

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD  
100 Clear Water Way  
Beaufort, SC 29906  
April 17, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Blok, Pamela Brandon-Hennigh, Grace Dennis, Terry Gibson, David Green, Gregory Hall, Nancy Pinkerton, Lynn Russo, Jane Sidwell, Gardenia Simmons-White, Monica Spells (Ex-officio)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Frankie Middleton

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Love, Wanda Mayse, Janice Beach, Cherie Scoggins

GUESTS PRESENT: Beth Dennis

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 MARCH 20, 2018 BOARD MEETING

MRS. PINKERTON ASKED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 20, 2018 MINUTES. A MOTION WAS MADE BY LYNN RUSSO AND SECONDED BY GRACE DENNIS TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE APRIL 17, 2018 AGENDA

MRS. PINKERTON ASKED FOR A MOTION TO ADOPT THE APRIL 17, 2018 AGENDA. A MOTION WAS MADE BY DAVID GREEN AND SECONDED BY LYNN RUSSO TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA WITH TWO ADDITIONS. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Nancy Pinkerton, Chairman

Mrs. Pinkerton announced that we have a new board member. Dr. Robert Blok was born and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is married and lives in Palmetto Dunes, Hilton Head. He has a BA in Psychology-Chemistry, MS in Forensic Science, a medical degree, and several masters. He served in the US Army Medical Corps for 30 years in command positions all over the US. He is a retired Colonel in the US Army Medical Corps. He was Associate Chief of Staff for Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Charlotte, NC. He was a US Army/NASA alternate astronaut candidate in 1980 and he served five combat tours to Iraq and Afghanistan. Dr. Blok has worked with the Beaufort County Sheriff's Department Cold Case Investigation team and is a member of several military organizations. He is also a candidate for Beaufort County Council, District 11 (South Hilton Head Island).

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

Mr. Love started the meeting by saying that April is Autism Awareness Month. He passed out information about Autism. He expressed to the Board how much he really appreciates all of them and that they are a great Board.

Mr. Love stated that billing rates for Case Management are being reduced by 55%. Changes at the Federal level trickles down to us. There is a group that will be going to the different Boards in South Carolina to find out why some boards are out performing others. Mr. Love requested that we be included in that group. Financial Advisors are going around the state looking at how people are practicing their financial issues. Beaufort is in a good position.

Mr. Love said that the County is in the process of changing how we assess and evaluate employees. Until now performance evaluations were not of any value regarding compensation. The new program is connected with raises. The County has five mandatory competencies and for next year we can choose five more that more closely relate to our department. Mr. Love read the list of competencies and the weight for each one. Evaluations are due May 15<sup>th</sup> for all employees. Ms. Spells said that the performance evaluations are now tied to compensation. Ms. Mayse said she feels the new system will help with recruitment and retention.

Update on Live Oaks – Mr. Love said that he sent out letters to staff, parents, everybody, about the situation at Live Oaks. There was a County Council meeting two weeks ago and only ten people showed up. He was disappointed and hurt that staff did not show up. We have got to support things like this. The County can lose Federal money if we are discriminated against. The lawyer agreed to back off. Now the association sent a letter saying the porch has to be a certain size and some other adjustments have to be made, which we can do. Mr. Love read a statement that is in the Holocaust Museum in DC about not speaking up.

Mr. Love said it was voted that the DDSN position will not become a cabinet level position. This is a plus to some but not to others.

Mr. Love said that he and the business manager met with County Council yesterday and asked them to approve a resolution for transportation. Last year we received \$100,000 from the Department of Transportation. They require us to have a policy saying we do not discriminate against anyone. The Council accepted it and it will be voted on at the next full county meeting.

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

Ms. Mayse told the Board that we are continuing to transition for the moves to the new homes. We are making the homes more functional for the individuals living in them. Some homes will be high needs because of medical issues and some because of behavior issues. We will have some where there will be minimal monitoring because they can function on

their own without a lot of monitoring. We are sending letters to families to let them know that this is happening. Some of the families are stressed out because their family members will have to move. We have spent a lot of time talking about it with each other and with the individuals. Staff members are stressed out because they will be placed at different places. We are being sensitive to that. They won't be changing shifts, just where they will be working. For some of them it will be a benefit because now we can move staff to a home that is closer to their homes.

We are still having challenges with staffing. I found out at the state level that is not unique to Beaufort. The healthcare industry itself is having challenges with recruiting. We have some ideas on how we can make it more attractive.

Ms. Mayse said we are looking at a partnership with a group called Best Buddies. This is a national organization that has not moved into this area yet. It is someone with typical development working with someone with development issues. We are working with her to get involved with our consumers.

Ms. Mayse said we are continuing to work on contractual agreements. There are not a lot of professional service providers that are comfortable providing services to our population. We are talking to a physical therapist. We started with a nutritionist and that has worked out well.

Ms. Mayse went to a conference last week. Some of the bills that were discussed were:

- Telemedicine Bill - Passed
- Pharmacy Bill - Passed
- Minimum Wage Bill - Did not pass
- Cabinet Level Position - Did not pass
- Video Monitoring - Did not pass
- Nursing Home Staffing - Did not pass
- Vulnerable Adult - Did not pass

#### VII. POLICY COMMITTEE - Grace Dennis

Ms. Dennis said there were no policies to review for this month.

#### VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Lynn Russo – Making preparations for the grand opening ceremonies for some time in August.
- Personnel Committee, Lynn Russo, Chair – Nothing
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair – Attending Legislative Delegation meeting in May.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Hall invited the board to attend a Safety Summit that will be held Thursday from 6pm – 7:30pm at the Lady’s Island Middle School to address how to improve safety measures in our community.

The Board discussed changing the date of our next meeting to May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the day of the Legislative Delegation meeting so that they could attend both. Once we find out the time of the delegation meeting we will notify the Board.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at:

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

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY GRACE DENNIS AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Nancy Pinkerton  
Nancy Pinkerton, Chairman

5/22/2018  
Date

Gardenia Simmons-White  
Gardenia Simmons-White, Vice-Chairman

4/19/18  
Date