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**CONTRA COSTA  
PUBLIC HEALTH**

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**Developmental Disabilities Council of Contra Costa County, Inc.  
Board of Directors Meeting  
June 25, 2008**

**Board Members Present:** Anne Long-Chairperson, Rosemary Almand, Suzanne Anthony, Laura Beard, Curtis Braxton, Jim Burton, Ange Burnett, Dwayne Cooper, Lacey Friedman, Mindy Lee, Penny Musante, Will Sanford, Pat Yamamoto.

**Excused:** Ian Bremner, Stephan Dale, Joseph Jimenez, Elree Langford, Carol McCrary, Carol McKinney, Lauri Parks, Kate Rouch, Norma Ramos and Carol Rossi.

**Liaison Members Present:** Betsy Katz, Pam Perls and Peg Rimler.

**Guests:** Doris Crumley, Gene Gracey, Sandra Jackson, Laura Corona, Heather Hackett, Francine Davis, Shay Boomer, Ken Talken, Jessica Treat, Jessica Rothhaar and Val Vivona.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chairperson Anne Long called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. She welcomed everyone to meeting and everyone introduced himself or herself.

**Approval of Minutes from April 23 and Annual Dinner Meeting May 29**

Meeting minutes were unanimously approved (motion by Penney Musante, second by Will Sanford) Annual Dinner meeting minutes also unanimously approved)

**Additions to Agenda**

No additions to agenda

Gina Jennings brought up planning for next year. It was suggested a list be sent to Board Members for discussion in September.

**Special Presentation**

1. Jessica Rothhaar from Health Access of California presented on the impact of State Budget on health services. Health Access working with many other groups in Contra Costa to organize around these proposed cuts to health care urging legislator to come up with better solutions.

Jessica asked everyone to write a letter to his or her legislator (local assemblyperson). An idea sheet given out to assist everyone with letter writing. See packet for the sample.

Announcement about Town Hall meeting tomorrow June 26, 2008 (flyer in packet).

Next Health Care Access meeting is on July 10 at 10:00 a.m. at 2255 Contra Costa Blvd., #202 in Pleasant Hill. All are welcome.

2. Val Vivona from AT Network presented information on the Assistive Technology Project that is designed to assist with technology for persons with disabilities and seniors. The Network is state wide and funded by Dept. of Rehabilitation. The Network provides assistance with very low and very high tech adaptations. AT Network provides online resources and trainings. Toll free number is 1-800-390-2699. Website is [www.atnet.org](http://www.atnet.org).

Expanding the network to serve more groups and expand the expertise available.



### **Budget Updates/RCEB Updates Jim Burton**

Jim reported that there was an unusual budget hearing process this year, as there were three sets of hearings instead of two. There were no new cut proposals put forth in the May Revision from the proposals of February; the cost containment measures have been continued with a sunset. All rates have been frozen and there is a continued freeze of start up funding for new programs. The 10% rate cut for supported employment, which was agreed to in May, is more finalized. \$192 million was put back in budget due to growth in numbers of people coming into service system.

One important issue is the ability to negotiate rates for new providers or current providers that are starting a new service. The ability to negotiate a rate has been taken away with the Governor's proposals. This will have negative impacts to individuals with complex needs medical and behavioral. New providers or new services will have to adhere to rates that will be set by the state wide median for each service. This will also have negative impacts to higher cost areas.

A 10% cut will go into place for Medi-Cal services starting July 1. There is a possibility of that rate reduction going down to 5% after budget is complete. Optional benefits for adults being cut were rejected (dental care & other services). Federal cost of living adjustments were proposed to be suspended; that was rejected but the state cost of living was suspended. This all can continue to change as budget process progresses, which bears watching closely.

By mid August state will run out of cash and at RCEB the contract and funding ends June 30. There is a special fund that they may be able to access but Jim projects that they may need to rely on Lines of Credit to continue paying providers. He also urged providers to try and secure credit lines to be prepared.

Agnews is not closing by end of June but substantial progress is being made on reducing number of people in Agnews. Many successful moves to the community have taken place and will continue.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Family Support & Unmet Needs Committee – B. Katz/A. Burnett**

Betsy announced that there is the 1<sup>st</sup> Family Support Committee workshop scheduled for July.  
July 15 in Martinez, 6:30-8:30 p.m., conference room at Contra Costa Arc, 1340 Arnold Dr., Ste. 128.  
July 22 in Richmond, 6:30-8:30 p.m., conference room at George Miller Center, 2801 Robert H. Miller Dr.

Flyer was distributed and is enclosed in this packet. The topic will be focused on young adults transitioning out of the family home. Call 925-370-1818 ext. 109 for more info.

#### **Legislation Committee- W. Sanford/P. Perls**

See included packet on bills to watch from The East Bay Legislative Committee.  
AB2038 Crime Victims with Disabilities Act was discussed and how to be a supporter.

#### **Transition Committee- P. Musante**

Committee is working on Transition Conference for January 2009, which will be held at DVC on January 6 and Transition Fair for Central and East in October 2009.

#### **Aging Committee- A. Long**

This Committee has not met as the group is working along side the Aging Task Force with RCEB and Futures Explored.

#### **East Bay Autism Campaign- G. Jennings**

This committee is looking at regrouping especially since there is an upcoming change in Alameda DD Council staff. Gina reminded the group of the Autism Resource Guide, which is online at both DD Council websites and now translated into 3-4 languages.

### **Board/Community Concerns 11:44**

P. Perls brought flyer on National Alliance on Mental Illness monthly presentations.



### **Announcements**

B. Katz thanked Jim Burton for his work on the state budget and working to secure lines of credit to keep things going. She also expressed her thank you to providers who continue to provide services with all the budget issues.

Toolworks announces plans to put day program together in Walnut Creek for hearing impaired and developmentally disabled. Please contact Toolworks.

L. Friedman announced program Buddy Play playgroups for children with disabilities as well as typical children, held in various locations in CC County. Contact lacedoxie@yahoo.com.

### **Adjournment-Anne Long 11:49 a.m.**

**Next meeting September 24, 2008, Planning Meeting (no meetings in July or August)**

Respectfully submitted via e-mail

*Krista Loomis*

Krista Loomis-Full Circle

