

SOUTH CAROLINA AUTISM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the
Board of Directors
SCAS Office, Columbia, SC
Saturday, February 1, 2003

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Cheryl Bauerle
Aixa Rodriguez-Mariani
Joyce Nielsen
Roy Williams
Drea Kithianis
Erik Drasgow
Mitch Yell
Michael Filippone
Mary Pate
Maria Delgado
Denise Oxford
Ute Anderson
Alex Holbert
Denise Chastain

Members Absent

Shirley Ballard
Becky Hughs
Beverly McCarty
Margaret Moore
Denise Long
Amy Weeks
Susan DuRant

STAFF PRESENT

Craig Stoxen, CEO and President

Visitors Present

Daniel Davis, Director, Autism Division/DDSN
Cassandra Paschal, SCAS member

Call to order, quorum, introductions

President Cheryl Bauerle called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM. A quorum was declared. Introductions were made.

Autism Division Report – Daniel Davis

DDSN will be looking into the possibility of having outside providers supply services in the areas of supported employment, residential placement, and service coordination. Fifteen providers attended a conference set up to explore this possibility, and several other providers expressed interest. Proposals will be entertained by DDSN on a quarterly basis.

Minutes

Joyce Nielsen moved, and Denise Chastain seconded that the minutes be approved as read. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mitch Yell, treasurer, informed the board that 2002 revenues were down, and expenses were brought down accordingly. The 2003 proposed budget was presented. A motion was made by Aixa Rodriguez-Mariana to approve the 2003 proposed budget. It was seconded by Drea Kithianis. Motion was approved.

President's Report

1. PSP
2. Staffing
3. Golf Outing
4. Rolling for Autism Awareness
5. Future Computer Needs

Please refer to the president's printed report for information concerning the above items. In addition to the printed report, Craig's report included the following:

1. Medicaid reports-included in packet
2. DDSN reorganization and SC government changes
3. Disability Advocacy Day-to be held on Wednesday, March 5th, from 9-2, at the Statehouse.

Committee Reports

Consumer Review Panel-Joyce Nielsen volunteered to be new chairperson of the panel. Volunteers are needed, especially in the Piedmont area. Piedmont also needs a new chair. Once a new chair and volunteers are trained in the Piedmont, visits can begin.

Conference Committee- The conference will be held on October 9-11, 2003 at the Adam's Mark in Columbia. Keynote speakers will be Teresa Grossi on Friday and Eustacia Cutler on Saturday. Mitch and Erik will do the pre-conference workshop on Thursday. Postcards will be mailed shortly. Please refer to president's report for details.

Legislative- Craig reported that DDSN presented its budget to the legislature last week. Jan Mandeville has returned to work. Lastly, Craig anticipates that the 5% cut from the Department of Education will remain permanent, bring the annual allocation from 250K to 212K.

Old Business

ASA is looking for new board members. Also, the new ballots should have arrived in the mail.

New Business

1. Service Coordination-SCAS would like to look into providing service coordination for individuals with autism, in a 5 county area in the Midlands. The board gave unanimous agreement to proceed. Please refer to president's report for further details.
2. State Reorganization-DDSN would like input from other agencies on ways to reorganize the agency, whether it be to remain as is, or change into a super health agency, making DDSN a cabinet level post. The view of the board is that disabilities should remain a priority and autism should remain a separate entity. Craig will draft a letter to the governor citing our concerns. A copy of the letter will also be sent to Sen. Glenn McConnell, President Pro Tem, and Rep. David Wilkins, Speaker of the House.
3. Golf Outing is in need of players and sponsors. The outing will be held on Saturday, April 26th, at the Quail Creek Golf Club in Conway.
4. The Board Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 1st, at 10:00 at Alex Holbert's River House in Conway.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Joyce Nielsen moved and Erik Drasgow seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Cheryl Bauerle, Board Chair

Joyce Nielsen, Acting Secretary

