



Ken R. Patterson
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**STANISLAUS COUNTY
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
01/12/07**

Committee Members Present:

Jose Acosta	Dwight Bateman	Joan Blackwell
Kenny Brown	Mary Burch	Rose Martin
Connie Muller	Linda White	

Committee Members Absent:

*George Sharp *Ora Scruggs-ML

IHSS Staff Present:

Maria Childers	Egon Stammler	Robert Taylor
Veronica Melgoza		

**Advance notice given.*

OPENING REMARKS by Kenny Brown

- Meeting called to order at 1:03pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- December 8, 2006 minutes: Motion M/S/A to accept minutes, motion to accept made by Kenny Brown, Rose Martin seconded, motion passed.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY

- Jeff Lambaren announced that he spoke with Supervisor DeMartini and he was very pleased with our meeting.



- Governor's proposal is to freeze the States participation in wages and benefits at the current level per County. Dwight asked about the collective bargaining process, Jeff stated that we have come to agreement with all issues except for wages; we are still meeting on this.
- Governor sent out a proclamation that Northern and Central California will see the nighttime temperatures drop into the teens and twenties because of the extreme cold. Governor has asked the State to spring into action, made eleven National Guard Armories available should there be a need for warming centers. A list of things that everyone should be aware of was given for your home and family, update your emergency plan, have your heater inspected, know where near by shelters are in case your heater fails, replenish your emergency supply kit including battery operated radios and flash lights, have extra blankets on hand. Have special plans for infants, children, seniors and those with disabilities. Winterize your house, move pets indoors, insulate pipes, fire extinguishers on hand, be careful about traveling and make sure your car battery stays strong. Symptoms of exposure to extreme cold weather are confusion, dizziness, exhaustion, shivering are all signs of hypothermia; seek medical attention immediately if you have any of these symptoms. Our proposed site would be Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, it's not open but it's indicated as on stand by. Dwight Bateman stated that the outlining communities can go to the homeless shelter; Riverbank is on stand by to activate their shelter. If they feel the need Para transit will be activated and take people to the shelters.
- Public Authority is in the process of doing their new provider training. They had their first new orientation; there were 15 people that went through the process. Training is in a group setting but will still do individual appointments for those with special needs or if there is a language issue, etc.
- First part of the process is the providers will come in and complete the paperwork and forms, go through orientation and go for fingerprints; there is no cost for background checks anymore.
- There will be 3 days of training, first day is an overview of IHSS and how the registry works in terms of referring people out and making matches. The second day they will do CPR training. The third day there will be a presentation from DRAIL on working with people with disabilities, special needs, and some information on adaptive devices and resources that are available. They will get information about safety around the home. Providers will have a graduation ceremony and receive some things/items they can use on their job.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that there have been some complaints from counties to the Department of Social Services on way the committee's money is spent. Some counties do not give the money to their advisory committees, some counties use the money and if there is anything left over they give it to the Advisory committee. The Public Authorities were asked to hold their advisory committees meeting and respond to some questions on what are appropriate uses of Advisory Committee funds. Jeff Lambaren went ahead and answered the request letting them know all the things that our Committee is doing which included newsletters, surveys, training, business cards, travel etc. If there is any money remaining it is sent back.
- Dwight Bateman asked if the questionnaire was a way to establish the way the counties should use the money and what they can use it on. Jeff Lambaren stated that this was probably the reason.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that the Public Authority is in the process of producing their 4th newsletter, it will be going out. It will address issues on Elder Abuse, emergency preparedness, information for caregivers, information on new registry class, IHSSAC's information was entered again to try to generate more interest in the Advisory Committee. Newsletter should be out mid to late February or early March. The newsletter will be in full color.
- Members received their business cards and were very pleased with them.
- Jeff Lambaren asked the committee if they had any suggestion for the upcoming annual report. The committee was asked if they had any ideas or suggestions. Many things will be carried over from the last report. We had a sufficient number of recipients surveys returned, hoping to receive a few more from providers.

STATE BUDGET UPDATE

- Maria Childers announced that the IHSS budget for the IHSS services is 4.4 billion statewide which is over 8% from fiscal year 06/07. 5.4 growth projection for IHSS.

- The COLA for SSI and SSP is going through; there weren't that many cuts for the Adult Services. The Governor did propose a wage freeze; handouts were passed out for members to read more.

AGENDA FOR LEADERSHIP PLANNING DAY

- The topics for the day will be our regular items plus Bylaws, Annual Report and update new provider training.
- Connie Muller asked if the committee was going to talk about possibly putting an ad in the Modesto Bee to recruit more providers. Dwight Bateman suggested that if the committee wanted to place an ad they should look into the placing ads in the free papers, like the Penny Saver, Hispanic papers, Journals, etc.
- Jeff Lambaren asked the committee to think about doing a 3 advisory committee meeting maybe once a year, working with the Commission on Aging and the Adult Services Advisory Committee. It would be large enough where we could plan an event around it and possibly have a speaker. We could talk about this at the retreat.

HOT TOPICS

- Maria Childers announced that our County had an Administrative Law Judge come and speak about fair hearings. They are looking into doing a pilot project where they have a mediation process; where the AJL would be more of a facilitator and the social worker and the recipient will discuss the issue and try to come to an agreement. If there is no agreement then it would go to a fair hearing. San Francisco, Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, part of Los Angeles and possibly Ventura County will participate. CDSS is picking up the cost. AJL will come and speak to the committee, Maria Childers will set this up, and discussion ensued.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that CICA is having their annual event in Sacramento on June 9th, 10th & 11th. Anyone interested in attending can request information.
- Kenny Brown announced that he will be taking a LOA for March, April, May and possibly June. He will be going to school and his schedule conflicts with the meeting dates.

GENERAL UPDATE

- None

Meeting adjourned @ 2:05 PM
Veronica Melgoza, Recorder