

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD

100 Clear Water Way

Beaufort, SC 29906

April 21, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Brown, Margaret Ann Gatch, Nancy Pinkerton, George Marshall, Jill Striebinger, Ann Wirz, Grace Dennis, Gardenia Simmons-White, Morris Campbell (Ex-officio), Monica Spells

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Collar, DeWayne Frederick, David Green

STAFF PRESENT: Mitzi Wagner, Robin Krehbiel

GUESTS PRESENT: John Gatch

I. CALL TO ORDER – Jonathan Brown, Chairman
Mr. Brown called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS
Mr. Brown welcomed guests.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 17, 2015 BOARD MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY GRACE DENNIS TO APPROVE THE MARCH 17, 2015 MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE APRIL 21, 2015 AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY GARDENIA SIMMONS-WHITE AND SECONDED BY GRACE DENNIS TO ADOPT THE APRIL 21, 2015 AGENDA WITH ADDITIONS.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Jonathan Brown, Chairman
Three people got their new letters for reappointment to the Board; Jill, Nancy, and Robert. We appreciate you sticking with it so long.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mitzi Wagner
Fraser Road Update – They have completed the house. There are a few things that have not been done. We had scheduled for the Fire Marshall to come tomorrow morning to do the inspection. There were certain things we needed from the project manager and the builder (certificate of occupancy, electrical inspection, and HVAC inspection). I don't have those so I had to cancel the Fire Marshall's visit. He is very cooperative and said he will reschedule with us personally so we don't have to go back through the state which would be another 30 days. I did call the builder myself and I got the certificate of occupancy. The project manager assured me he would have staff there tomorrow to do the HVAC and electrical. Once we get that the Fire Marshall can come. Then we can get licensing to come and we will be ready to move in. The house is terrific. The house is calming. The neighborhood is calming. The outside space is terrific, especially in the back where we have a gazebo, a big table for them to eat outside and play games on. There is a ceiling fan too. I think it is a good addition and a good replacement for Ivy Lane. Fraser is down Depot Road, turn left on Jones Road, go to Burrows. It is just behind the school.

Bluffton Homes Update – Next is the Bluffton homes. That is exciting as well. We had the pre-bid conference last Thursday. We had three bidders. One is the one who did the renovations at Cottage Walk. The other two I don't know but they were very cooperative. They agreed among themselves to have their bids in by May 1st. They said once the contract is approved by the County Council they all could complete the renovations in 60 days. That was a great commitment from all three of them. I am trying to put together a group email to the parents of the people moving into those homes to keep them updated. We are planning to hold an open house at Fraser with the neighbors when we get moved in and we are going to invite you. We are also planning a cookout for the families that are moving in the Bluffton homes so they can begin to see consumers and staff and how we handle things and they can get to know us a little bit.

Volunteer Appreciation – Our Volunteer Appreciation program is Thursday from 2 – 3. Staff have done a great job planning it. They have worked real hard on it. Consumers have done some things to appreciate our volunteers as well. It will be a very nice, well-spent hour.

ABLE has received their new ornament for this year. It is a crab. They asked me to convey to you how much they would really appreciate it if you would be willing to take some to sell for them. This year it changed a bit and we had to order more ornaments than we normally order so we are going to need lots of help selling them. They are also planning a walk/run on Hunting Island. That should be in the next few months and you will be hearing more about that.

Grants from SCDDSN – This has been an exciting week in many ways. The biggest grant is one we got notice of last week. This is a back-payment from October 2012 to June 2013. What happened is SCDDSN did not pay providers like us the full rate that Medicaid had assigned. They took part of it out and used it for administrative costs. HHS and CMS audited their records and said they could not do that. You have to pay the provider the rate that we pay. SCDDSN is having to pay us back for FY2013 and in May we will get another check for FY2014. Part of the payback will go to PEP because they were underpaid as well.

Another grant we got from SCDDSN is for mobile technical equipment to be used with the new Therap system. It is a \$12,000 grant. We are working with MIS and are purchasing 14 Dell combination laptop/notebooks. We are purchasing four myfi's which help the notebook go through the internet wherever they are. We are also purchasing five scanners. The reason for all of this is because the new Therap system is a software system that is SCDDSN's answer to not having paper and pen healthcare records. All of our reporting within the next year will be on this system. Because we have people who are not in an office with wifi and a computer we had to have mobile devices so if they were in a consumer's home or a workstation (MCAS, Goodwill) they can record the information that needs to be recorded. That \$12,000 is paying for those things.

Therap – Therap has been a challenge. You have to build a blueprint for the system. We have spent a lot of time building the blueprint for us. We had to enter all of our sites, every program we run, every staff person and give them permissions and privileges for what information they have or need to have or need to input, and we have to enter every consumer we serve into the site and then connect them to the staff person. When you look at the blueprint, that is a lot of data entry and input and planning and trying to make it all work. We plan to go live Wednesday so we will see how it works.

Jonathan asked if we have heard anything about Port Royal and about new vehicles. Mitzi said she has not heard anything since they went before the Legislative Delegation. We should have heard something. We need to follow up on this. We have already received three new vehicles. Three more are coming in June. We should be getting three between now and June, not sure exactly when. They were ordered two weeks ago and there is a 45 day delivery time.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Bill Love

Bill is not here today. Hopefully he will be back Monday. He had some surgery but he is doing real well.

VIII. POLICY COMMITTEE, Grace Dennis

There were only two this month. The second one was Respite Program Standards which was just a simple word change. We have changed from persons to individuals. The other was Preventing and Responding to Suicidal Behavior. This was one of the most interesting things I have read. It was very thorough. I recommend they be approved.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee – Mr. Frederick was not here.
- Personnel Committee, Jonathan Brown, Chair – nothing to report
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair
Mr. Green was not present.
- Informing Parents, Communication with Transitions, Bobby Collar, Chair
Mr. Collar was not present.
- Nancy Pinkerton said that she and her husband were making changes in their wills and came across something where SC Legislature is amending a bill to establish SC ABLE Savings Program. This will allow individuals with disabilities and their families to save private funds to support the individual with disabilities, to provide guidelines to state treasurer for the maintenance of these accounts and to establish a savings program trust fund and savings expense trust fund and to designate the existing sections of V Title. Now if you have a trust for an individual it has to be reported annually. With this you don't have to account for it on your income tax. They are putting limits on how much you can put in it each year. Unless the state accepts this we won't have it in SC. Contact legislature and tell them please vote yes on this.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Monica Spells said that on Monday the 27th she will be at the regularly scheduled Council meeting at which time they will go over its first public hearing for the FY2016 budget for the county and school district. County administration asked all departments to hold the line items in their 2015 budgets. We really need your support at this meeting. Camp Treasure Chest is funded out. I have a request to help publicize that more this year. Council meeting starts at 5:00.

Ms. Wagner added that the consumers got back last Friday from their cruise to the Bahamas. One gentleman who is quite the entertainer got to do his Elvis and Michael Jackson impressions. He told me he did not gamble, he watched other people gamble. They had a great time.


Mr. McBride thanked the Board and staff members for the job they do. We are very proud of you. You don't always get the financial support you would like to have but we are doing the best we can. We appreciate your very hard work and effort. I believe this is probably the best board we have throughout the state.

The next board meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 19, 2015** at 4:00 p.m. at:
Disabilities and Special Needs Department
100 Clear Water Way, Beaufort, SC 29906

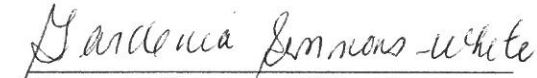
XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY GEORGE MARSHALL TO
ADJOURN THE APRIL 21ST MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 4: 05 p.m.


Jonathan Brown, Chairman

5-19-15
Date


Gardenia Simmons-White, Secretary

5/19/15
Date