon be underway in Sacramento. Before going out of session, the Senate rejected the Administration's proposal to delay the SSI/SSP cost of living adjustment for 15 months. The first budget hearing in the Assembly has been scheduled for March 29th and will address the SSI/SSP COLA. At this time, DDS issues are scheduled to be heard in the Senate on April 3rd and in the Assembly on April 24th.

Mr. Burton announced that Grass Roots Day has been scheduled for April 26th and encouraged everyone present to attend. Members were reminded that this important annual event is sponsored by ARCA and it is important that we keep the Sacramento staff of our legislators informed of the critical issues of the developmental disabilities service system.

The East Bay Legislative Coalition will be holding their annual Legislative Breakfast on April 7th. This important event is a collaboration between the Alameda County DD Council, Area Board 5 on Developmental Disabilities, the DD Council of Contra Costa County, our Provider/Vendor Advisory Committee and RCEB.

Mr. Burton noted that the most significant issues in the budget hearings will be the continued freeze on rates and start-up funding and it will be very important for legislators to hear from consumers and family members. We continue to have fewer and fewer services available to meet the needs of the population we serve as the rate situation continues to deteriorate and we continue to deal with program closures and poorly paid staff. Mr. Burton encouraged people to attend the hearings so we are able to present a unified front on these important issues.

Mr. Burton informed the Board that we have a growing number of people with developmental disabilities who are involved with the criminal justice system and we are struggling to provide services to this population. Attempts to develop specialized residential facilities have not been successful and the lack of start-up funding makes it extremely difficult to develop new programs for these consumers.

Mr. Burton announced that Theresa Delgadillo has been appointed as Chief Deputy Director at the Department of Developmental Services. Ms. Delgadillo will also serve as the Interim Director until Mr. Allenby's replacement is selected. We need to remember that DDS has lost a tremendous amount of experience to recent retirements and we must be ready to provide any assistance we can.

Mr. Burton was pleased to report that the issue of the DPRC program in Richmond has found positive resolution. Mr. Burton also noted that Francine Davis and Rocio Smith were instrumental in keeping this program within our focus. While we were successful in maintaining this program, it is important to remember that we continue to struggle to keep programs together. This challenge continues to grow with nearly 9000 net new consumers to serve in California this year and no start-up funding available to develop new programs.

ARCA REPORT: Jim Burton

Mr. Burton asked everyone to try to attend Grass Roots Day on April 26th. The March ARCA meeting will be held in southern California in conjunction with the 40th anniversary celebration of Lanterman Regional Center.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Manspeaker shared that she was well-supported in a recent event by RCEB staff. She also suggested that it would be important for crisis response staff to be required to carry photo identification.

ADJOURNMENT

Following a closed session to discuss personnel issues and real estate negotiations, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Coleman
Secretary
RCEB Board of Directors