

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD  
100 Clear Water Way  
Beaufort, SC 29906  
February 20, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pamela Brandon-Hennigh, Terry Gibson, David Green, Marcia Metzger, Frankie Middleton, Nancy Pinkerton, Lynn Russo, Jane Sidwell, Gardenia Simmons-White, Monica Spells (Ex-officio)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Grace Dennis, Gregory Hall

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Love, Wanda Mayse, Janice Beach, Beth Cody

GUESTS PRESENT: Mr. Pinkerton, Alice Howard

I. CALL TO ORDER – Nancy Pinkerton, Chairman

Mrs. Pinkerton called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS

Mrs. Pinkerton welcomed our guests.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 16, 2018 BOARD MEETING

MRS. PINKERTON ASKED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 16, 2018 MINUTES. A MOTION WAS MADE BY PAMELA BRANDON-HENNIGH AND SECONDED BY MARCIA METZGER TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2018 AGENDA

MRS. PINKERTON ASKED FOR A MOTION TO ADOPT THE FEBRUARY 20, 2018 AGENDA. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JANE SIDWELL AND SECONDED BY LYNN RUSSO TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Nancy Pinkerton, Chairman

Mrs. Pinkerton asked our new member to tell us a little about herself. Ms. Gibson said she has done a lot of volunteer work. She has lived here nine years. She has served on the Senior Services Board Council on Aging, has helped with Meals on Wheels, and she has been a social worker for many years. Ms. Gibson said she quit that and went back to school and became a professor of social work for many years. In Louisiana she worked for six years with Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services for the state. Everyone went around the table and introduced themselves.

Mrs. Pinkerton said it is time for proclamations for Disabilities Awareness Month to be picked up at various Council meetings. She asked for volunteers to go to the meetings to pick up the proclamations. Following is the list of meetings and volunteers:

City of Beaufort	Terry Gibson
Town of Port Royal	Frankie Middleton
Town of Bluffton	Lynn Russo
Hilton Head Town Council	Nancy Pinkerton
Beaufort County Council	Gardenia Simmons-White

#### VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT –Bill Love

Mr. Love began by saying how much he appreciates the Board and he appreciates the call from Ms. Pamela Brandon. He said all of you are ambassadors and if you hear anything out in the community about a person with disabilities please let us know.

SCDOT Grant – Beth Cody said that every year we apply to South Carolina Department of Transportation for grants to support our collaboration with Palmetto Breeze to transport some of our consumers to the work site or to the Day Program. There are four routes (two North of the Broad and two South of the Broad). Part of the grant process is to tell my Board in a public forum and have it in the minutes that we have applied for the SCDOT grant. We have applied for the SCDOT grant.

Mr. Love said there is a lot going on with the state. What happens in Washington also affects the state. The federal government has a Final Rule. It says that for every consumer we are responsible for Medicaid wants to make sure that they live in environments and communities that they are integrated, they have choices, and they are allowed to have guests in their homes. Nothing can look like they are institutionalized. Everything that you have in your home, the federal government is telling us we have to do the same for the consumers. The new Secretary of Health and Human Services did increase the number of years we have to come into compliance, but we still have to come into compliance. They will come out and monitor for compliance.

Mr. Love said he wanted to share with you about the alleged assault case that you probably saw in the paper. A consumer with an SLP placement made allegations of assault. We have spent a lot of time and effort supporting this person. We contacted Hope Haven, we have worked with family members, and we have changed her place of residency. Whatever she needs to feel protected we have done. She is being well taken care of.

Ms. Spells added that due to the matter now being part of a criminal nature and out of respect for the consumer's privacy, no additional comments should be made during the public meeting; and that board members wishing to receive additional information should request an executive session on the agenda at the next board meeting.

February is Vulnerable Adult Awareness month. This is a South Carolina initiative. In South Carolina we are seeing a lot more vulnerable adults and children in our system. There is abuse, exploitation, and sexual assault. The DSN numbers are low but in nursing homes and daycares the numbers are high. The state has given us the proclamation but also a curriculum that all new employees must see and sign off on.

The Board requested training about trust funds. Someone will be coming to talk to us about trusts to explain how it will benefit consumers. We will invite parents and consumers. They are going to talk about the ABLE trust fund and about money. Under ABLE you are allowed to have \$11,000 instead of \$2,000 but you have to open an account. Ms. Mayse said that we have only enrolled two consumers so far because there is some resistance from some of the parents because they don't understand it so the training will be helpful. Some trusts are specifically used for the individual and some are group trusts so if something happened to the individual the money would go to the benefit of the survivors that are members and some parents are opposed to that. Mr. Love said he would like to offer the training two or three times a year.

Mr. Love showed a picture of the Gerber Baby with Downs Syndrome who is the Spokes baby of the Year.

The last thing Mr. Love shared is that our three houses are doing well. We got a call today from the contractors about paint and colors which is the next step when you are ready to move forward. We also have a settlement on the fourth house. The other big news is that our budget was approved. They said it is easy to support DSN because we do good work and we have a good budget presentation.

## VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Wanda Mayse

Residential Development – There are three more that are pending in addition to the three homes and the one other home to bring people back to the area. One of the models that the state pushes because there is not much overhead is a CTH I, which is like a foster home situation. We have two of those that are in process and then an SLP I, which is Nancy's daughter. Those are easier because we don't have to provide the home. We just have to provide the staff. These individuals are more independent.

Survey Results - Ms. Mayse reported that she still does not have the actual data from the satisfaction surveys. She had hoped to have that today but was unable to finish it. Ms. Mayse said she will have a tally by the next Board meeting. Of the surveys received, they have been mostly favorable.

Healthy Choices – We have consulted with a nutritionist. One of the compliance issues we have to address is the health of the individuals we support. Part of that healthy living is how they eat. A nutritionist is working with staff members to increase their knowledge and help them have a healthier lifestyle that can transcend to the care and training they provide to the consumers. We just finished up a 10 or 12 week program with 12 consumers. Overall they lost 51 pounds and that was with a couple of them

gaining. There are twenty staff members on the program for one month and they have collectively lost 45 pounds. The young lady is very committed and doing a very good job. Mr. Love added that as our population ages, in addition to the nutritionist and dietician we are going to need an occupational therapist.

VII. POLICY COMMITTEE - Grace Dennis

Ms. Dennis was not present at the meeting.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Lynn Russo – Nothing
- Personnel Committee, Lynn Russo, Chair – Nothing
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair – Nothing

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Brandon said that the House passed a bill last week attacking the ADA. They are trying to gut it and reverse it. She also mentioned that there is no “month” for epilepsy awareness. Her daughter has Petit Mal epilepsy. The month for epilepsy is November and the color is purple.

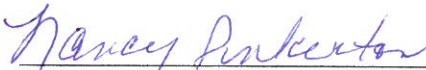
The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. at:

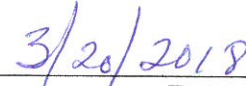
Disabilities and Special Needs Department  
100 Clear Water Way, Beaufort, SC 29906


X. ADJOURNMENT


MOTION WAS MADE BY LYNN RUSSO AND SECONDED BY GARDENIA SIMMONS-WHITE TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup> MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

  
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Nancy Pinkerton, Chairman

  
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Date

  
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Gardenia Simmons-White, Vice-Chairman

  
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Date