

SOUTH CAROLINA AUTISM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Midlands Center, Columbia, S.C.

Saturday, February 2, 2002

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Ute Anderson
Shirley Ballard
Ann Bishop
Denise Chastain
Erik Drasgow
Michael Filippone
Alex Holbert
Becky Hughes
Bev McCarty
Joyce Nielsen
Becky Shippy
Amy Weeks
Mitchell Yell

Members Absent

Cheryl Bauerle
Maria Delgado
John Edwards
Denise Long
Denise Oxford
Mary Pate
Aixa Rodriquez-Mariana

Staff Present

Craig Stoxen, Executive Director

Visitors Present

Dr. Stanley J. Butkus, State Director/DDSN
Don Fender, Director, Autism Division/DDSN
Ron Shippy

Call to order, quorum

President Amy Weeks called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. A quorum was declared. She welcomed new board members Becky Hughes and Ute Anderson.

Approval of Agenda

Joyce Nielsen moved that the agenda be approved as printed. Shirley Ballard seconded. Motion carried.

Special Presentation – Dr. Butkus, State Director, DDSN

Key thoughts from his presentation were:

- He wishes to stay in touch with advocacy groups, other state agencies and state government. Everyone working together brings progress.
- Five years ago all was well financially – however, the year 2000 revenues began to slow- had to make adjustments and resturcture. Every effort will be made to keep from cutting direct services as budget cuts continue.

- DDSN is now offering more training of staff in programs and services.
- Answered questions from board members concerning medicaid funds, respite care, self-advocacy planning, transportation issues for non-residential clients, Olmstead, need for more consultants, need for more residential housing for adults, PCP, school-based rehabilitative services.
- Inform DDSN of any need not being appropriately addressed.
- Continue to challenge legislature to support special needs people.

Autism Division Report – Don Fender

- Summer stipends – six will be funded.
- Task Force – for the purpose of training supervisors and direct care-givers in curriculum development and implementation for clients within the residences. This will also be available to any interested program supervisor outside the Autism Division. The Task Force will be directed by Dr. Pat McCarthy, Center for Disability Resources, USC. Hopefully, this training program will become a model to be shared nationally.

Introduction of new board members

Becky Hughes and Ute Anderson were welcomed. Erik Drasgow moved that Becky Hughes replace Gaye Hartley who resigned. Joyce Nielsen seconded. Motion carried. Amy announced that William Floyd had resigned.

Approval of Minutes

Correction to minutes: On page 5, change date of board meeting from April to May 4. Mitch Yell moved and Erik seconded that minutes be approved as printed with above change. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Mitchell Yell

Treasurer's Report was accepted as printed.

Proposed Budget- Beverly McCarty moved that the budget be amended to include the USC Project funded at \$7,200.00 for the fiscal year. Alex Holbert seconded. Motion carried.

Director's Report – Craig Stoxen

For more information refer to the printed copy of the Director's Report which was made available prior to the meeting.

1. Legislative Update
2. DSS Training
3. Golf Tournament
4. Sexuality Workshop
5. Peter Wright
6. National Autism Awareness Month
7. 2002 Annual Conference

In addition to the above items Craig addressed the following:

1. Presentation to Sub-Committee
2. Power of One

3. Chapter Leader Workshop
4. Membership Drive
5. Staff Retreat
6. Board Retreat – to be announced
7. Job description for Executive Director

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Conference Committee – Craig Stoxen
Plans are progressing as scheduled.

Monitoring Committee – Ann Bishop

1. Site visitation for 2002 in progress
2. Task Force – for the purpose of training supervisors and direct care-givers in all residences. Addressed in Don Fender's report) Ann Bishop will serve on the Task Force.
3. Board expressed a need for monitoring privately operated residences that serve autistic clients. CRP committee will pursue this plan.
4. CRP Committee will meet in the near future to update training manual.

OLD BUSINESS

There will be an Advanced Practicing Nurses Conference to be held in February at the Mills House in Charleston.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Golf Tournament – April 27, Quail Creek, Myrtle Beach
2. Rolling for Autism Bowling Tournament – April 20, Royal Z Lanes, Two Notch Road, 11:00 a.m. or 3:00 p.m.
3. Dinner parties for fundraising
4. Presentations at Special Needs boards locally.
5. Local media contacts
6. Governor's Proclamation
7. Rock for Kids for fundraising
8. Disability Day

Executive Session:

Performance Evaluation of Executive Director: Evaluation positive. Due to uncertain allocations of state funds additional benefits will be considered at another date.

With no further business to discuss a motion was made by Alex Holbert and seconded by the entire board to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. 2:30 p.m.

Amy Weeks, President

Ann Bishop, Secretary