

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD
100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906
February 18, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wendy Bukowski, Grace Dennis, David Green, Nancy Pinkerton, Lynn Russo, Gardenia Simmons-White, Andy Thacker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Pamela Brandon-Hennigh, Frankie Middleton, Monica Spells (Ex-officio)

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

GUESTS PRESENT: STARS – Mr. & Mrs. Jaudon

I. CALL TO ORDER – Lynn Russo, Chairman

Ms. Russo called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS

Ms. Russo welcomed STARS. Ms. Jaudon said she was born and raised in Port Wentworth, Georgia. She retired from Southern Bell after 30 years as the employment manager. After retirement I was the Volunteer Coordinator for the American Cancer Society in Myrtle Beach. I also ran one of the Myrtle Beach area Chamber of Commerce visitor centers and was the community liaison for that. I volunteered with the Special Olympics swim team called the Hammerhead Sharks. While with them the kids kept saying they didn't have anything to do. I went under the Beaufort Recreation Department and mirrored a program called SOAR to create the STARS program which stands for Special Times and Recreation Services. One of my first meetings was with Bill Love to let him know what I wanted to do and I didn't want to interfere with any programs he had. He has been very supportive. We started this in May of 2018. It takes a while to get things going. Some of the activities we have are swimming, bowling, golf, basketball, fishing, yoga, karate, and dances.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2019 BOARD MEETING

A MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2020 AGENDA

A MOTION WAS MADE BY WENDY BUKOWSKI AND SECONDED BY NANCY PINKERTON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Lynn Russo, Chairman

Ms. Russo asked the Board members to sign up to go to county and town council meetings to pick up proclamations for Disabilities Awareness Month. They volunteered as follows:

City of Beaufort	Andy Thacker/Lynn Russo	March 24
Town of Port Royal	Bill Love	March 11
Town of Bluffton	Lynn Russo	March 17
Town of Hilton Head	Nancy Pinkerton	March 17
Beaufort County Council	Gardenia Simmons-White	March 23

Ms. Russo discussed the importance of Board members helping on the Community Review Teams where you go out and review the DSN homes. It is done quarterly and you visit two or three homes. It only takes about an hour to an hour and a half. We are trying to make the Board more visible in the community. Please contact Robin Krehbiel at 255-6309 if you can help with this.

Ms. Russo reminded everyone to please let Ms. Beach know if you are not going to attend the meetings so that we will know whether or not we will have a quorum.

Once we get a date we will begin to plan an open house for the new homes that have been built. We can start here with a speaker and a program then take people on a tour of the homes. We will invite state directors, legislators, County Council members, elected officials, etc.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT –Bill Love

Mr. Love passed out a card with our mission statement printed on it. He read the statement to the Board members. This is what the Final Rule is. Every staff meeting we have, we start with the mission statement. Our new County Administrator is very strong and capable and she is making changes. She is requiring every department to have a budget book. This is what Beth has been working on. It is due this Friday.

Mr. Love said there are a lot of changes at the state level. I have encouraged staff to go to as many trainings as they can. The biggest change is probably the fee for service. There are a lot of changes with Medicaid. They won't cover some things that were covered before.

Mr. Love congratulated Cherie Scoggins for becoming the new Early Intervention/Case Manager director. She is replacing Beth Odom who retired in January. We can already feel a positive difference in the short time she has been in this position. Wanda Mayse finished the Leadership program she was attending.

Mr. Love said the Day Program is changing from a classroom setting to having stations. The consumers will have a choice of three places of where they want to go during the day. We made a change with the Branches program from three days to two days. We were spending a lot of time driving just to pick up three people and it is not cost effective. We increased the hours on Saturday.

Ms. Cody presented a brief synopsis of our 2020 approved budget vs the 2021 proposed budget. The greatest difference is that we are not buying any houses this year. The only other change is that consumers are now county employees so their salary is included in this budget. We are also budgeting for replacement of vehicles.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Wanda Mayse

Ms. Mayse said we have opened a café in the Day Program on Saturday afternoons from 1-6 for consumers to have a place to go and socialize with each other. It has been open for about two weeks now. This is a place they can come and have a good time and be themselves. We have games for them to play and music for those who like to dance. We serve coffee, tea, and water or soda and have some snacks for a minimal cost. The money that is made is funneled back into the café for supplies. We will have an official grand opening at a later date.

Ms. Mayse said that we are still very short staffed and we are not getting any applications. We still have three consumers at Port Royal that we are going to move to a rental so we can turn Port Royal over to the state.

VIII. POLICY/DIRECTIVES COMMITTEE – Grace Dennis, Chair

There were no policies to review.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Wendy Bukowski, Chair – Ms. Bukowski had nothing to report
- Personnel Committee, Lynn Russo, Chair – Nothing to report
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair – Nothing to report. Asked when the next Legislative Delegation meeting is going to be. We will find out.

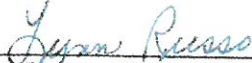
X. PUBLIC COMMENT

XI. The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 beginning at 4:00 p.m. at:

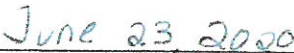
Disabilities and Special Needs Department
100 Clear Water Way, Beaufort, SC 29906

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY ANY THACKER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:00 PM.




Lynn Russo, Chairman



Date



Nancy Pinkerton, Vice-Chairman



Date