

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2018
Inland Counties Regional Center, Inc.
Board of Trustees Meeting

BOARD PRESENT: Kiana Buffington; Ted Leonard; Eric Naranjo; Jack Padilla; Cameron Page; Donita Remington; Rene Rojo; Gizelle Siojo; Joshua Souder; Sheela Stark; Alva Stewart

MEMBERS ABSENT: Elvia Sanders

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Steve Beckett; Lavinia Johnson; Don Meza; Merissa Steuwer; Vince Toms; Kevin Urtz; Treva Webster

RECORDING SECRETARY: Sandra Guzman

BOARD FACILIATORS: Phillip Botello; Mary Garza; Ashwin Gaur; Mark Lerma; John Souder

STAFF PRESENT: Denise Adame; Ben Cheng; CJ Cook; Laura Miller; Gabriel Ortiz

GUEST PRESENT: Isabel Bellino, Retiree; Art Blanco, Spouse; Debra Blanco, Retiree; Kathleen Brown, Retiree; Doug Buckmaster, Spouse; Lorraine Budner, Retiree; Mike Budner, Spouse; Bev Ching, Retiree; Dawn Guthrie-Clark, Retiree; Carolyn Medina, Parent; Teri Morelli, Parent; Zakery Morelli, Consumer; Larry Rardin, Retiree; Debbie Secombe, Retiree; Irene Silva, Retiree; Pat Voss, Retiree; Zakery Morelli, Consumer;

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Stark called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

MINUTES OF JULY 9, 2018 BOARD MEETING: 1) Motion made to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2018 meeting as presented M/S/C Page/Leonard. Mr. Padilla abstained.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Teri Morelli, parent stated regional center portrays themselves as good stewards of state and federal funds but refuse to question their own vendor for damages they did to her truck. She claims she fought the regional center four years to get her truck modified for her son. The vendor who did the modification was paid \$34,000 and has ruined her truck. The top of the cab is bowing. Ms. Morelli stated she has spoken to Mary Pounders, Program Manager who told her there was nothing she could do and there were no forms to fill out. Ms. Morelli watched Mr. Toms over the internet and a question was asked regarding what a parent can do if there are damages done to one's vehicle by a vendor. Mr. Toms stated the person can file a complaint by filling out a form. Ms. Morelli would like to ask the Board to investigate this vendor because \$34,000 is a lot of money to have it go to waste.

Carolyn Medina, parent of adult consumer stated the following: 1) Now that Building 3 is in full use she is requesting the Board directs staff to open the IRC main lobby to the public, IRC clients and families without needing an appointment. 2) Filming the meetings for the public, clients of IRC and families. Is requesting the Board reconsiders the Executive Committee's decision not to record at this time. 3) Having a separate email for the Board contact.

Keith Nelson, parent shared he was invited to assist with the Disability Sports Festival at Cal State San Bernardino. The festival is recognized as the largest cross ability event in Southern California with 29 different sports and activities. Festival is scheduled for October 6th 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at CSUSB and it is free to attend. All ages are welcome.

Isabel Bellino, former employee of IRC. Ms. Bellino worked at IRC for 37 years and wished to address the Board to openly protest most strongly and urgently the mishandling of the retiree's reimbursement plan. She stated 1) the plan was supposed to last indefinitely and to include all IRC's retirees. 2) the plan has been handled irresponsibly by past Directors. 3) Money was not taken out of the Operations Budget to sustain the plan indefinitely. 4) retirees were given less than a week's notice that their reimbursement benefit was drastically reduced from \$8,000 to maybe \$1,000 per year. 5) because of upper management/legal department's high salaries, this benefit is going to be taken away. 6) requesting a copy of all IRC's employees and documents pertaining to retiree co-pay payment benefit signed by DDS. 7) retirees were not given the opportunity to provide any feedback.

Ms. Bellino is asking the Board to not take away the contracted benefits that have been agreed upon for years. They will not stand for it. Retirees are entitled to it and it should not be taken away. The retirees are requesting the Board stand up and support them with the continuation of the co-pay reimbursement program. No compromise will be accepted.

Kathy Brown, retiree. Worked for IRC 23 years and has now been retired 12 years. Ms. Brown stated she was very upset when she received the letter informing her of the reduction in retiree benefits. She is asking the Board to return what they have worked so hard for.

Dawn Guthrie-Clark, retiree and mother of an IRC consumer who worked at IRC for 19 years. Retirees are requesting a meeting with the Board to discuss the proposed cut to the retiree's benefits. Retirees were only given a 30-day notice. In speaking to other retirees, some are older and are requiring more medical care. Benefits are going from \$8,000 to \$500 per year. Retirees were told a committee was created and she was shocked when she was notified it was changed in such a short period of time. Ms. Guthrie-Clark feels betrayed and would like to ask the Board to renegotiate and reconsider these drastic cuts.

Debra Blanco retired in 2012 after working at IRC for 23 years. Ms. Blanco would like to address the proposed changes to the Retiree Medical Reimbursement Plan. She received the 2018 benefit outline on September 1st, September 3rd was a holiday and selection for the upcoming year's benefits was due September 9th. This is a major financial decision and retirees should have been given more time. Since Ms. Blanco is under the age of 65, she will have a share of cost for her husband and herself. Ms. Blanco is requesting the Board re-examine the committee's decision and postpone the changes for a year in order to lessen the drastic blow.

Lorraine Budner worked at IRC for 34 years. 30 of those years she served at the manager of the Purchase of Service Unit. Ms. Budner requested to speak to the Board regarding the Retiree Medical Reimbursement Plan. She stated it was true, retirees do receive anywhere between \$7,000 to \$8,000 a month for their share of cost, medical and prescriptions reimbursement. Through notification, this amount was reduced to \$500 per year. Ms. Budner finds herself in the same boat with the other retirees. Her medical cost is almost \$500 a month. She is very upset with this decision. All the retirees were valuable assets to IRC and feel abandoned and betrayed.

Coby Carwile, current employee at IRC wanted to address the Retiree Medical Reimbursement Plan as well. Ms. Carwile stated she remembers when she first started at IRC 24 years ago and was told of the amazing benefits offered at IRC. One was the lifetime medical benefit. This benefit was for employees who met the 25 years employment plus 55 years of age requirement. The money for this plan would pay for medical insurance premiums. This benefit offers a chance to retire before Medicare kicks in. Ms. Carwile stated she was grateful for this benefit and decided to make a career at IRC. She shared it was disheartening to learn there was a group of retirees upset at the committee's recommendation to change the reimbursement amount so that the plan can continue for many more years, instead of letting it run dry in 3-5 years. Ms. Carwile thanked the committee for their recommendation and the Board for their vote to keep the lifetime medical for all who qualify instead of allowing it to be used up by a few.

Greg Damewood, parent of a consumer and Commissioner County of Riverside submitted a written public comment regarding 1) Board email, no reason to keep the Board in the dark about complaints. 2) Video Taping, IRC had the equipment prior to 12/2 and insurance has provided funds to replace equipment. Consumers have the right to view the meeting and should be able to comment on the services they receive. 3) Building Access, the lack of staff access proceeds the terror attack and could be interpreted as management hiding from providing service.

Kristie Sepulveda-Burchit submitted a written public comment regarding 1) Access to main building without an appointment. Ms. Sepulveda-Burchit is requesting the Board work with IRC executive staff to re-open the IRC main building lobby to the public, clients and families without requiring an appointment. 2) Filming Board Meetings, the decision to film meetings was made by the IRC Board due to IRC being the largest regional center serving people a great distance away. Ms. Sepulveda-Burchit is requesting the Board re-considers the Executive Committee's decision to not record meetings at this time. 3) Board Email, Board's decision not to have a separate email. Ms. Sepulveda-Burchit is asking the Board to re-consider the Executive Committee's decision to no longer give the public a designated email to communicate with the Board.

Catalina Hinostroza submitted a written public comment regarding 1) Access to main building without an appointment. Ms. Hinostroza is requesting the Board work with IRC executive staff to re-open the IRC main building lobby to the public, clients and families without requiring an appointment. 2) Filming Board Meetings, the decision to film meetings was made by the IRC Board due to IRC being the largest regional center serving people a great distance away. Ms. Hinostroza is requesting the Board re-considers the Executive Committee's decision to not record meetings at this time. 3) Board Email, Board's decision not to have a separate email. Ms. Hinostroza is asking the Board to re-consider the Executive Committee's decision to no longer give the public a designated email to communicate with the Board.

SELF DETERMINATION: Written report was included in the Board Packet.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Ms. Johnson reported that as of August 27, 2018 IRC had 36,213 active cases. This is an increase of 606 cases since the last report in July. Staff continue to interview and hire to fill any vacancies. IRC currently has 769 employees, 466 of them serve in a case management capacity. Open Enrollment for staff was held on August 27. Management would like to thank Lynette Banda, Vince Toms and the entire Quality Assurance team for putting together an outstanding Vendor Fair on September 5. Ms. Johnson also thanked Mr. Don Meza and all the members of the Blood Drive Committee, especially the donors for another successful event on August 26. For more information on upcoming events please go to IRC's website www.inlandrc.org.

The two employees that were recognized for their commitment to their jobs and for the example they set for other are David Reyes who received the Hercules Award and Cheshedt Amaya who received the Positively Contagious Award.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Ms. Steuwer reviewed the proposed budget for Operations for Fiscal Year 2018-19.
2. Motion made to approve the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2018-19 M/S/C Stewart/Souder.

COMMITTEE:

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Ms. Stark thanked everyone for attending and thanked the individuals who spoke during Public Input. The Executive Committee Meetings were included in the packet.
2. **ANOTHER WAY:** Mr. Urtz announced that the Another Way Committee is going to be recognized as Volunteer Group of the Year at the Association for Fundraising Professionals on November 13, 2018 at the Mission Inn. Congratulations to the committee and Ms. Gonzales.

Another Way is seeking the Board's approval to participate in the 2018 Navidad En El Barrio Food Drive. If approved, there is a Resolution of the Board of Directors that needs to be signed by the Board Secretary. The committee is planning on purchasing 1,000 food baskets this year. **3. Motion made to partner with Navidad En El Barrio and purchase 1,000 basket for IRC consumers M/S/C Rojo/Padilla.**

3. **CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Mr. Nelson reported that the CAC along with the Community Engagement Team held a backpack giveaway and an Ice Cream Social in July. In August the CAC held another Cycle Club Ride to Apple Valley Aquatic Center Trail. Upcoming events for the CAC are: September 19, CAC Movie Night at Peppermint Ridge in Corona; September 24, Bingo in Blythe; September 29, Cycle Club Ride at Ruth Hardy Park Trail in Palm Springs; October 6, Disabilities Sports Festival at Cal State San Bernardino; October 21 Buddy Walk; October 24 Halloween Dance at Victorville High School; Annual CAC BBQ, October 31 and Annual Fall Festival, November 3. You can find the times and locations for these events at www.inlandrc.org under the calendar section.
4. **LEGISLATIVE REPORT:** Ms. Cummings submitted a written report.
5. **VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Ms. Remington submitted a written report and highlighted Vendors were able to participate in IRC's Vendor Fair. The fair was a great event and well attended. The Membership Committee would like to recommend Mumbi Kairu for the Level 4 Residential position. **4. Motion made to accept the committee's recommendation and appoint Mumbi Kairu as the Level 4 Residential Representative M/S/C Rojo/Bufington.**
6. **MASTER TRUST COMMITTEE:** Ms. Miller submitted a written report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S EVALUATION FORM AD-HOC COMMITTEE:** Ms. Stark stated the Board needs to create an Ad-Hoc committee to update the Executive Director's evaluation form. The current form is outdated. The following Board Members volunteered to serve in the Ad-Hoc Committee: Mr. Page, Ms. Stark, Mr. Leonard and Ms. Stewart.

2. **CRISIS HOME CONTRACT:** Mr. Toms presented two contracts that have the potential of reaching the \$250,000 threshold. **5. Motion made to approve the Justin Way Home and Crisis Home Benson Home #14 homes M/S/C Rojo/Padilla.**
3. **HUD 811:** Mr. Toms reported that IRC was awarded the first affordable housing project in Desert Hot Springs. Linda Visa has 8 studio apartments and Waldorf has 12 units. All necessities of life i.e., hospital, market, shopping etc. are in close proximity. This is a great opportunity to move consumers into their own apartment. Ms. Toms shared pictures of the two locations.
4. **APPROVAL OF CAC RAFFLE PRIZES:** Ms. Stark is requesting the Board's approval to contribute raffle prizes for the CAC from the Board's budget. **6. Motion made to purchase raffle prizes from Board's budget for the CAC M/S/C Rojo/Souder.**
5. **2019 PERFORMANCE CONTRACT:** Mr. Toms presented IRC's 2019 Performance Contract Plan. 12 measures were added in 2018 and will continue with these measures in 2019. **7. Motion made to approve IRC's 2019 Performance Contract Plan as presented M/S/C Rojo/Page.**

TRUSTEE INPUT:

Mr. Page shared that the next Board Meeting is scheduled for November 12 which is a holiday. Mr. Page suggested the meeting be rescheduled to November 5th. **8. Motion made to move the November Board Meeting to November 5th M/S/C Page/Rojo.**

Ms. Remington shared that Cal State San Bernardino will be having their first Autism Resource Fair from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. on September 21. All attendees must pay parking \$6.00 and admission is free.

Mr. Rojo expressed how much he appreciates the CAC and everything they do for consumers. He has heard a lot of positive feedback about the CAC through social media.

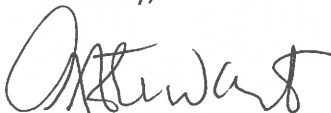
Mr. Naranjo shared they celebrated his mother's birthday Saturday. He wanted to wish her a Happy Birthday and stated if it wasn't for her, he wouldn't be where he is at right now. He wanted to give her a big thank you!

Ms. Stark adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m. to go into Executive Session. Executive Session was called to order at 7:49 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 8:12 p.m. The Board took action on benefits and legal matters.

Ms. Stark adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Sincerely,



Alva Stewart
Board Secretary



Sheela Stark
Board Chair

MOTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 BOARD MEETING:

- 1. Motion made to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2018 meeting as presented M/S/C Page/Leonard. Mr. Padilla abstained.**
- 2. Motion made to approve the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2018-19 M/S/C Stewart/Souder.**
- 3. Motion made to partner with Navidad En El Barrio and purchase 1,000 basket for IRC consumers M/S/C Rojo/Padilla.**
- 4. Motion made to accept the committee's recommendation and appoint Mumbi Kairu as the Level 4 Residential Representative M/S/C Rojo/Buffington.**
- 5. Motion made to approve the Justin Way Home and Crisis Home Benson Home #14 homes M/S/C Rojo/Padilla.**
- 6. Motion made to purchase raffle prizes from Board's budget for the CAC M/S/C Rojo/Souder.**
- 7. Motion made to approve IRC's 2019 Performance Contract Plan as presented M/S/C Rojo/Page.**
- 8. Motion made to move the November Board Meeting to November 5th M/S/C Page/Rojo.**