

Alta California Regional Center
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, January 11, 2021
Minutes

Present:

Rita Walker, President
Ron Mainini, Vice President
Michelle Rewerts, Secretary &
ARCA-CAC Rep
Yang Sun, Finance Comm. Chair
Carmen Aguilar, Member-at-Large

Board Members:

Johnny Deng
Kelly Pennington
Michelle Ramirez
Steven Sanchez
Retha Seabron

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk

Visitors:

Maureen Fitzgerald

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Financial Officer
Lori Banales, Deputy Executive
Director
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Executive Committee met at 5:18 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2021, by Webex/teleconference to discuss: 1) ARCA Advocacy & Training Update; 2) Building Board Cohesion & Effectiveness in COVID-19; and 3) Executive Director's Report. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Rita Walker made the motion to adopt the Executive Committee meeting minutes of November 9, 2020 as submitted.

1. ARCA Advocacy & Training Update

- Ms. Walker shared that the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) is advocating for our clients, direct support professionals (DSPs) and regional center staff to receive priority when the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available.
- ARCA has released a lot of information to their stakeholder community.
 - Please let Ms. Walker know if you would like to receive copies.
- Training materials for the ARCA Web Academies are available on their website. These trainings have been valuable for those in attendance.
 - The trainings have discussed how to recruit Board members, lessons learned while working in the COVID-19 environment, and what makes a good, functioning Board.
 - This last Saturday, the training topic was Strategic Planning.
 - Both Golden Gate Regional Center (GGRC) and Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center (LRC) shared information on how they have implemented a strategic plan at their centers.
- Ms. Walker noted that this committee will discuss whether the Board would like to develop a few goals or a full strategic plan at the February meeting. Also, members should think about how they would like to participate in this process.

2. ***Building Board Cohesion & Effectiveness in COVID-19***

- Ms. Walker suspects that she's not the only one that finds these online meetings challenging, so she is looking for ways to bridge the gap and make them more participatory.
 - She spoke with a GGRC Board member and learned that they set-up times for Board members to meet informally to get to know each other.
 - An example – everyone in attendance had five questions that they could ask each other and the moderator called on each member, who then randomly asked another member a question. This was well attended, and was a positive exercise in team building.
 - With the committee's permission, Mr. Bonnet offered to send out an inquiry to Board members to see who all would be interested.
 - Please contact Ms. Walker if you have additional suggestions.

3. ***Executive Director's Report***

- Mr. Bonnet shared that due to COVID-19, we are dealing with death multiple times a week. Many of us have been personally impacted by the virus. It's heartbreaking.
- We are feeling the holiday surge right now. Just today, ACRC added 22 new positive clients to the list, making the total 508 clients, with 23 deaths. We also have had 23 positive staff. Almost every ACRC staff member is now working remotely.
- Mr. Bonnet's **priority right now is to get people vaccinated**. The health care bureaucracy is complex and our agency has to work with ten counties who all work differently.
 - For the most part, our licensed care homes are on the priority list – clients and staff are getting vaccinated.
 - ACRC staff are also working with our Supported Living Services (SLS) providers and Safeway to set-up a sponsored clinic in Sacramento. We have a site where vaccinations can occur; the logistics just need to be worked out.
 - We are focusing on the adults, because the vaccines are not approved for anyone under 18 years old. It appears that In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) workers will be prioritized, as well.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, February 8, 2021**. The meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet