

**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 9, 2016**

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Attendance:

Members

Director Carole Rogers –Chairman

Absent Members

Vice-President Kay Hazen

Staff

Kathy Greco, Chief Executive Officer

Donna Craig, Chief Grants Officer

Steve Brown, Director of Community Relations/Clerk of the Board

Committee Members

Ronald Willison, Community Member

Linda Shestock, Community Member

Linda Levinson, Community Leader

Bev Greer, CEO, Neuro Vitality Center

Milt Levinson, Community Member

Maria Becerra, Riverside County 4<sup>th</sup> District

Allen Howe, Community Member

Kim McNulty, CVEP

Stacey Avalos, Student Representative

Absent Committee Members

None

Guests

Robin Montgomery, Pegasus Therapeutic Riding Academy

Dru Bagwell, Program Manager, Alliance for a Healthier Generation

Toby Emms, Director, Alliance for a Healthier Generation

Jory Hirschhevel, PE Teacher, Dr. Carreon Academy

Regna Heredia, Principal, Dr. Carreon Academy

Paula Reynolds, Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Chairman Rogers.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Rogers requested a motion to approve the agenda.

A Motion was made by Committee Member Milt Levinson seconded by Committee Member Howe to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A Motion was made by Committee Member Linda Levinson and seconded by Committee Member Willison to approve the minutes of January 12, 2016. Motion Passed.

### **PRESENTATION**

a. Desert Healthcare Foundation Grant #729 – Alliance for a Healthier Generation – 7<sup>th</sup> six-month progress report covering the time frame from 7/1/2015 – 12/31/2015.

Dru Bagwell, Program Director for the Alliance for a Healthier Generation provided a PowerPoint. The presentation highlighted the success of the program in our local schools. The Coachella Valley is unique having three different school districts all participating to change policy and cultural for a healthier lifestyle. Ms. Heredia, Principal at Dr. Carreon Academy added that healthy foods and snacks brought to school became a policy. For birthdays or other celebrations, cupcakes, sweets, etc. are not allowed. Parents typically bring vegetable trays which the children equally enjoy as the old treats/snacks. The salad bar is another popular choice for lunch. Teachers are very supportive for the program and many participate in the healthy lifestyle as well.

The two school “champions” from Dr. Carreon and Theodore Roosevelt schools also presented their success stories, comparing each school’s “health” before and after joining the Alliance’s Healthy School Program

### **GRANTS**

a. Outstanding Grants & Grant Payment Schedule

No questions or comments.

b. Proposals Under Development – Remaining Budget Impact

No questions or comments.

c. Progress Reports

1. Grant #876 – Arrowhead Neuroscience Foundation

Ms. Craig clarified that the funding was for the fellows and not residents.

d. Final Reports

1. Grant #809 – Riverside County Office on Aging

No questions or comments.

e. Pending Requests) for consideration.

1. Grant #899 – Pegasus Therapeutic Riding – Hippo Therapy Helping to Heal – \$102,544

Ms. Montgomery addressed committee member’s questions:

- The program takes all ages from 18 months – 82 years old

- There is a 200 pound weight limit
- Participants are on the horse for 30 minutes with 3 people assisting at all times
- The program stops in May until about October due to the heat and the program being outside with no shade protection
- Volunteers include but not limited to members from the Ranch Recovery Center, Marines from the Twenty-nine Palms Marine Base, and nursing students from the local colleges.

A Motion was made by Community Member Shestock and seconded by Community Member Howe to recommend to the Board, without modifications, to approve Grant #899 to Pegasus Therapeutic Riding for the Hippo Therapy Helping to Heal Program in the amount of \$102,544. Motion passed unanimously.

## **CEO REPORT**

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS**

- Director Rogers directed staff to look into the Nutri-Bullet Contest for Schools to see if the District could replicate the program with the Alliance for a Healthier Generation award winning schools.
- Community Member Howe commented about the lack of music classes in the elementary schools which could be incorporated with exercise and teaching music.
- Community Member McNulty reported that the a forum on “The Mental Unhealth of Violence” by the Coachella Valley High School Health Academy will be held on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 4:30pm – 6:30 pm at the Cal State University San Bernardino, Palm Desert Campus.
- Community Member L. Levinson reported that she participated in the County-Wide Homeless Count. Many homeless have mental health issues. She also commented on the need for inpatient mental health services that treat both medical and mental health issues.
- Director Rogers asked if there were any updates on the East Valley Healthcare District. Ms. Greco reported there were no updates.

### **STAFF COMMENTS**

Ms. Greco invited the Program Committee to the Board of Directors Strategic Planning Retreat to be held on March 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:45 am to 4:00pm. Any member who would like to attend should email Mr. Brown as soon as possible in order to have a count for both the size of the room and for number for meals (breakfast and lunch).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:37 pm.