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STANISLAUS COUNTY IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

07/08/05

Committee Members Present:

Jose Acosta
Rose Martin
Linda White

Madelyn Amaral
Connie Muller

Kenny Brown
Ora Scruggs

Committee Members Absent:

*Dwight Bateman

*Mary Burch

*George Sharp

IHSS Staff Present:

Maria Childers
Robert Taylor

Jeff Lambaren
Veronica Melgoza

Egon Stammler

**Advance notice given.*

OPENING REMARKS by Kenny Brown

- Meeting called to order at 1:08

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Madelyn Amaral introduced her caregiver, Joanne and said she is doing a great job.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- June 24, 2005 minutes:
- Madelyn Amaral suggested that we add on to the minutes any visitors that attend a meeting.
- Madelyn Amaral stated that she would like the names of the members who speak at the meetings to be entered into the minutes.
- Madelyn Amaral made a motion to make the correction to the minutes and Ora Scruggs seconded, motion passed.

- Correction to the minutes, Ora Scruggs and Henry Dills names will be entered in the Debriefing on Conference section.
- Minutes will be reviewed at the next IHSSAC meeting.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE/BYLAWS AMENDMENT

- Jeff Lambaren did not have a chance to write up anything for the Bylaws amendment.
- Connie Muller wrote up a paragraph that the committee could use:
“All grievances should be handled in committee. In the event of a grievance by a committee member that can not wait for a scheduled meeting the Chairman may call an emergency meeting.”
- Kenny Brown stated that the committee could submit this to County Counsel for review.
- Egon Stammler announced that he was asked to see if the Adult Services Advisory Committee had anything in place for a grievance procedure-they do not.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY

- Jeff Lambaren announced the take over of UDW by AFCSME.
- AFCSME and SEIU have requested information from the Public Authority.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that UDW decided that they would take over the money provided for provider’s benefits and did not pay for provider’s benefits. County Counsel informed them that this was not acceptable. The payment should reach the appropriate party by the end of today, July 8, 2005.
- Jeff Lambaren believes that this was an honest mistake it will be rectified, and County Counsel will follow up on this.
- Madelyn Amaral stated that the deduction on the provider’s check does not let them know what the money is taken out for.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that part of the problem is that the payroll program, CMIPS, has very limited availability to add information.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that County Counsel met with the insurance broker and Pacific Care to discuss the health care coverage and the Public Authority taking over the administration. They have been very cooperative in helping through this transition period.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that when everything is in place a flow chart would be provided so everyone can understand the process.
- Madelyn Amaral asked if this means that UDW would no longer be the Union for IHSS.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that it is still pending in court, but AFSCME was granted temporary control. American Federation of State and County Municipal Employees (AFSCME), is the parent company of UDW.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that on Tuesday July 12th, the Board of Supervisors in closed session will consider the appointment of an Executive Director for the Public Authority. Once this occurs the additional staff for the Public Authority can be hired.
- Connie Muller suggested that the committee send a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors recommending Jeff Lambaren for the appointment of the Executive Director of the Public Authority.
- Madelyn Amaral made a motion that the committee send a letter of support, Connie Muller seconded the motion, motion passed
- Linda White stated that if the committee wanted to send a letter of support, the letter had to be drafted now, read to the committee, and approved today.
- Kenny Brown dictated a short version of the wording for the letter to send to the Board of Supervisors.
- Connie Muller made a motion that the committee accepts Kenny Brown’s version of the letter and to have Madelyn Amaral deliver the letter to the Board of Supervisors meeting on July 12, 2005. Linda White seconded the motion, motion passed.
- Madelyn Amaral asked when would the Public Authority be up and running.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that the Public Authority will be up and running by the end of July.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Egon Stammer announced that the budget is close to being signed.
- Both houses have passed the budget; they worked with both parties to create this compromise.
- The governor still has the option to veto or add anything he wants.
- Egon Stammer announced they would not cut the provider's wages.
- Maria Childers announced that an extra dollar would be added to State participation for provider wages if State revenues grow by 5% or more.

SURVEY

- Jeff Lambaren passed out a copy of the survey to all members and went over the results.
- Some recipients and providers would like to be contacted by a manager; the pages with their names and phone numbers were removed from the copies.
- There was a good response from both recipients and providers.
- Providers results improved with:
 - Having adequate resources to do the job-improved from 3.96 in 2004 to 4.12
 - Being kept informed about matters-improved from 3.45 in 2004 to 3.81
 - Receiving paycheck within 10 days-improved from 4.17 to 4.36
 - Overall providers rating was 4.08 on a scale of 1-5
- Recipients results improved with:
 - Having negative feelings about care received improved from 2.01 in 2004 to 1.49
 - Overall recipients rating was 4.62 on a scale of 1-5
 - Satisfaction of the program with recipients who have been on IHSS from 0-6 months scored lower than recipients who have been on IHSS greater than 2 years.
- Many recipients and providers are unaware that there is an IHSSAC website.
- The recipients and providers who visited the website didn't rate it very high.
- Many recipients and providers are still unaware of the IHSSAC.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that generally most of the responses were higher than they were last year but not statistically significantly higher.
- The committee will present the survey to the Board of Supervisors.

ANNUAL REPORT

- Kenny Brown announced that he will incorporate the information from the survey into the annual report and get that completed.

HOT TOPICS

- Kenny Brown discussed having the IHSSAC meetings only once a month.
- The committee can go back to meeting twice a month if needed
- An emergency meeting could be called if something came up.
- The committee will have the second meeting in July and in August the committee will start with one meeting a month.
- Connie Muller felt we should wait until the Public Authority is up and running.
- Madelyn Amaral asked if there was anything that we need to do for the Public Authority to get up and running.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that there is nothing the committee needs to do to get the Public Authority up and running.
- The Public Authority should be open for business within the next couple of months and there will be a grand opening. The IHSSAC can have an early meeting at the Public Authority and then attend the grand opening. The committee members can be greeters.

GENERAL UPDATE

- The committee reviewed the letter to the Holiday Inn and felt it was too general.
- Maria Childers stated that we could stress more dissatisfaction.

- Connie Muller stated we should include that a hotel of their quality should not have made this type of mistakes.
- Maria Childers stated that members could also write their own personal letters addressing their complaints.
- Staff will re-write the letter and bring it back for review.

Meeting Adjourned @ 3:25 PM
Veronica Melgoza, Recorder