

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD

100 Clear Water Way

Beaufort, SC 29906

September 15, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Brown, Margaret Ann Gatch, Grace Dennis, Gardenia Simmons-White, David Green, Lynn Russo, Nancy Pinkerton, Jill Striebinger, George Marshall

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ann Wirz, Monica Spells (Ex-officio),

STAFF PRESENT: William Love, Janice Beach

GUESTS PRESENT: John Gatch, George Pinkerton, Caleb Brown

I. CALL TO ORDER – Nancy Pinkerton, Chairman
Mrs. Pinkerton called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS
Mrs. Pinkerton welcomed our guests.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 18, 2015 BOARD MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY JILL STRIEBINGER AND SECONDED BY GRACE DENNIS TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 18, 2015 MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2015 AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY GRACE DENNIS AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO ADOPT THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2015 AGENDA WITH ADDITIONS.

V. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Nancy Pinkerton, Chairman
Mrs. Pinkerton thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers while she was out with her injury. She also thanked Ann Wirz for being such a loyal Board member for so many years. We are going to miss her because she has done so much for us. She said we are going to need more members.

Ms. Russo has a friend who is a graduate of Grove City College. She is from Pennsylvania and has been down here for 15 years. She has a special needs grandson and she has put her name in to the county for the Board. She is ready to go when she hears something. Ms. Russo also contacted Sun City and got information if we need more members. We can have a seminar or meeting there and present opportunities to the community there.

Bill introduced Caleb Brown who was present to observe the Board and may be interested in becoming a member. He and his wife started a business for at risk young males called Committed to Excellence. They are trying to make sure they are on the right path educationally and basically to see what skills they have or need to improve on. It is a push for them to graduate high school on time and go off to college or military or whatever career path they choose. They are working with middle schools and high schools and are currently working on a curriculum for elementary school level as well. His wife is the assistant to the superintendent of schools.

Bill contacted the Chancellor at USCB and told him we are interested in a student being a member of the Board. They would make a commitment to be on the Board for a year or two. That will get some young people in that have a responsibility for serving the government. They are going to get some names together for me. Monica also emailed Bill that she has a doctor from the Hilton Head area that may be interested. Grace spoke with Trudy Stevens who heads up Special Friends about joining the Board.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Bill Love

Things are going really well. I can't say enough about the staff. We have excellent staff. My issue is prioritizing what is important. I am getting a lot of things from the state and from the county.

First thing I have down is light duty. Up to this point if staff gets hurt on the job they cannot come back here to work light duty. We have to find work for them somewhere else in the county. We have a lot of Worker's Comp cases and our Worker's Comp is really high. We are going to start having light duty here. It will save us money. I have support from Monica and from Gary Kubic to do this.

DSN Priorities – We had a meeting last week with Dr. Buschemi. She reported on coming up with priorities to present to legislators. Two years ago they gave us \$11.6 million to do something with the wait list. The next year they gave us \$8 million. The concern now is that the wait list is not moving as quickly as they think they should. I just got an email saying they are going to move 100 consumers per week for the next 10 weeks. There is a real commitment to eradicate the wait list. The other issue she had was with pay. The state pays direct care workers \$9.29 per hour. That is not an issue with us because we are paid by the county. Those are two things she will be taking to the legislators.

We will begin selecting a Deputy Director in the next couple of weeks. I want to have someone from the Board to be a part of the interview process. Ms. Russo volunteered to sit in on the interviews. She has previous experience in this process. Mr. Marshall told Bill that it would be good if he gets to make the decision on someone and it not be tied to the qualifications. We want someone with a strong business background. Gardenia suggested using members who have been here longer because of their knowledge of what is going on.

There are a lot of changes with the United Way. They have redefined the cycle for receiving money. They have gone to a two year cycle. Erin and I have been meeting with them.

At our meeting next month, with your permission, I would like to invite Erin to come talk about Case Management and the number of consumers coming into the system. I want people to understand that things change weekly, they change monthly. The numbers are really changing and increasing. It is going to continue to do so. We are going to see a lot more consumers coming in in the next few months.

Educating families is important in the DD world. The state wants consumers out and involved in the community. They do not want them sitting in the Day Program. We need to balance individuals in the program.

I received a letter from the Department of Labor. They want to get rid of the subminimum wage. 58% of our consumers are working and making subminimum wage. Please read over and support us – make comments. If we lose subminimum wage we lose job opportunities for people who are not high functioning.

Bluffton Homes – Pinecrest is 68-69% complete. I am telling families we should be ready to move in by December. Hopefully by November things will be completed for the Pinecrest home. Lakes Crossing is only 5-7% finished. I have had several calls about the houses. A family wanted to buy a home next to one of our houses and asked what kind of people would be living there. An attorney for the Home Owners Association called Gary Kubic. I talked to him and he asked the same question. People are concerned it will lower property value.

My goals – My goals are to continue to manage growth. We are getting a lot of waivers with people transferring from other Boards and people moving to the area. We are going to change our mission statement to shorten it.

ABLE – Nancy lost her son-in-law. They asked for donations to be made to ABLE. We received almost \$1100 for ABLE.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Bill Love
The Deputy Director’s position is being advertised.

VIII. POLICY COMMITTEE, Grace Dennis
There were no policies to review this month.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee – We will be needing a new Hospitality chair with Ms. Wirz leaving.
- Personnel Committee, Jonathan Brown, Chair – We are down two members with Ms. Wirz leaving.
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair
Mr. Green said he and Jill have been meeting with Senator Tom Davis on occasion for specific issues. One of our Osprey Village Board members is hosting an evening reception for him on Hilton Head Island on September 28th from 4-6 pm if anyone would like to come. He has not heard anything from the Legislative Committee on the resolution for Port Royal. Mr. Green went to the last local delegation meeting at the end of July and asked them to please follow up on that. Representative Shannon Erickson is going to make sure a consideration is made that the money for Port Royal should stay here to purchase new facilities.
- Informing Parents, Communication with Transitions, Vacant, Chair
We need a new chair for this committee. Lynn was asked to fill this position.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board retreat is usually in October. Discussion was had on what issues we would want to be covered by speakers. Bill will try to find speakers with target dates for October 23, 30th or November 6th. Ms. Russo was put in charge planning for the meal.

Caleb Brown asked about a new program that was started in the Day Program. Bill explained that it is called Branches and it is fashioned after Breakers. People in Breakers do not have a waiver and are waiting on a waiver. The people in Branches wanted to have some of the outings and be involved in the community but they didn’t want to come to the Day Program. We have about 9 people. They do have waivers.

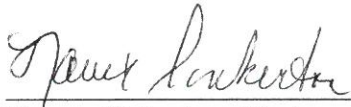
The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. at:

Disabilities and Special Needs Department
100 Clear Water Way, Beaufort, SC 29906

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY DAVID GREEN AND SECONDED BY JILL STRIEBINGER TO ADJOURN THE SEPTEMBER 15TH MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.



Nancy Pinkerton, Chairman

10-30-2015

Date



Jill Striebinger, Secretary

10-30-2015

Date