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**CONTRA COSTA  
PUBLIC HEALTH**

DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES COUNCIL  
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**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

City of El Cerrito Council Chambers

**April 25, 2012**

**Board and Liaison Members Present:** Craig Rose, Nickole Bouslog, Stephanie Meakin, Heidi Spaulding, Josh Sullivan, Kim Williams, Penny Musante, Stephanie Chapralis, Ange Burnett, Jim Burton, Stephen Dale, Lacey Friedman, Heather Hackett, Carl Tolentino, Barbara Maizie, Joanne Nakamura, Rocio Smith, Will Sanford, Gina Jennings, Staff.

**Board Members Excused:** Suzanne Anthony, Curtis Braxton, Elree Langford, Ella Liggins, Carol McKinney.

**Guests:** Kate Rauch, Parent, Office of Supervisor John Gioia; Jennifer Walsh, State DD Council, Area Board 5; Dori Maxon, Special Needs Aquatic Program (SNAP); Carol Anne McCrary, Contra Costa ARC; Pat Yamamoto, Parent; Caroline Ortiz, Care Parent Network; Vi Ibarra, We Care Services for Children; Ken Talken, WCCUSD; Teresa Gonzalez, WCCUSD; Jeanine Bishop, WCCUSD; Danen Jenkins, Futures Explored; Francine Davis, RCEB; Ron Usal, Area Board 5; Betty Jo DuBois, Contra Costa ARC; Claudia Lam, Contra Costa ARC; Pam Thomas, RCEB; Kathy Roehl, WCCUSD; Bonnie Whitcomb, RCEB.

**Welcome and Introductions:**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice-Chair, Stephanie Chapralis. Introductions were made.

- The March 2012 meeting minutes were unanimously approved (M/Craig Rose; S/Jim Burton) with no corrections.
- Additions were made to the agenda to include:
  - Update on the DD Council staff recruitment
  - Community concerns
  - Nominating committee

**Special Presentation:**

Guest Speaker: Jennifer Walsh, Self Advocate on the Advisory Committee of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities and Area Board 5 representative.

Jennifer led with a power point presentation about the State council on Developmental Disabilities. All present received a printed copy of the presentation.



■ Contra Costa Community Substance Abuse Services ■ Contra Costa Emergency Medical Services ■ Contra Costa Environmental Health ■ Contra Costa Health Plan ■  
■ Contra Costa Hazardous Materials Programs ■ Contra Costa Mental Health ■ Contra Costa Public Health ■ Contra Costa Regional Medical Center ■ Contra Costa Health Centers ■

- A Self-Advocate Advisory Committee to the State Council was developed about a year ago;
- They would like to develop a statewide network for resources for people with developmental disabilities (especially to assist people in rural communities);
- The committee members would like to educate all communities about the role and purpose of the State Council and the Advisory Committee:
  - Through a Statewide self-advocacy network;
  - Local self-advocate groups;
  - Hold conferences;
  - Train self-advocates as peer trainers;
  - Network with policy-makers;
  - Create change
  - Developing on-line resources through the State Council's website;
  - Develop an online newsletter, facebook and workshops and conferences for self-advocates.

Jennifer would like to maintain contact with our community in the future and welcomed our input and concerns.

#### **State and RCEB Budge Update-Jim Burton:**

- Little has changed in the State Budget, with the anticipation of the May Revise.
- \$9-12 Billion shortfall for the coming year is anticipated.
- The May hearing will be critical for attendance, and are typically scheduled for the week after the May revision of the budget is announced.
- The 4.25% payment reduction sunsets on June 30, 2012, however it is expected that it will continue in some form
- RCEB is struggling with cash flow, as federal funds are slow to appear.

#### **Senate Select Committee on Autism:**

- This committee is holding a hearing on Monday, @ 10 a.m.
- The focus is looking at the disparity in spending patterns for therapies for people with Autism.
- Jim Burton suggested inviting Lisa Kleinbub of RCEB to speak on this topic in the future, as she has been researching it.

#### **DD Council Position Update-Gina Jennings:**

- The selection committee consists of Jim Burton, Heidi Spaulding, Pam Perls, Carol McKinney, Gina Jennings and Bill Sorrell.
- The interview questions have been developed and the interviews are planned for May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **Legislative Committee Report-Will Sanford:**

Will discussed several bills currently being considered by State legislators:

- SB 1381: The "R Word" bill seems to be moving forward to revise language in legislative documents;
- SB 1377: This bill is in response recent abuse allegations at State Developmental Centers. It would take the Office of Protective Services out of the Department of Social Services and would put in penalties for not reporting incidents.



- SB 1259: It is recommended that we keep pressure on this bill, as it would amend the audit requirements for smaller vendors that can't afford to pay for audits, along with all the other cutbacks.
- AB 2338: Will presented a new version of the "Employment First" bill, which was hot off the press this morning. It used the phrase, "highest priority". There was extensive discussion on the word changes. The Board unanimously voted to take a position of support of this newest version (M/Jim Burton; S/Kim Williams).

**Annual Dinner/Excellence in Service Awards-June 7, 2012 @ Scott's at Jack London Square:**

Gina announced the nominating committee of Craig Rose, Josh Sullivan and Heather Hackett. There are 6 openings and they need more nominations. Gina will re-send the registration forms for the dinner, as the closing date for reservations is nearing. Send your checks in now.

**Announcements:**

Ken Talken distributed flyers advertising the West County Special Education Transition and Resource Fair, this Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Vista Hills Education Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Next Meeting: May 23, 2012 @ RCEB-Concord

Respectfully submitted electronically, by,

*Carol Anne McCrary*

Carol Anne McCrary  
Contra Costa ARC

