

7:28 PM – Quorum Confirmed: Irene confirmed that a quorum was present.

7:28 PM – Interpretation Instructions: Spanish Interpreter Yelka Vargas provided instructions for accessing Spanish interpretation via Zoom.

7:29 PM – Call to Order / Opening Remarks: Aarthy Desikan called the meeting to order, confirmed interpretation and recording, and initiated introductions.

7:31 PM – 7:37 PM – Roll Call / Introductions: Introductions were provided by:

- Irene – Committee member, family member
- Raji – Committee member, family member
- Pamela Baird – Committee member, family member
- Arthur Lipscomb – Client rights advocate
- Virginia Hom – Committee member, parent
- Jenifer Castañeda – Manager of Federal Programs, RCEB
- Sheraden Nicholau – SCDD
- Greg Gonzalez – SCDD Bay Area Regional Manager
- Bianca Magallon-Flores – PPL FMS
- Preselah Seymour – GT Independence
- Kim Sinclair – Autism Society of Los Angeles
- Helen Reese – Parent, Independent Facilitator
- Rosie Lasca – Independent Facilitator Training Academy
- Joyce Butz – Parent
- Kashif Khan – Parent participant

7:37 PM – March 2026 Minutes: Aarthy Desikan requested consent to approve March meeting minutes. No formal vote was conducted.

**Action:** March 2026 minutes to be brought back for formal vote.

7:38 PM – 7:55 PM – Administrative Support & Facilitation Discussion: Aarthy Desikan introduced need for administrative support.

Discussion Highlights:

Aarthy Desikan: Role includes facilitation, agenda, minutes, interpreter coordination, follow-ups

Irene: No active workgroup; prior job description still valid

Pamela Baird: Asked if motion needed

Sheraden Nicholau: Recommended vote to post role + form hiring group

Jenifer Castañeda: Clarified DDS Directive requires funding must align with agreed priorities first

Raji / Irene: Emphasized need for priority-setting before hiring

Virginia H.: Suggested using time for vendor updates

7:49 PM – Motion Introduced (Not Yet Voted at This Time): Pamela Baird moved to form a working group for administrative support. Raji seconded. Discussion continued without immediate vote.

7:55 PM – Agenda Order Concern: Arthur Lipscomb raised concern about not following agenda order. Aarthy Desikan clarified items would be grouped due to overlap.

7:57 PM – 8:09 PM – RCEB Update: Jenifer Castañeda presented updates.

Enrollment:

- Total: 612 participants
- February:
- 24 enrollments
- 39 renewals
- 66 revisions
- Age Breakdown:
- 4–17: 277
- 18–22: 97
- 23+: 225
- Disenrolled/deceased: 13

Additional Updates:

- DDS Special Incident Reporting webinar (April 21)
- Community outreach events (Brentwood, San Leandro, Concord)
- Increased Spanish-language outreach

SDP Orientation Changes:

- Two-part orientation required (Part A & B)
- Required for pre-enrollment support
- SCDD now sole provider of orientation

8:10 PM – 8:12 PM – SCDD Update: Sheraden Nicholau reported:

- No new applicants
- Committee remains at 11 members
- Encouraged recruitment of self-advocates
- Statewide meeting scheduled for May 5

8:12 PM – 8:32 PM – Workgroup Reports: Independent Facilitator Training (Rosie Lasca)

- 6 sessions completed

- 40–50 attendees per session
- Need for:
- Templates, tools, practical supports
- More flexible coaching schedules

#### Moving Forward SDP Training (Rosie Lasca)

- 95 registered, 67 eligible
- English sessions (~40 attendees each)
- Spanish sessions (~8 attendees each)

#### Findings:

- Spanish-speaking participants need foundational support
- Barriers include:
- Tech access
- Zoom navigation
- Email access

#### IF Landscape Analysis (Helen Reese)

- 23 IF survey respondents
- 12 focus group participants
- IF directory created

#### Findings:

- Moderate capacity
- Need for:
- Spanish-speaking IFs
- Improved communication
- Timely payments

#### Managed SDP Training (Kim Sinclair)

- 6 trainings completed
- High satisfaction and engagement

#### Recommendations:

- More budget/spending plan training
- Real-world examples
- Repeat training
- Increased Spanish-language access

8:33 PM – Public Comment Discussion Opened

- Irene and Raji requested stronger prioritization of public comment.
- Aarthy Desikan opened public comment.

8:35 PM – Public Comment (Araceli)

- Araceli (Spanish) stated:
- Latino families face barriers beyond information access
- Lack of structured support during transition
- Families often get stuck without follow-up
- Some families wait years to transition
- Need for coaching/support models
- Trainings are not reaching families effectively

8:40 PM – 8:49 PM – Outreach / Email Discussion

Jenifer Castañeda: Trainings shared via no-reply email and MailChimp multiple times

Raji: Emails not consistently received

Virginia H Suggested: Testing email receipt, Possible mailed notices, Case manager outreach

Jenifer Castañeda: confirmed RCEB can review data

8:50 PM – Email Clarification

Patricia Albeño clarified two email lists: One for all who attend SDLAC meetings (Public meeting notices), One for enrolled individuals only (SDP participant emails)

Jenifer Castañeda confirmed distinction.

8:52 PM – 9:03 PM – Facilitation & Workgroup Action

Issue: No facilitator identified for May meeting.

Discussion:

Pamela Baird: Proposed working group to plan interim facilitation

Arthur Lipscomb: Raised Bagley-Keene compliance concerns

Sheraden Nicholau: Clarified Workgroup may plan and Final decisions must be public

9:01 PM – **Motion Passed**

**Motion:** Form working group for administrative support and facilitation planning

Made by: Pamela Baird

Seconded by: Irene

Vote:

Ayes: Majority (voice vote)

Opposed: None

Result: Motion PASSED

**Action:**

Workgroup to develop plan and report back publicly.

9:02 PM – March Minutes Clarification

Arthur Lipscomb and Irene confirmed March minutes were not formally approved.

**Action:** Return for vote at next meeting.

Adjournment (9:03 PM)

Meeting concluded due to end of interpretation services.