

SOUTH CAROLINA AUTISM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the
Board of Directors
SCAS Office, Columbia, S.C.
Saturday, May 4, 2002

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Cheryl Bauerle
Ann Bishop
Denise Chastain
Maria Delgado
Erik Drasgow
Michael Filippone
Alex Holbert
Becky Hughes
Beverly McCarty
Joyce Nielsen
Amy Weeks
Mitchell Yell

Members Absent

Ute Anderson
Shirley Ballard
John Edwards
Denise Long
Denise Oxford
Mary Pate
Aixa Rodriquez-Mariana

Staff Present

Craig Stoxen, Executive Director

Visitors Present

Don Fender, Director, Autism Division/DDSN
Christian Martin, SCAS USC Scholarship recipient

I Call to order, quorum, introductions

President Amy Weeks called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. A quorum was declared. Becky Hughes from Batesburg-Leesville was introduced and welcomed. Becky has son with autism.

II Special Presentation – Scholarship – Erik Drasgow

Christian Martin is the recipient of the SCAS USC scholarship. He is a Behavior Support Specialist at Whitten Center. Mr. Martin has held this position for the past seven years. (Christian Martin not present at this time).

III Autism Division Report –Don Fender

- Annual Training Calendar (standard calendar training schedule). This calendar is distributed statewide to all appropriate people. Each quarter an up-date is sent.
- Advanced Training Calendar – This schedule is sent to selected people according to their need for advanced training.
- Summer Services – Mini-grants totaling \$36,000 were distributed.
- Family Support Services - \$46,000 distributed to special family needs.

- New Initiative – Development of curriculum for training direct care staff.
- Board shared concerns about whether PCP is being used effectively for improving quality of life in residences. CRP will confer further with Don concerning these matters.

(Christian Martin arrived. Erik introduced and welcomed him. He had a brief opportunity to dialogue with board members)

IV Approval of Minutes

Erik Drasgow moved and Denise Chastain seconded that minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

V Treasurer's Report – Mitch Yell

Change amount of USC scholarship from \$7,500 to \$7,200 (error) Treasurer's report was received as printed.

Corporate Resolution – Joyce Nielsen moved and Erik Drasgow seconded that corporate resolution for the bank be approved. Motion carried.

VI Director's Report – Craig Stoxen

- Saturday Building Entry to SCAS Office
- DSS Training
- Golf Tournament
- Peter Wright
- PSP
- National Autism Awareness Month
- 2002 Annual Conference
- Legislative Update

For information concerning the above items see director's printed report.

Additional items:

- Parent Questionnaire – being drafted.
- Strategic Planning Conference- Autism Society of Greater Atlanta. Craig will attend.
- Board CD is available.
- SCAS office will be sharing additional office space and costs with Pro-Parents. A board meeting room is now available.
- ASA Task Force – Craig will serve on this Task Force.
- Legislative issue – Need a permanent long-term solution to medicaid funding.

VII COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Consumer Review Panel – Ann Bishop

Site visitation reports for Midlands have been submitted to Autism Division; reports for Coastal are in process; Piedmont visits have not yet been made.

There was considerable concern about quality of life issues discussed at the March retreat. The CRP will meet with Don soon to discuss these issues further.

2. Annual Conference –Craig Stoxen

All plans are progressing on schedule.

3. Legislative – Craig Stoxen

Both House and Senate recommended the \$250,000 allocation. Board commended Craig for his efforts in this regard.

VIII OLD BUSINESS

1. Board Vacancy – Amy Weeks

Amy reported that Margaret Moore has expressed interest in returning to the Board. There is one vacancy made by the resignation of William Floyd. Becky Shippy has resigned due to family health problems.

IX NEW BUSINESS

1. PCP – Amy Weeks

Society needs to initiate steps that Society can do to make PCP process more effective. Discussion followed.

2. College courses – Craig Stoxen

Presented information as printed “Special Educational Degrees Offered In S.C. Public Colleges and Universities Survey”.

3. Other Business – Amy Weeks

Discussed the possibility of having a summer retreat at Alex’s river house. Details to follow.

X Adjournment

With no further business Beverly McCarty moved and Joyce Nielsen seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 1:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Amy Weeks, President

Ann Bishop, Secretary