

**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 10, 2009**

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Attendance:

Members

Director Sidney Rubenstein, DDS – Chair  
Director Michael Solomon, MD

Staff

Lenny Pepper, Chief Executive Officer  
Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer  
“Bo” Nanna, Grant Program Assistant

Committee Members

Clarice Lubel, Registered Nurse  
Gayl Biondi, Business Consultant  
Bev Greer, Administrator, Stroke Recovery Center  
Kim McNulty, Project Manager, CVEP  
Elizabeth Romero-Toledo, Riverside County 4<sup>th</sup> District Legislative Aide  
Robert Taylor, JD, Superior Court Judge (retired)

Absent Committee members

Mitch Nieman, Redevelopment Project Manager, City of Cathedral City

Guests

Mike Russell, Controller, Family Services of the Desert  
Dick Balocco, Executive Director, Desert ARC  
Liz Nabie, Grant Writer, Desert ARC  
Mitch Bluder, Deputy Director, Desert ARC  
Herman Roeper, Transportation Manager, Desert ARC

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Director Rubenstein.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A Motion was made by Director Solomon and seconded by Committee Member Lubel to approve the agenda. Motion was approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A Motion was made by Director Solomon and seconded by Committee member Lubel to approve the minutes of October 13, 2009 as submitted. Motion was approved.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Chairman's remarks**

Chairman Rubenstein introduced Rob Taylor, JD as a community member appointed by the Board in October. For those who did not attend last month's meeting, Chairman Rubenstein reiterated attendance and conflict of interest policies and invited members to raise concerns about potential conflicts with Directors or staff prior to Committee meetings.

## **GRANTS**

### **a. Grant administration reports**

Members received the latest update of current active grants.

### **b. Final grant reports**

Members received final reports from:

- #134 CV Child Care Council
- #237 YMCA Y Be Fit (year 1)
- #440 YMCA Summer Swim Program

### **c. Pending requests for consideration**

ID#382. The Committee reviewed a request for amendment to the grant to Family Services of the Desert authorizing billing and reimbursement on a weekly basis rather than the current monthly payments. Mike Russell, FSOD Controller, described ongoing lags in reimbursement from state and county funding sources. A Motion was made by Director Solomon and seconded by Committee member Taylor to recommend approval of this request to the Board. Motion was approved.

ID#500. The Committee reviewed a request for \$148,700 from Stroke Recovery Center to support continued operational costs specific to rehabilitation services for approximately 200 District residents over the next 12 months. A Motion was made by Committee member Toledo and seconded by Committee member McNulty to recommend approval of this request to the Board. Motion was approved with Committee member Greer abstaining.

ID#502. The Committee reviewed a request for \$68,544 from Desert ARC to secure two new buses through a two-year lease with a local vendor. Ms. Nabie from Desert ARC noted how this approach will save money in their overall transportation budget. Executive Director Balocco described how transportation is crucial to their operation and introduced the organization's new Deputy Director and Transportation Manager. A Motion was made by Director Solomon and seconded by Committee member McNulty to recommend approval of this request to the Board. Motion was approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

CPO Craig described an inquiry by Ms. Patti Patane of Coachella Valley Homegrown Direct (CVHD) about District support for grant writing services to help establish the organization as a nonprofit organization. CVHD is not currently 501(c)3 tax exempt and operates primarily outside District boundaries; CPO Craig advised the Committee that Ms. Patane should be invited to participate in the Healthy Living Coalition but that District funding is not appropriate. The Committee concurred.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Committee member Lubel noted the excellent outcomes but asked about the final number of children served by YMCA's Summer Swim program; staff will include that number in the final report for Board dissemination.

Committee member Biondi encouraged efforts toward commonality and synergy among grantees. CPO Craig and CEO Pepper described ongoing efforts to involve other funders, healthy living partners and other special districts in order to coordinate resources toward common goals.

Committee member Toledo updated the Committee on the California Endowment healthy cities project in Coachella.

## **STAFF COMMENTS**

None

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.