

SOUTH CAROLINA AUTISM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting of the

Board of Directors

Conference Call

June 19, 2006

Members Present	Members Absent
Cheryl Bauerle	Ute Anderson
Denise Chastain	Erik Drasgow
Susan Durant	Angela Fender
Becky Hughes	Chris Heeringa
Susan Kastner	Alex Holbert
Beverly McCarty	Denise Long
Margaret Moore	Denise Oxford
Joyce Nielsen	Sarah Pope
Susie Tolson	Mark Shelley
Amy Weeks	
Roy Williams	
Mitchell Yell	

STAFF PRESENT

Craig Stoxen, Executive Director

Call to order

Margaret Moore called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. A quorum was declared.

Consideration of Purchasing Property

Craig stated that the biggest issue with purchasing the new property that is adjacent to our present location is parking. The county will not give a definite answer as to whether there is enough space. Beverly McCarty asked Craig if he has looked at other properties. Craig stated that he had been looking for about a month. Most of what Craig has looked at does not meet our needs in regards to size. Amy Weeks asked Craig if he had talked with Pro-Parents about possibly purchasing property together. Craig said that although Pro-Parents seemed interested originally, they no longer seem interested. Roy Williams asked if Craig has looked at buying property alone and adding a Butler building. Susie Tolson agreed that we should build to ensure that we have what we need. Craig stated that he had not found any property in the right location for our needs because he and staff attend many meetings downtown. We would need to acquire property that would be feasible for this. Susan Durant voiced concern about the upfront money needed to purchase said property (adjacent to present location). She asked if Craig has considered setting up a satellite office so that we do not rush into this. Beverly McCarty added that renovation to said property is major and is also unsure about the upfront money needed to continue with the purchase. Cheryl Bauerle asked if we know the appraisal value of the property. Craig said no because this is a commercial sale there is no actual appraisal. He also stated that said property has been on the market for almost a year. Also, everything that he has looked at that is comparable to said property is \$400,000.00-500,000.00. Beverly asked how old

the property is. Craig said that the original structure dated back to 1967, but there were 2 additions, one in the 1970's and the other in the 1980's. Joyce Nielsen reiterated concern over the upfront money that we would lose if we do not go through with said purchase. Craig has also spoken with Bill Barfield at DDSN about helping with the purchase of property. Although Mr. Barfield would not officially say yes or no, he did feel that this would be well received. Denise Chastain suggested that we appeal to our members or people on our mailing list with our needs. Margaret Moore stated that we need additional information with more options. Also, we may need to schedule another conference call if needed before our August meeting. Craig thanked the board for the discussion and ideas.

Capital Campaign

A capital campaign would need the support of every board member. We will not start until property is in hand. Every board member will need to contribute and we will also go to several foundations. Hopefully, this would prevent foregoing a mortgage. We will still be able to use occupancy from our present grant. At present we pay \$2200.00 a month for rent. We will be able to pay interest only for the first year of the loan while we do the capital campaign and then convert to mortgage. We can get a commercial loan for up to 20 years.

Margaret Moore expressed appreciation for all of Craig's hard work.

Adjournment

Roy Williams moved to adjourn. Joyce Nielsen seconded the motion. The conference call was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.