

WILLIAM B. WALKER, M.D.
HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

WENDEL BRUNNER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH



**CONTRA COSTA
PUBLIC HEALTH**

DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES COUNCIL
597 CENTER AVENUE, SUITE 200
MARTINEZ, CALIFORNIA 94553
PH (925) 313-6836
FAX (925) 313-6721

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, INC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 26, 2008**

Board and Liaison Members Present: Anne Long-Chairperson, Rosemary Almand, Laura Beard, Curtis Braxton, Ian Bremner, Jim Burton, Dwayne Cooper, Joseph Jimenez, Elree Langford, Mindy Lee, Carol McCrary, Carol McKinney, Penny Musante, Carol Rossi, Will Sanford, Heidi Spaulding, Pat Yamamoto

Excused: Suzanne Anthony, Ange Burnett, Stephen Dale, Betsy Katz, Barbara Maizie, Lauri Parks, Pam Perls, Norma Ramos, Kate Rauch, Peg Rimler, Barbara Sheehy, Rocio Smith, Diana Thomas, Elizabeth Wilson-Palmer

Guests: Nimfa Y. Coleman, M-HDP; Laura Corona, RCEB; Gene Gracey, Mass. Mutual Special Care; Heather Hackett, Futures Explored-Garden; Ching Ho, parent; Sandra Jackson, Las Trampas; Melanie Kilcorse, RCEB; Krista Loomis, Full Circle; Joanne Nakamura, Congressman George Miller's Office; Mark Melanson, Toolworks; Jennifer Steneberg, the Dale Law Firm

Staff: Gina Jennings, Director; Pamela Newacheck, Acting Secretary

Welcome and Introductions

Chairperson Anne Long called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. She welcomed all to the meeting and everyone present introduced him or herself.

Approval of Minutes from February 27, 2008

Meeting minutes were unanimously approved (motion by Pat Yamamoto, second by Penny Musante).

Additions to the Agenda

No additions to the agenda

Special Presentation by SelectCARE More Medicare and Medi-Cal Services CANCELLED

Budget Update/ RCEB Update – Jim Burton

- The state budget is at a stalemate in Sacramento with an \$8 to \$9 billion deficit.
- Discussion continues on the proposed 10% cut to supported employment.
- Our focus needs to be on changing the cost containment measures from permanent back to temporary.
- Budget hearings will be in April, and the May revision will be very important.
- March 5 was a very successful "Grassroots Day" with folks meeting with every Legislator.
- Agnews Closure Plan – there are 8 remodeled homes in use for those consumers leaving Agnews – the process is going slowly but it is being done right. Consumers are enjoying having their own home and bedrooms, and families are becoming more supportive as they see it unfold.
- SB1175, which will make more homes available throughout the state similar to those owned by the Housing Consortium of the East Bay, was heard in the Assembly and passed 5-0.
- East Bay Legislative Breakfast is April 18 at 8:00 a.m., and provides an opportunity to meet with local staff of local legislators.



Annual Dinner – Gina Jennings

Save May 29, 2008 for the dinner, to be held at the Radisson Hotel in Dublin. No-host cocktails will begin at 6:00 p.m., with dinner following at 7:00 p.m.

Nominations are being requested for “Excellence in Service”. The Awards Committee will meet on May 8 at 1:00 p.m. at Panama Bay.

Committee Reports

Family Support – Betsy Katz

Will be sponsoring two forums a year where parents can connect with each other. One will be held in Central/East County, and the one in West County. They have received funding of \$850 to secure facilities, publicity, etc., for the forums.

Legislative Committee – Will Sanford

- AB 2424 hearing is set for April 2, 2008, and it could have a huge impact if it passes.
- The Department of Rehab has requested a 10% decrease in Supported Employment. The Supported Employment Coalition is working hard to prevent this from becoming law.
- Leginfo.ca.gov is a great webpage to help track the progress of any bill.
- Gina has recommended that she draft a letter to legislators explaining the DD Council’s position on general cuts, AB2424, recommended 10% cut to supported employment, etc. This recommendation passed unanimously (motion by Pat Yamamoto and second by Penny Musante). Individuals were still encouraged to write letters to our legislators on these important issues.
- San Francisco believes that the 10% reduction in physician rates was not done legally, and is suing the state. It was suggested that perhaps we could collaborate with S.F. if they pursue a class action suit against the state.

Transition Committee – Penny Musante

- The Transition Fair will be held at Marcus on April 13 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
- They had a meeting last Tuesday with a very inspirational speaker on Autism.
- The MDUSD is starting an Autism group.
- Penny took the Community College Group to “On Your Own” where they learned about budgeting and facts of real life.
- The West County Transition Fair will be held on April 12 at Vista Hills Center from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Supervisor Joya’s office is helping, and there will be free hot dogs, a DJ and shuttle.

Aging – Anne Long

Alameda County wants information on what we are doing (see February minutes).

East Bay Autism Campaign

Working on PowerPoint training module on screening/intervention from a medical perspective to provide information to physicians.

Board/Community Concerns

Ninfa Coleman mentioned that Guy Huston is available to talk to the DD Council on Fridays. Gina will work with Ninfa to determine how best to coordinate a gathering of interested people. Heidi Spalding suggested meeting during the People First meeting held on the last Friday of the month (April 25). Gina will work with Heidi on this.

Announcements

Penny Musante mentioned that she had taken consumers to the Election Department for a two-hour presentation. They are looking at accessible machines that voters of all abilities and disabilities can use. She mentioned there is a need for polling places in Lafayette and advisory members for committee.



Jim Burton announced that Rocio Smith and Norma Griffen had received Women of the Year Awards from the State of California on 3/10/08.

Save August 16 for the Congresso Familiar conference to be held at Chabot College.

Adjournment – Anne Long

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 23, 2008.

Respectfully submitted via e-mail,

Pamela Newacheck

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Acting Secretary

