

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS
100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906
June 18, 2013

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gloria Criscuolo

STAFF PRESENT: Mitzi Wagner, Bill Love and Joe Anne King

GUESTS PRESENT: None

I. CALL TO ORDER – Helene Gruber, Chair
Ms. Gruber called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS
There were no guests present.

III. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 16, 2013 BOARD MEETING.

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO APPROVE THE APRIL 16, 2013 MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE JUNE 18, 2013 AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY GRACE DENNIS AND SECONDED BY ANN WIRZ TO ADOPT THE JUNE 18, 2013 AGENDA AS PRESENTED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, Helene Gruber, Chair

The Nomination Committee submitted the following slate of officers for FY 2014/2015:

- Jonathan Brown Chairman
- Bobby Collar Vice Chairman
- Gardenia Simmons-White Secretary

Ms. Gruber asked if there were any nominations from the floor. None were submitted.

APPROVAL OF THE SLATE OF OFFICERS WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS PRESENTED,

Ms. Gruber congratulated the new officers who will begin in their new positions effective July 16, 2013 and mentioned that they would be working with a wonderful group of people.

Ms. Gruber mentioned that the Legislative Delegation will meet on June 25, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. There was some discussion as to whether it was necessary to give a presentation but felt it would be beneficial to attend and thank them for their support in acknowledging some of the needs of those with developmental disabilities. Mr. Green said he planned to attend the meeting on the 25th.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mitzi Wagner

Ms Wagner distributed copies of the SCDDSN budget for 2014. She reviewed and explained each item and answered questions. She mentioned an increase in the Waiver Respite funding and said currently it is \$8.46 an hour and they are trying to increase it. She said that over the past six months we have seen a drastic movement in Waiver. She and Mr. Love interviewed three families today that were interested in starting day services and said every week we are getting about three or four requests a week and said we have included, in the county budget, a request for two additional day program training specialists. She said we have had several staff resignations in the day program, for various reasons, and at present are in a very difficult situation. She said we are not able to move fast enough to get staff replaced and the staff to consumer ratio is difficult to manage. She said the good thing is that people are going to get day program services.

Ms. Wagner said we are in good shape with the county budget. The county's contribution is 1.9 million and an additional \$300,000, which makes it 2.2 million. Mr. Campbell mentioned that vehicles would be purchased from the general fund a bit later and the \$300,000 for the home on Hilton Head has been reduced to \$150,000 this year and \$150,000 next year. The Cottage Walk home will be completed within 90 days from the day they start. So far, construction has not begun.

Ms. Wagner said we have had two audits in June. The internal audit from SCDDSN and the week later was the Alliant review, which is the new Delmarva group. There were a couple of things on the internal audit. Two of the consumers personal property list did not contain accurate descriptions of non-clothing items, i.e., the make, model and size of one consumer's television was not indicated. One of five consumer's property list was not kept current to reflect time date signed by staff. One of five consumer's model did not have a model/serial number included in the description for the inventory item listed, which was an electric razor purchased by a mother for her son. The serial number of the razor was located inside the razor. The auditors said it was a bit ridiculous to be here for these as they were relatively minor things.

Ms. Wagner said she was very proud of our staff with Alliant reviews. She said Administration was 100% compliant; residential was 100% compliant and day program was 100% compliant. She said the only thing they found was three areas in early intervention that was non-compliant and three that were not compliant in service coordination. She said over-all we were very pleased. She mentioned that over 50% of our personnel records were reviewed and we have 117 staff.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Bill Love

Mr. Love said they are on the last leg of our security system. They were great people to work with; they were very sensitive to our population, very accommodating and worked around our schedule. He said they are just a great group of people.

Mr. Love said Ms. Wagner mentioned that we are really growing in day program but we are also getting a lot of visitors. He said there have been a number of families requesting to come visit the program. He said a father and son from Maine came to visit the program and stated that they did not have anything like this in Maine. People are very impressed with our building, location, and some of the things we are doing. Mr. Love said he feels this is a complement to the county. He also mentioned that we pay almost \$3.00 more an hour than other boards in the state and it is because of our relationship with the county that we can do that. He said it really makes a difference when you

are asking individuals to work with a vulnerable population. You want people who want to be here, which is a real plus for us.

Mr. Love said Ms. Lindsay, who worked with the Breakers Program, had to resign to enable her to care for her mother who had taken a turn for the worse. He said, to have some stability in the program we are going to try to make the Breakers Program a part of the day program. Staff will be full time instead of part time, allocating twenty hours to the day program and 20 hours to the breakers program each week. He said it should make for a more stable program. He said we are still maintaining the numbers, around 22 to 24 individuals.

Mr. Love said we did get the grant from Palmetto Breeze and are ready to move forward on July 24, 2013. We will be meeting with families to let them know what our plans are and listen to their concerns. One family expressed some concerns and suggested that family members could volunteer to ride along until they were comfortable with it. Palmetto Breeze will be taking two, maybe three of our routes and said that is real positive for us.

VIII. POLICY/DIRECTIVES COMMITTEE REPORTS, Grace Dennis, Chair

Ms. Dennis said the policy Committee reviewed the directives listed on the agenda and asked for board approval of the directives as written. Directives were approved as submitted.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Helene Gruber, Chair

The next event will be an Ice Cream Social for the July 4th celebration. Dessert will be red, white and blue. They will have beach music indoors and mentioned that it is well planned and will be great fun. Joy Nelson, Beaufort County Information Officer, will take pictures of the event for the County Web Page.

Ms. Wirz suggested that the committee recognize people when they are in the hospital or ill by either a visit or a phone call or send a card to let them know we are thinking about them. This could include DSN staff, families and members of the Advisory Board, ABLE and Human Rights Committee. We just need to have someone make us aware of the situation.

- Personnel Committee, Jonathan Brown, Chair

Ms. Striebinger was nominated for appointment to the DSN Board by County Council, was recommended by the Human Services Committee for appointment, and should receive the final approval at the next council meeting.

- Public Relations Committee, David Green, Chair

Nothing to report.

- Goals Committee Reports

1. Communication among boards

Ms. Wagner said that Mr. Perry, who is a member of ABLE, will make a three-minute commercial to be aired on the County Channel for the Flag project and one on the sale of the ornaments. She mentioned that it would be good advertisement for us. To date we have sold 56 bricks for the Flag Project and need 62. The bricks should be installed about the first of August.

Ms. Wirz said we are trying to get together a list of all members of the ABLE Foundation, the Advisory Board and Human Rights committee, with contact information to keep everyone informed of the activities. She said it would be a voluntary list of those wishing to participate.

- 2. Grant money and fundraising

Nothing to report

- 3. Communication with County and State

Ms. Gruber mentioned that Ms. Criscuolo has taken a new position and it is a full time position so no longer is able to attend the SC Commission meetings in Columbia.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, **July 16, 2013** at 4:00 p.m. at:
Disabilities and Special Needs Department
100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906

Ms. Wagner thanked Ms. Gruber for a wonderful job serving as our board chairman through some difficult things we have had the past couple of years and the planning of all of the celebrations we have had, our Dedication Ceremony of the new facility, the ABLE Garden celebration and our board activities.

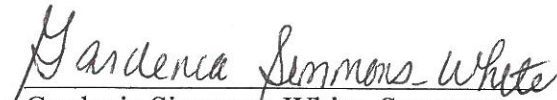
XI. ADJOURNMENT

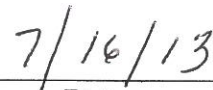
MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY ANN WIRZ TO ADJOURN THE JUNE 18, 2013 MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.


Jonathan Brown, Chairman


Date


Gardenia Simmons-White, Secretary


Date