

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD

100 Clear Water Way

Beaufort, SC 29906

April 15, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bobby Collar, Grace Dennis, David Green, Gardenia Simmons-White and Jill Striebinger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jonathan Brown, Margaret Ann Gatch, Nancy Pinkerton, Ann Wirz and Morris Campbell (Ex-officio)

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

GUESTS PRESENT: None

I. CALL TO ORDER – Bobby Collar, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Collar, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS
There were no guests present.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 18, 2014 BOARD MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY GARDENIA SIMMONS-WHITE AND SECONDED BY GRACE DENNIS TO APPROVE THE MARCH 18, 2014 MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE APRIL 15, 2014 AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY DAVID GREEN AND SECONDED BY GARDENIA SIMMONS-WHITE TO ADOPT THE APRIL 15, 2014 AGENDA AS SUBMITTED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Jonathan Brown, Chairman
Ms. Wagner said Ms. Alston, February Employee of the Month, and Bobby Scott, March Employee of the Month were not able to attend and will be added to the May agenda.

Mr. Collar stated that Mr. Brown asked that board members review the letter of recommendation for appointment of Mr. Marshall to the Advisory Board and if approved forward to County Council for approval.

MOTION WAS MADE BY GRACE DENNIS AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO APPROVE AND SUBMIT THE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION TO COUNTY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Collar mentioned that Mr. Brown said one of the board’s goals for 2014 is to have a joint board social one evening. He asked that Ms. Striebinger meet with the ABLE Foundation and Human Right Committee members to plan a date, time and menu for a social event. A pot luck was suggested with a signup sheet for items needed for the event. Several dates and times were suggested and agreed on Thursday, May 22nd from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Ms. Striebinger will notify members by email when plans are completed.

Ms. Striebinger mentioned that she was contacted by Healthlink who indicated there was a need to have autism training from the Coastal Autism Division. Ms. Wagner said Coastal Autism Division of South Carolina provides training to families at no charge and has consultants at Coastal Center. Ms. Striebinger was not sure what they were asking for from DSN. Ms. Wagner directed her to speak with Beth Odom, Early Intervention Supervisor, who could provide her with the training available by Coastal Autism.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mitzi Wagner

Ms. Cody said we received a grant from SCDOT to fund Palmetto Breeze to do two of our routes that will eliminate two of our staff from driving routes which is not the best use of their time. It also saves our vehicles and normalizes some of the consumers. They get on the same bus that others in the community get on to go to town. She said, at first, there were some concerns from the family but after the first week or so and meetings with the families before it started it has gone very well. The grant also provides training for Palmetto Breeze Drivers. The two grants will provide the funding for continuing the service for the St. Helena and for one route in Bluffton. She asked for questions and feedback. Ms. Wagner said it is a requirement of the grant to get public feedback. Ms. Cody said it has been very positive working with Palmetto Breeze. Ms. Dennis said anytime our consumers are involved with the community it is positive and the community sees the normality in it.

Dr. Buscemi, State Director, has planned several meetings to inform boards and senior management of the new relationship with DHHS and to look at what their role is going to be and changes in the waiver and the way we do business. Dr. Buscemi has planned several public meetings throughout the state. The one closest to us will be at Goodwill in North Charleston on May 6, 2014 from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. She said she plans to attend and four of our staff will attend also. She asked if any board members would like to attend.

Mr. Collar said with the increased technology we have here do you think Dr. Buscemi might be open to an onsite style conference. Ms. Wagner said she did not think she would do it unless there was a tag along with it. Ms. Wagner said she would be glad to ask if she would be willing to do that. She said she would inform members of all the dates and places of Dr. Buscemi's planned meetings and see if she would be willing to do something locally.

Ms. Wagner said on May 24 from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m. we will have an open house at Cottage Walk. She said parking is very limited at the home but parking will be available at Beaufort Academy with a shuttle to take you to the house. She said invitations have been sent out. She also thanked all of those who attended the Volunteer Appreciation Day. She said it was the best ever and had a very good turnout.

Ms. Wagner said they did a CIP (Capital Improvement Project) presentation to the County Council Members, the Finance Committee and Community Services on Friday. We had two items on their agenda. One is the Bluffton Development and the other is the repair costs for Ivy Lane. She said we need to replace the Ivy Lane home; however, repair work needs to be done because there are safety concerns about the floor in the kitchen. Some of the Community Review Teams commented on the furniture needing to be replaced. We may hold off on replacing the furniture at this time for Ivy as it may not fit if we replace the home. The Bluffton Development is a go.

Ms. Wagner said we may want to go back and look at the Waiver process during the next retreat. There seems to be a lot of questions and misunderstandings on the Waiver process. She said it is a complicated process and we need to clarify how the system works.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Bill Love

Nothing to report.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Jill Striebinger, Chair
Ms. Striebinger will meet with members of the ABLE Foundation and the Human Rights Committee to plan a social.
- Personnel Committee, Jonathan Brown, Chair
With the appointment of Mr. Marshall we still have one vacancy to fill, preferably from the Seabrook area.
- Policy Committee, Grace Dennis, Chair
Nothing to report.
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair
Mr. Green said we have been in touch with DHHS to try to find out where they are going with things and how can our Osprey Village project fit in with what they are trying to do. One of the issues was how does the whole process work? He said one of the Board members asked families from PEP if any are interested in the future in Osprey Village and send the list to DHHS to see where they are. DHHS indicated there was no one on the waiting list. He said we are trying to clarify both to ourselves and to them where this whole process goes, how the waiting list works and the Waiver system, etc.
- 2014 Goals
 1. Informing Parents, Communication with transitions, Bobby Collar, Chair
Mr. Collar said it would be extremely hard to lock down a calendar date for DSN to meet due to the audit process in southern Beaufort County. He said after the audit he would speak with Brenda Hunt and see if there would be a time we could possibly meet and share information. He said this is not a great clear answer but he would let us know just as soon as he possibly can.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

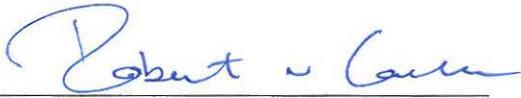
Mr. Love mentioned that the Day Program would be closed on Friday, April 25, 2014 for our annual clean up day. Programs will resume on Monday, April 28, 2014.

The next board meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 20, 2014** at 4:00 p.m. at:
Disabilities and Special Needs Department
100 Clear Water Way, Beaufort, SC 29906

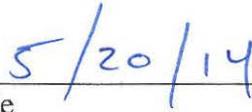
XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY DAVID GREEN AND SECONDED BY GRACE DENNIS TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 15, 2014 MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

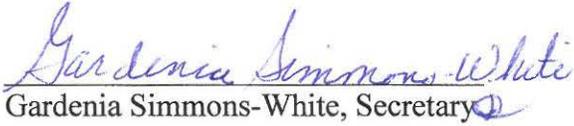
The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.



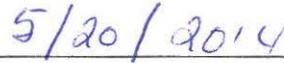
Jonathan Brown, Chairman



Date



Gardenia Simmons-White, Secretary



Date