

Board of Governors

Temporary Transitional Executive Community Advisory Committee (TTECAC)

Special Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2024

1055 W. 7th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90017



L.A. Care
HEALTH PLAN

ECAC Members	RCAC Members/Public	L.A. Care Board of Governors/Senior Staff
Roger Rabaja, RCAC 1 Chair * Ana Rodriguez, TTECAC Chair and RCAC 2 Chair Lidia Parra, RCAC 3 Chair Silvia Poz, RCAC 4 Chair Maria Sanchez, RCAC 5 Chair Joyce Sales, RCAC 6 Chair Martiza Lebron, RCAC 7 Chair Ana Romo, RCAC 8 Chair Tonya Byrd, RCAC 9 Chair Damares O Hernández de Cordero, RCAC 10 Chair Maria Angel Refugio, RCAC 11 Chair Lluvia Salazar, At-Large Member Deaka McClain, TTECAC Vice-Chair and At Large Member * Excused Absent ** Absent *** Via teleconference	Deb Bowen, Captioner Izmir Coello, Interpreter Henry Cordero, Interpreter Isaac Ibarlucea, Interpreter Eduardo Kogan, Interpreter Alex Mendez, Interpreter Andrew Yates, Interpreter <u>PUBLIC ATTENDEES</u> Elizabeth Cooper, Public Lynnea Johnson, Public *** Estela Lara, Public *** Diana Leff, Public *** Russel Mahler, Public Adriana Martinez, Public *** Andria McFerson, Public Demetria Saffore, Public Dazzlin Sanchez, Public Issac Sanchez, Public Ricardo Sanchez, Public	Fatima Vazquez, Member, Board of Governors Layla Gonzalez, Advocate, Board of Governors Francisco Oaxaca, Chief of Communication and Community Relations Malou Balones, Board Specialist, Board Services *** Idalia De La Torre, Field Specialist Supervisor, CO&E Auleria Eakins, Manager, CO&E Hilda Herrera, Community Outreach Field Specialist, CO&E Christopher Maghar, Community Outreach Field Specialist, CO&E Rudy Martinez, Safety & Security Program Manager III, Facilities Services Frank Meza, Community Outreach Field Specialist, CO&E Cindy Pozos, Community Outreach Field Specialist, CO&E Victor Rodriguez, Board Specialist, Board Services *** Farid Seyed, Lead Unified Communication Mobility Engineer, IT Operations & Infrastructure Martin Vicente, Community Outreach Field Specialist, CO&E

AGENDA ITEM/PRESENTER	MOTIONS / MAJOR DISCUSSIONS	ACTION TAKEN
CALL TO ORDER	Chairperson Ana Rodriguez welcomed everyone and apologized for technical difficulties. She explained the process for making public comments via Zoom chat and a toll-free line for WebEx bridge line listeners. She also mentioned that public members could submit	

comment cards and that they would be allowed time to speak during the appropriate agenda items.

Ana Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 10:00am

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Chairperson of the Temporary Transitional Executive Community Advisory Committee (TTECAC) has called a Special Meeting to be held as indicated above for conducting business listed in this Notice of Special Meeting and Agenda. No business shall be conducted at this meeting other than that indicated below. Please recheck these directions for updates prior to the start of the meeting. This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act, allowing members of the public and L.A. Care staff to participate via teleconference because State and Local officials are recommending measures to promote social distancing. Members of the Temporary Transitional Executive Community Advisory Committee (TTECAC), L.A. Care staff, and the public can attend the meeting in-person at the address listed above. Public comment can be made live and in-person at the meeting. A form will be available to submit public comments.

Accordingly, members of the public should join this meeting via teleconference as follows:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84588643466>

Teleconference Call –In information/Site

Call-in number: 1-415-655-0002 Participants Access Code: 2487 498 6914 (English)

Call-in number: 1-415-655-0002 Participants Access Code: 2495 818 9662 (Spanish)

For those not attending the meeting in person, public comments on Agenda items can be submitted in writing by email to COEpubliccomments@lacare.org or by calling the CO&E toll- free line at 1-888-522-2732 and leaving a voicemail. Attendees who log on to [lacare.zoom](https://lacare.zoom.us) using the URL above will be able to use “chat” during the meeting for public comment. You must be logged into Zoom to use the “chat” feature. The log in information is at the top of the meeting Agenda. This is a new function during the meeting so public comments can be made live and direct.

1. The “chat” will be available during the public comment periods before each item.
2. To use the “chat” during public comment periods, look at the bottom of your screen for the icon that has the word, “chat” on it.
3. Click on the chat icon. It will open a window.
4. Select “Everyone” in the to: window.
5. Type your public comment in the box.
6. When you hit the enter key, your message is sent and everyone can see it.
7. The chat message, text, voicemail, or email must indicate if you wish to be identified or remain anonymous, and must also include the name of the item to which your comment relates.
8. L.A. Care staff will read the chat messages for up to three minutes during public

comment so people who are on the phone can hear the comment.

Your comments can also be sent by voicemail or email. If we receive your comments by 10:00 a.m. on January 22, 2024, it will be provided to the members of the Temporary Transitional Executive Community Advisory Committee at the beginning of the meeting. The chat message, voicemail, or email must indicate if you wish to be identified or remain anonymous, and must also include the name of the item to which your comment relates. Once the meeting has started, public comments should be submitted prior to the time the Chair announces public comments for each agenda item and staff will read those public comments for up to three (3) minutes. Chat messages submitted during the public comment period for each agenda item will be read for up to three (3) minutes. If your public comment agenda is not related to any of the agenda item topics, your public comment will be read for up to 3 minutes at item IV Public Comments on the agenda. These are extraordinary circumstances, and the process for public comment is evolving and may change at future meetings. We thank you for your patience. Please note that there may be a delay in the digital transmittal of emails and voicemails. The Chair will announce when the public comment period is over for each item. If your public comments are not received on time for the specific agenda item you want to address, your public comments will be read at the public comment section of the agenda. The purpose of public comment is that it is an opportunity for members of the public to inform the governing body about their views. The Temporary Transitional Executive Community Advisory Committee appreciates hearing the input as it considers the business on the Agenda. All votes in a teleconferenced meeting shall be conducted by roll call. If you are an individual with a disability and need a reasonable modification or accommodation pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act please contact the Community Outreach & Engagement staff prior to the meeting for assistance by calling out toll-free line at 1-888-522-2732 or by email to COEpubliccomments@lacare.org. SB 1100 was signed by Governor in August 2022, and added a short section to the Brown Act as Govt. Code Section 54957.95 to supplement language already part of the Brown Act:

- (a) In addition to authority exercised pursuant to Sections 54954.3 and 54957.9, the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting may remove an individual for disrupting the meeting.
- (b) As used in this section, “disrupting” means engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to, both of the following:
 - (1) A failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a legislative body pursuant to Section 54954.3 or 54957.9 or any other law.
 - (2) Engaging in behavior that includes use of force or true threats of force.

	<p>(54954.3 contains provisions related to public comment time restrictions, and 54957.9 allows the presider to clear the room if the meeting can't continue.)</p> <p>AGENDA and PRINTED MEETING MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BEFORE THE MEETING AT L.A. Care's Offices at 1055 W. 7th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90017 through the Reception Area in the Building Lobby.</p>	
<p>APPROVE MEETING AGENDA</p>	<p>The Agenda for today's meeting was approved.</p>	<p>Approved by roll call. 12 AYES (Byrd, Cordero, Lebron, Parra, Poz, McClain, Refugio, Rodriguez, Romo, Salazar, Sales, and Sanchez)</p>
<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>		
<p>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MODEL DISCUSSION AND UPDATES</p>	<p><u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u></p> <p>Andria McFerson, RCAC 5 Member <i>Andria McFerson expressed her concern that filibustering should not discourage stakeholder participation, emphasizing the need to focus on ways to enhance stakeholder voices in the agenda. She criticized the lengthy staff discussions without providing stakeholders the opportunity to speak and suggested placing public comments after presentations. McFerson highlighted the significant financial contributions by L.A. Care to various organizations and questioned the representation and funding received by the RCACs, urging these topics to be included on the agenda for discussion.</i></p> <p>Elizabeth Cooper, RCAC 2 Member <i>Elizabeth Cooper expressed her concerns during the public comment session, addressing the board and ECAC members. She apologized for any potential remarks but emphasized her deep concern about the legitimacy of how the meetings are being conducted. Ms. Cooper announced her intention to inquire with the State of California regarding the matter, citing the enabling legislation under the Governor. She expressed disappointment at the lack of notice for the meeting and emphasized the importance of communication. Ms. Cooper, a long-time member, acknowledged her respect for the representatives but emphasized their responsibility to keep the community informed. She voiced worries about the current meeting, questioning its structure and expressing concerns about public participation and knowledge dissemination. Ms. Cooper urged recognition</i></p>	

of the state legislation, specifically SB 2092, and emphasized the impact on everyone present, highlighting the importance of public input and democracy.

Francisco Oaxaca, *Chief, Communication and Community Relations*, gave the following update:

Mr. Oaxaca expressed gratitude to the committee and extended New Year wishes to everyone present. He acknowledged the anticipation regarding the meeting agenda, assuring attendees that he would not occupy an extensive amount of time. Mr. Oaxaca emphasized that the purpose of the meeting was to present changes to how RCACs and ECAC operate in response to the new contract for providing Medi-Cal coverage in Los Angeles County. He explained the challenges faced due to the broad requirements outlined in the lengthy state contract, comparing it to being told to travel from Los Angeles to Florida without specific instructions on the route. He shared that staff had to determine the best changes to comply with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) expectations, ensuring the well-being of members, the health plan and staff, while staying compliant. Among the proposed changes, Mr. Oaxaca highlighted the recommendation for main advisory committee meetings to occur quarterly, aligning with DHCS' expectation for efficiency and productivity. He discussed the need to transition from 11 RCAC regions to eight, mirroring the county's service planning areas for better data utilization and discussions on local healthcare needs. Mr. Oaxaca touched upon the proposal to limit main advisory committee membership to 20 individuals, aligning with the effective size for productive meetings. He explained DHCS' specific roles and functions for the consumer advisory committees, including the need for diverse engagement approaches. Staff proposed Community Roundtables and focus groups to address this requirement effectively. He discussed DHCS' new requirement for health plans to develop an advisory member diversity and recruitment plan, with staff proposing term limits and a selection committee. Mr. Oaxaca mentioned the expectation for compensating committee members for their time, leading staff to propose adjustments to the stipend structure. Lastly, he introduced proposals not directly aligned with DHCS but essential for operational smoothness. This included aligning ECAC meeting schedules with the Board of Governors and pausing the annual work plan process until the proposed changes are implemented. Mr. Oaxaca emphasized the importance of feedback and discussion from the members and assured that no vote would be taken that day, allowing sufficient time for further deliberation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Cooper expressed her gratitude for the presentation but conveyed deep concerns regarding the DHCS. She emphasized the lack of consumer input from DHCS, highlighting the need for legal representation for consumers during the decision-making process. Ms. Cooper questioned the level of awareness

among consumers, stating that many are uninformed about the changes and suggested that a lawyer should have been involved. She raised concerns about the communication between board members and consumers, questioning how many Chairs have attended RCAC meetings to explain ongoing developments. Ms. Cooper expressed her commitment to advocacy and voiced worries about the proposed elimination of the Brown Act, stating its impact on the Board of Governors' decisions. She urged members to consider the implications of such changes and questioned whether they have adequately informed their respective RCACs. Ms. Cooper also touched upon the importance of diversity and shared her personal concerns as an African American. She called for attention to staff advocacy and emphasized the significance of diversity in decision-making. In conclusion, she underscored her concerns and urged members to consider the broader impact of the proposed changes.

Andria McFerson expressed gratitude for the opportunity to speak, emphasizing her advocacy for better healthcare as the primary reason for her presence. She highlighted the importance of stakeholders receiving information in a timely, understandable, and comprehensive manner, emphasizing the need for transparency. Ms. McFerson expressed concerns about potential misconduct and corruption within the organization, linking these issues to the transformation of stakeholders. She asserted that decisions should only involve the RCAC and ECAC members, cautioning against transforming them into focus groups without the rights afforded by the Brown Act or Robert's Rules of Order. She raised concerns about the proposed changes by Francisco Oaxaca, stating that focus groups lacking these rights might lead to arbitrary dismissals. Ms. McFerson pointed out the limited freedom of speech and emphasized the two-year term limit proposed. She underscored the importance of stakeholders having the right to vote and convene for a specific purpose. Ms. McFerson questioned the involvement of L.A. Care's 13 board members and various stakeholder groups, asserting that committees and stakeholders are legally allowed. She urged members not to allow staff to take over and change established practices, emphasizing the importance of engaging members and stakeholders for environmental sustainability and better healthcare. She concluded by highlighting the responsibility to address problems worsening with healthcare and promoting sustainable developmental goals. Ms. McFerson insisted that discussions on such topics should remain on the agenda, asserting that no state contract mandates the elimination of the RCAC.

Demetria Saffore stated that she is concerned that they're going to lose their voices in this situation. She would like a copy of the 700-page document so she can read it herself.

Russell Mahler greeted everyone and extended New Year wishes. He asked Mr. Oaxaca about the impact of Roundtables on the RCACs. Mr. Mahler inquired whether new members would be sought to replace those leaving the RCACs and if the opportunity would be extended to individuals interested in joining the RCACs when the Roundtables are implemented. Mr. Oaxaca responded, stating that the Roundtables would be open to both existing RCAC members and other community members interested in serving.

Diana Leff extended New Year greetings and reflected on the challenges of 2023. Expressing her commitment to the RCAC, she voiced concern for ex-military individuals, citing a distressing case of an 82-year-old veteran sleeping in a tent due to insufficient income. Ms. Leff emphasized the plight of military families, including women with children, facing homelessness. She urged California, with its wealth, to provide housing solutions. Ms. Leff also addressed the prolonged military presence in Afghanistan, advocating for adequate housing for returning veterans. She underscored the importance of RCACs in achieving various healthcare initiatives, such as dental and eye care.

Member Salazar raised several points during the session. She inquired about the status of the work plan, seeking clarity on when it would resume and expressing a desire to move forward with campaigns and services. Member Salazar questioned the recent change in the term limit to two years and asked if there was a possibility of renewal beyond that period. She emphasized the need for realistic discussions on this matter. Member Salazar urged staff to remind all attendees of the importance of adhering to the established rules and emphasized the significance of following these rules for effective participation in the sessions. Mr. Oaxaca responded to Member Salazar's concerns about the work plan, stating that there is a pause until May of the current year due to the deadline to show compliance with the new DHCS contract. He mentioned that the plan is expected to restart in June or July after the Board approves any changes, allowing time for implementation and the formation of new committees and RCACs. Regarding the term limits, Mr. Oaxaca explained that the structure would align with the current Board's term limits, allowing up to two two-year terms, providing an opportunity for renewal. He emphasized the importance of tracking member participation and engagement through a dashboard and outlined the reappointment process, including applications and a selection committee for new members.

Member Byrd expressed concerns about the data collection process at the RCAC meetings. She recalled bringing community complaints to the meetings, where a person from L.A. Care would be present to address the issues. Member Byrd was under the impression that data was not collected during these discussions. She expressed confusion and unease about the revelation that data should be collected, given her five-year tenure, implying surprise that such information might not have been collected in the past. She requested clarification on this matter. Dr. Eakins clarified the confusion, confirming the existence of data. She explained the current effective method of collecting issues raised in RCAC meetings. A dedicated VIP line is utilized to document these issues, which are then forwarded to member services for resolution. The outcomes are provided in written form, creating accountability for both the members and the organization. This approach allows for tracking and reporting the number of issues submitted on a monthly basis. She committed to sharing that data with members and finding resolutions to those issues. Member Byrd asked who would be on the selection committee and how would they be selected. Mr. Oaxaca outlined the proposed composition of the selection committee for the new committees. The committee is envisioned to include a combination of individuals and stakeholders, following the guidance from DHCS. It is expected to consist of CO&E staff, members from the health equity team, and the community benefits program, which provides grants to community-based organizations. Representation from a community-based organization involved in healthcare advocacy and a health plan member, similar to Member Gonzalez's role representing stakeholder groups on the Board, is considered for inclusion in the committee. The aim is to have a diverse group that includes individuals familiar with the current RCAC members and those who bring a fresh perspective but work with or represent the community in various capacities.

Member Romo stated that she has many questions and she can speak to Mr. Oaxaca after if possible. She would like to know what will happen to the three RCACs that will be removed. She said if there are fewer RCACs with less members fewer issues will be brought forward. She also had concerns about member stipends. She noted that stipends have not increased in 20 years. She questioned how stipends will be given to new members if the stipends have not been increased for current members. She asked if RCAC members will also be able to participate in roundtable discussions. Mr. Oaxaca addressed several key points, including term limits, committee restructuring, stipend adjustments, and member participation. He clarified that the proposed term limits mirror those of the Board, allowing for a two-year term with the potential for renewal, totaling four years. The goal is to balance the involvement of existing engaged members and newcomers to ensure a diversity of voices.

Regarding the reduction from 11 to 8 RCACs, Mr. Oaxaca explained that existing members could apply to a new RCAC corresponding to their current region, maintaining continuity in

representation. The stipend adjustments are intended to reflect increased expectations and align with current standards for compensating committee volunteers. Emphasizing the importance of members not serving on both RCACs and Roundtables, Mr. Oaxaca highlighted the need to open up positions to as many individuals as possible, fostering diverse perspectives. The proposed structure actually provides more positions than the historical average across RCACs. Regarding meeting schedules, Mr. Oaxaca stressed the significance of having productive discussions over simply increasing the number of meetings. The approach aligns with DHCS requirements, offering multiple engagement opportunities for members to discuss issues and bring them to the Board of Governors' attention. The overall aim is to enhance the effectiveness of member participation and representation.

Member Sales expressed concern about the term limits and sought clarification on whether, at the end of the two years, members would undergo an election or simply reapply. She inquired about the data collection process, particularly regarding the three districts not mentioned during the meeting. She sought information on where the data from these districts would be sourced. Member Sales personally favored the idea of roundtables focused on specific topics to address community needs more effectively. She emphasized the importance of understanding who the term "we" refers to and whether it includes the community in decision-making processes. Member Sales highlighted the recurring concerns regarding the Brown Act, seeking clarification on the pros and cons associated with its application in the context of the proposed changes. Mr. Oaxaca addressed Member Sales' questions. He explained that the 11 regions and 8 service planning areas (SPAs) both cover the entire county. The difference lies in how data is collected, with L.A. Care working with the county and community-based organizations to gather data based on the 8 SPAs. He emphasized that the 11 regions are smaller divisions but together constitute the whole county. The proposed structure would allow for more focused discussions with members. Mr. Oaxaca agreed with the idea of specific topics for roundtables, ensuring that each roundtable covers an area of importance to its members. This approach aims to provide opportunities for members to engage in topics that matter to them. Regarding term limits, Mr. Oaxaca clarified that members would submit another application at the end of the two years. A selection committee, including L.A. Care staff from various departments, would review applications, conduct interviews, and decide whether a member can continue for another two years. The selection committee would not include RCAC members, and the process aligns with DHCS guidelines.

Member Poz inquired about the communication strategy for disseminating information to the members. She expressed concerns about members being confused and reaching out with questions regarding the apparent plan to resume activities in January and the lack of notifications. Her question aimed to understand how the organization is addressing and

communicating with the members amid the changes. Dr. Eakins explained that the restructuring involves various elements, including communication and approvals. She highlighted the time constraints imposed by the state, emphasizing the need to implement changes within a specific timeframe. Dr. Eakins acknowledged ongoing conversations and listening sessions with members but stressed the urgency of making decisions to avoid non-compliance with state requirements. She encouraged members to provide feedback on the presented proposals and assured them that their input would be taken into consideration as part of the decision-making process. Dr. Eakins clarified that the goal was to meet both state and DHCS requirements and emphasized the importance of arriving at a final decision to prevent the health plan from falling out of compliance. Member Poz if it is possible to begin with DHCS' requirements first and then staff proposals. Mr. Oaxaca responded by emphasizing that the proposed changes presented in his earlier presentation focused on the "how" rather than the "what." He explained that DHCS provided specific requirements and expectations, leaving it to the health plan to determine the implementation details. Mr. Oaxaca clarified that two of the proposed changes, adjusting the ECAC meeting schedule to match the Board's and pausing the work plan process, were directly tied to meeting the set deadline. He highlighted that other proposed changes were a result of extensive thought and collaboration with the community, mentioning Dr. Eakins' involvement in a statewide advisory committee to gather input on structuring advisory committees. Mr. Oaxaca emphasized that the proposed changes should be considered as a comprehensive package, as compliance necessitates adjustments in how RCACs operate and are structured.

Member Lebron thanked the committee for their time and wished them a happy New Year. She stated that she prefers that the RCACs do not follow the Brown Act. She said it would help the presentations and participation is more fluid. She asked for more information regarding the work plans. Mr. Oaxaca explained that the work plan is an annual fund allocation to each RCAC, functioning like a grant program. The funds support organizations addressing significant community needs. He clarified that the proposed pause in the work plan process wouldn't alter RCAC operations but was intended to facilitate the implementation of various changes. If the restructuring, including the division into eight service planning areas, is approved, it would allow new RCACs to assess their regions and utilize available data to identify organizations addressing regional needs for support. In the past \$5,000 per RCAC was allocated and that amount may be adjusted.

Dr. Eakins explained that the RCACs would cover broader information and confirm collected data during their meetings. She highlighted that roundtables and focus groups would allow for more dedicated time to delve into specific subjects, providing an opportunity for deeper and longer conversations compared to the structured RCAC meetings. Dr. Eakins emphasized that these discussions would help address issues experienced by members, such as concerns related to access and treatment at healthcare

	<p>providers. She underscored the importance of having open conversations, like the one happening in the current meeting, to gather high-quality feedback and make improvements for the benefit of the over 2,000,000 members served.</p> <p>Mr. Oaxaca explained that the proposed changes would not disrupt the existing connections. He mentioned that the current flow of issues goes from the RCACs to the ECAC and then to the Board of Governors. The proposed addition of roundtables and focus groups would continue to be connected through the RCACs, ensuring that the flow of information and concerns remains intact from the grassroots level to the highest decision-making body, the Board of Governors.</p>	
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PUBLIC COMMENTS

	<p><i>Lynnea Johnson submitted the following public comment via chat box: RCAC MEMBERS who were interested to continue on with your NEW Forum 2024 by completing an application after we had voted for the BOG Member Candidacy in 2023, don't the members who have volunteered their services for years, would be selected favored rather than a New member who has not been involved with the issues affecting our Community?</i></p> <p><i>Maria Montes submitted the following public comment via chat box: Maria Montes: My question is very confusing and it would be good to find a simple way and little by little to understand the changes.</i></p> <p><i>Elizabeth Cooper addressed the issue of term limits for RCAC members and referred to a legal counsel's advice to the Board of Governors in 2009, stating there were no term limits for RCAC members but only for the board. She emphasized the importance of considering legislative processes for implementing changes, suggesting that DHCS would need legislative approval. She urged the ECAC members to invite the Department of Managed Care to provide a presentation, expressing concern about the lack of input from the department and calling for a motion to invite them. She emphasized the need for the ECAC to engage with those who would make decisions. Ms. Cooper highlighted the importance of following the law and involving legislators in decisions affecting the RCACs. She encouraged members to contact their legislators, emphasizing that legislators would have the final say, and suggested that some members might want to seek legislative input. Her comments conveyed a call for legal adherence and legislative involvement in decisions affecting the RCACs.</i></p>	
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	<p><i>Ms. McFerson raised concerns about what she perceived as misconduct and corruption within the organization. She emphasized the need for thorough investigation of such issues. Ms. McFerson expressed her intent to record and share the proceedings with the state to shed light on how participants are treated. As a co-Chair with the Department of Mental Health, Ms. McFerson asserted her role in directing staff and influencing decisions related to RCACs and ECACs. She emphasized that decisions about having an RCAC or maintaining the ECAC were within their purview as co-Chairs. Ms. McFerson asserted her authority to dictate staff actions, including the establishment and continuation of advisory committees. She concluded her comment by highlighting her role in organizing events, presenting a flyer as evidence of her involvement. Throughout her statement, Ms. McFerson asserted her position as a co-Chair and the authority she believed she and other co-Chairs held in decision-making processes.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Saffore supported Ms. Cooper's assertion that term limits did not apply to RCACs based on her participation in the process in 2009. Additionally, she addressed Francisco's discussion on inclusivity, suggesting the creation of a committee specifically for individuals with disabilities who are not on Medicare. Ms. Saffore highlighted the importance of considering the unique needs and perspectives of this particular demographic within the advisory committees.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. McFerson emphasized her understanding of the advisory committee's rights and the utilization of their budget. She highlighted their authority to request various items and activities for community events using the allocated funds. Ms. McFerson expressed concerns about the decision-making process related to the budget over the past three years, seeking transparency and accountability for the fiscal year's expenditures. She also mentioned the possibility of forming more RCACs, increasing stipends, and maintaining regular meetings to address stakeholders' needs effectively.</i></p>	
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ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.	
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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:
 Victor Rodriguez, *Board Specialist II, Board Services*
 Malou Balones, *Board Specialist III, Board Services*
 Linda Merkens, *Senior Manager, Board Services*

APPROVED BY
 Ana Rodriguez, ECAC Chair _____
 Date _____

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ADJOURNMENT

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The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

APPROVED BY

Ana Rodriguez, ECAC Chair

Date 3/13/24



RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:
 Victor Rodriguez, *Board Specialist II, Board Services*
 Malou Balones, *Board Specialist III, Board Services*
 Linda Merkens, *Senior Manager, Board Services*