

South Carolina Autism Society
Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the
Board of Directors
April 24, 1999

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Shirley Ballard
Ann Bishop
David Coats
Beverly McCarty
Margaret Moore
Joyce Nielsen
Denise Oxford
Becky Shippy

Board Members Absent

Ken Boggs
Margo Cook
Erik Drasgow
John Edwards
Gaye Hartley
Alex Holbert
Melanie Marquis
Mitch Yell

SCAS Staff Present

Craig Stoxen, Executive Director

Guest Presenters

Don Fender, Director, Autism Division – DDSN

Call to order, quorum

President Joyce Nielsen called the quarterly meeting to order at 10:10 am. A quorum was declared.

There were introductions. Joyce Nielsen welcomed Don Fender.

Approval of agenda

The agenda was amended to eliminate the first item of new business – Executive Director’s Evaluation. Add to new business the resignation of Angela Fender. David Coats moved, Margaret Moore seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes

The following correction to the minutes was noted. In Jan Mandeville's report the term "DD Council Funds" should be corrected to read "State Budget Funds". In the first line of the paragraph the term "DD Council" should be corrected to read "legislature". Becky Shippy moved, Shirley Ballard seconded. Motion carried.

Autism Division Report – Don Fender

1. Summer Services – 17 proposals for mini-grants for all ages were received from all regions of the state. Plans are to fund at least one in each region and perhaps partially fund more. Will seek an increase in funds for next year.

DDSN has small amount of funds available in each region for families to use in summer. Apply through service coordinator.

Continue to operate three (3) integrated camps: Camp Bob Cooper, Camp Long, Camp St. Christopher.

2. Medical Advisory Committee – Craig Stoxen
A meeting will be held April 30 to finalize the organization of this committee. After that meeting medical people will be invited to become a part of this important committee. This committee will present at the annual conference.
3. DDSN/Autism Division Budget – shared a print out. The division plans to use monies freed up by expired school district contracts to:
 - 1-Support families in the upstate as CARE does in the Coastal Region.
 - 2-Educational therapist.
 - 3-Additional consultant for Pee Dee Region.
 - 4-Update current 8 day training modules.
 - 5-Family Support – If funds are approved the division will propose assistance for the following:
 - a. 24 new waiver slots
 - b. stipends, respite
 - c. residential placement for 15 people on critical waiting list
 - d. assistance for aging parents and older autistic adults living at home
 - e. support a plan to buy houses for those who are currently renting, etc.
 - 6-Sandy McCloy has been hired as consultant for the Midlands Region.
 - 7-Discussion on how to improve PCP process.

Director's Report – Craig Stoxen

1. Legislative Update
 - a. DDSN Budget Requests – print out
 - b. \$150,000 state budget funds
3. AIR
4. Weekend Get-Away
5. M&M Foundation
6. Partnership
7. ASA East Coast Workshop
(See Craig's report dated April 29 for more details on the above)
8. Bev McCarty moved that Craig pursue the acquisition of a 501-C3 status for the Society separate from ASA's 501-C3. Denise Chastain seconded. Motion carried.
9. Request for increase in funds from DDSN grant – increase from \$10,000 to \$25,000 to be used as follows:
 - a. Annual Conference
 - b. Medical Advisory Committee to send a doctor to DAN Conference this year and on going
 - c. Support for parent-liaison, Jan Mandeville, to spend more time advocating for DDSN budgetCraig will know soon if this request is approved.
4. Legislative Drop-In

President's Report – Joyce Nielsen

1. Introduce Denise Oxford and Shirley Ballard
2. ASA East Coast Report – commended Craig for good presentation
3. Hop to increase benefits for Craig as soon as state funds come through
4. Suggest using e-mail to exchange info. since mail service is not always dependable

Treasurer's Report – David Coats

Reviewed printed report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Conference Committee – Craig Stoxen

Conference will be held Nov. 18-20 at the Adams Mark Hotel.

Bylaws Committee – Joyce Nielsen

David Coats made a motion the Executive Committee be composed of elected officers, the immediate past president and one additional board member appointed by the president. Shirley Ballard seconded. Motion carried.

Consumer Review Panel – Ann Bishop

The trainer's manual is complete and has been reviewed and approved by the committee, Craig and Don Fender. Training for site visitors will be scheduled very soon. The goal is to have visited all residential sites by the October board meeting.

Fundraising – Craig Stoxen and Joyce Nielsen

We need players for golf tournament.
Tickets for weekend-get-a-way available.

Information and Referral – Craig Stoxen

Craig is working on a cooperative plan between DDSN/Autism Division and the Society for dissemination I&R packets.

Legislative Committee – Craig Stoxen

Information was shared during Director's Report.

OLD BUSINESS

WebPage – Denise Chastain

Denise shared her ideas for the website. Excellent work. Will continue to refine.

NEW BUSINESS

Board meeting dates – Joyce Nielsen

July 24 – Charleston (tentative)
Oct. 9 – Myrtle Beach

Resignations – due to heavy family responsibilities Angela Fender will no longer be an active board member but will serve as ex-officio board member. Margaret Moore moved that Becky Shippy be named Regional Rep for the Piedmont East Region. Shirley Ballard seconded. Motion carried.

Person Centered Plans – Denise Chastain

Denise made an outstanding presentation of her son's PCP experience.

Adjournment

Becky Shippy moved, Margaret Moore seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 3:10.
Motion carried.

Ann Bishop

Joyce Nielsen, President

Ann Bishop, Secretary