



Minutes for VMRC Executive Committee Meeting

04/10/2024 | 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM

Valley Mountain Regional Center, Stockton Office, Cohen Board Room and via Zoom Video Conference

Committee Members Present: Suzanne Devitt, Lisa Utsey, Margaret Heinz, Lynda Mendoza, Jose Lara, Alicia Schott

Committee Members Not Present: Brandy de Alba

VMRC Staff Present: Evelyn Solis Ledesma, Aaron McDonald, Gabriela Lopez, Doug Bonnet, Leinani Walter, Christine Couch, Tara Sisemore Hester, Brian Bennett, Claire Lazaro

Public Present:

A. Call to Order, Roll Call, Review of Meeting Agenda

Suzanne Devitt called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. A quorum was established. The agenda was reviewed with no changes.

B. Review and Approval of the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2024

Alicia Schott made the motion to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2024 and Lisa Utsey seconded the motion. The Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2024 were approved unanimously.

C. Public Comment

D. Items for Approval

1. Web, Intranet Content Specialist, and IT Tech Job Description presented by Doug Bonnett and Leinani Walter as a new position within VMRC. Doug and Leinani answered questions from the committee. Margaret Heinz made a motion to approve the job description and recommend to the full board. Lynda Mendoza seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Items for Discussion

1. Executive Director's report – Leinani was thankful for the participation of all involved in Grassroots Day. Internally she shared that there is lots of good stuff happening! She is utilizing consultants to help strategize within the agency. She continues to learn a lot and building a vision and direction to move forward. Lots of terrific events coming up, CHOICES Conference on Friday! April 18 a POS meeting to be conducted in Spanish and facilitated by Escuchen mi Voz. The transition fairs are coming up this month as well.
2. Notable Consumer Information – Christine Couch shared the upcoming Supported Life Institute, Self Advocacy Conference in May. We have self-advocates presenting 4 sessions this year. Tara Sisemore Hester shared a story of the collaboration between VMRC, Department of Developmental Services, Department of Social Services for a 14 year old who has presented a placement challenge for the team.
3. Vendor Information – Brian Bennett shared we had a Community Development Resource Plan based on unmet needs. A community day program in Stanislaus County was identified with 6 highly qualified applicants responding to our Request for Proposal. Through an interview process the team was able to identify the top 2 candidates. The Department of Developmental Services approved both proposed day programs, one for complex needs and one for health care needs. Both projects will support up to 30 individuals each.
The Adult Community Crisis Home has been a challenge to identify a vendor. We were able to modify the project into a specialized residential facility.
4. Other Matters – none tonight
5. Personnel and Union Update – information presented by Bud Mullanix in the packet

F. President's Report

Suzanne Devitt shared a thank you to the staff as they work through the changes this year. Thank you to Leinani and the Executive Staff as they work with the consultants and this opportunity for growth. She recognizes that change is hard and she is very appreciative of everyone!

G. Next Meeting - Wednesday, May 8, 6:30 PM, Hybrid (Stockton Office Cohen Board Room and via Zoom Video Conference)

H. Adjournment