

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS
100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906
March 20, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Brown, Bobby Collar, Margaret Gatch, David Green, Nancy Pinkerton and Gardenia Simmons-White, Ann Wirz, and Morris Campbell (Ex-Officio)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Algredda Ford, Helene Gruber, Marion McCoy,

STAFF PRESENT: Mitzi Wagner, Beth Cody and Joe Anne King

GUESTS PRESENT: Gloria Bolino, new member awaiting appointment.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Jonathan Brown, Vice Chair

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS

Mr. Brown welcomed Ms. Bolino and Ms. Cody

III. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 21, 2012 BOARD MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY GARDENIA SIMMONS-WHITE AND SECONDED BY GRACE DENNIS TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 21, 2012 BOARD MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE MARCH 20, 2012 AGENDA

Ms. Wagner requested the following items be added under the Executive Director's Report:

- Meeting Room Policy
- SCDDSN Budget

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY MARGARET ANN GATCH TO ADOPT THE MARCH 20, 2012 AGENDA AS AMENDED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, Jonathan Brown, Vice-Chair

Mr. Brown thanked board members for attending the council meetings to receive the Disabilities Awareness Month Proclamations.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Mitzi Wagner

Ms. Wagner introduced Ms. Cody, Fiscal Operations Manager. She said we put together and submitted to Beaufort County the operating budget for next fiscal year. Ms. Cody will share the information we came up with. Ms. Cody distributed copies of the budget and explained each item Ms. Wagner explained the need for the additional direct care and supervisory staff requested in the budget and answered questions.

Ms. Wagner mentioned that, through the ABLE Foundation, we are applying for a United Way Grant that we hope will be an ongoing grant if we are successful. ABLE will meet tomorrow for a site visit along with staff that have been instrumental in writing the grant and will make a presentation to United Way and answer any questions they have. There will be a follow up visit the following Wednesday to go over any questions on the budget they may have for both our budget for Camp Treasure Chest and ABLE's budget. She said we have enough in the ABLE budget to carry Camp Treasure Chest through 2012. She said if we are not able to get the grant there may not be enough funds to fund camp next year. She said ABLE also submitted a grant to fund our mentoring program to mentor two gentlemen, one in residential and one who lives in the community. Both have some severe issues with socialization and behavior. This program gives them one-on-one time with a male in the community that would help provide coaching and example on how to be a man. The program has been very successful in the lives of these two individuals. We requested the grant to fund two additional individuals this year.

Ms. Wagner asked Mr. Green to update board members on the Osprey Village project. Mr. Green said the Osprey Village project is trying to find housing for special needs individuals. This will provide a community neighborhood of inter-generational individuals to include seniors and retirees as part of this neighborhood who may have been teachers, firefighters, policemen, nurses, and military who have spent their lives in service and don't want to sit back and watch TV, play bridge, etc. but who may want to become involved with those individuals with special needs. He said he has been in contact with other states that have been successful in developing similar facilities. He said he was contacted by an organization in New Orleans who serves Wounded Warriors to help them get on with their lives. He said we entered into a partnership last October and they will help to support us with strategic planning, fundraising, and being on site as part of our development team. He said yesterday (3/19/2012) they met with Rufus Britt, SCDDSN, Morris Campbell, Deputy Administrator, Beaufort County and members of DDSN to talk about how we might collaborate, what our vision was, what their budget was. They were all very supportive of what we are doing. He said we are in hopes of having some type of service up and going by the end of the year.

Ms. Wagner gave a brief overview of the housing situation in FY 2007/2008 year. She said Beaufort DSN was authorized to find two four bedroom homes and SCDDSN would fund eight individuals and two CTH II homes. We found one home then were told that SCDDSN could only fund one home. We were ready to go when we received a phone call that said all residential funding was off. She said that was very difficult. Both of these homes were for eight people from the Hilton Head area who desperately needed residential placement due to aging caregivers or some other health issue. She said since then there has been no residential expansion. She said many boards had to close homes. She said two years ago SCDDSN started depopulating the institutional facilities and if you had a vacancy due to a death, moving out of the area you had to fill that slot with someone from an institution. We have had three vacancies that we had to fill from an institution or lose the slot. She said in the handout of the SCDDSN Budget update that this is the first time since 2008 that all of what we currently do will now be funded recurrently. She said in the past we have taken one-time money that would be going away the next year. This is the first year that it will all be recurring money. Not having to supplement it with one-time money is a good thing. She said if the economy continues to improve residential is something they will probably look at but probably will not happen this year. She said she is pleased that Osprey is trying to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities but thinks there is a little disconnect in that some of the individuals who need residential services are not going to fit in the model that Osprey has and that is good and bad. She said she wants to make it clear that DSN is not competing with Osprey in any way. We may not

serve the same people and they may not have the same needs but we are all committed to making people safe.

Ms. Wagner said we have had lots of requests to use our building and quite a few organizations have. She said we feel we need some kind of a policy about how people use it when we contact with them and feel we need a deposit so if there is damage we get paid and we need to charge some room fees because people tend to take care of things better if they have to pay something. We don't want to have to clean up people's trash when we come in to work the following morning. She said she went to the library to review their policy and have some sort of guideline. She distributed copies of the policy draft and reviewed each topic listed with board members. Several suggestions were made regarding fees, food, and use of the outside facilities. Mr. Campbell suggested that a committee be appointed to work on the contract and policies and bring the draft back to the next meeting for review. Mr. Brown asked Mr. Green, Mr. Collar and Ms. Bolino to meet, review the information and bring their findings to the next meeting.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Personnel Committee, Jonathan Brown, Chair
Mr. Brown asked Mr. Campbell the status of board approval for Ms. Bolino. He said she should be approved in the near future. Mr. Brown thanked Mr. Campbell and mentioned that Ms. Bolino and Mr. Collar will be a great asset for this board.
- Policy/Directives Committee, Grace Dennis, Chair
Nothing to report
- Public Relations Committee, David Green, Chair
- Mr. Green said the Public Relations Committee, Gardenia Simmons-White, Margaret Ann Gatch and David Green, met after the last board meeting. He said they discussed a number of ideas about things they wanted to do. They met to discuss their ideas with Suzanne Larson, Beaufort County Public Relations officer. She was pleased with the ideas and said she would like to increase the web page information for DSN before she retires at the end of the month.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Campbell thanked the Board and welcomed Mr. Collar and informed the Ms. Bolino that he was confident she would be nominated and appointed in the near future. He also talked about the County Council retreat and their continued concerns about the funding of a reasonable budget for the coming fiscal year. He said they are trying to better define essential versus non-service in the entire organization.

The next board meeting will be held on April 17, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at:
Disabilities and Special Needs Department
100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906

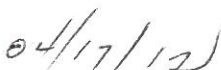
XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO
ADJOURN THE MARCH 20, 2012 MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.




Helene Gruber, Chair



Date



Nancy Pinkerton, Secretary



Date

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