

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD
100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906
August 17, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pamela Brandon-Hennigh, Wendy Bukowski, Lynn Russo

MEMBERS ABSENT: Priscilla Drake, David Green, Frankie Middleton, Nancy Pinkerton, Andy Thacker, Audra Antonacci (Ex-officio)

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Love, Janice Beach, Beth Cody, Cherie Scoggins (virtually), Terry Geitner, Wanda Mayse, Mary Frame

GUESTS PRESENT: Council Member York Glover (by telephone)

I. CALL TO ORDER – Lynn Russo, Chairman

Ms. Russo called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS

Ms. Russo welcomed Mr. Glover.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15, 2021 BOARD MEETING

A QUORUM WAS NOT PRESENT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2021.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE AUGUST 17, 2021 AGENDA

A QUORUM WAS NOT PRESENT TO ADOPT THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING ON AUGUST 17, 2021.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Lynn Russo, Chairman

Ms. Russo asked the Board members present if they wished to continue to meet in person or to go back to virtual. Those members present wish to meet in person. This will be revisited when we have a quorum.

Ms. Russo asked if other DSN homes were part of an HOA or POA and if they are following the covenant of the association. This needs to be done to be in compliant with the rules of the association.

Grace Dennis has decided to step down as a Board member due to mobility issues. Ms. Russo would like for the Board to do something for her like what was done for Ms. Gardenia Simmons-White. Ms. Dennis has been on the board for a long time. Mr. Love said he would take care of it.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT –Bill Love

Budget Update – Beth Cody said we are only one month into fiscal year 22 so her report will only reflect the month of July. The county is collapsing some programs so some of the numbers may be different. Another change for this fiscal year is Day Program is fee for service so they are being paid retrospectively. That is why the revenue looks very small in Day Program because it only reflects one month of retrospective service. SCDDSN is planning on Residential starting fee for service January 1. Mr. Love said because of Ms. Cody having budget meetings with each department, they have a better understanding of how the money is being spent. Mr. Geitner added that fee for service is also about educating the families of those out in the community too. The family has to understand that they can't pick up their child early because they were in the area or they can't bring them in late. We have five hours of service we can bill for.

Mr. Love said that staff are under a lot of stress due to Covid-19. We are trying to be sensitive to it. Mr. Love has asked the new HR director to reinforce that there is help.

Mr. Love said we have been getting in some applications. We have started back up with having job fairs at SC Works. We had the first one last month and hope to be able to do this once a month.

The state is having the same issues we are having with all the changes in waivers, changes in policy, etc. They have narrowed down the search for a new director to three candidates.

ABLE is sponsoring a carwash on September 17th from 9-4 at Tidal Wave Car Wash on Sams Point Road on Ladys Island. Tidal Wave has agreed to give 50% of what they make to ABLE. A group of consumers will be going out there throughout the day. Please urge everyone to participate

Terry Geitner and Cherie Scoggins will be going out speaking to different agencies about DSN to try to educate them about what we do at DSN.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Wanda Mayse

Ms. Mayse said we are in hurricane season. We are hoping we will not have to evacuate but we are getting ready. Staffing is looking better. We have some new staff and are getting new applications. I am hopeful by the end of September we will have a more stable workforce.

The census is stable at this time. We have one possible discharge but we can easily fill any vacancies.

Day Program – Mr. Geitner said our main priority is safety for consumers and staff. We have the same protocols still in place following everything for safety measures and sanitation. Out of 9 classrooms we have 6 open with 7-8 individuals in each room. We have 45 individuals on work contracts. We just lost a contract with Coastal Knitting due to new ownership but we are keeping the doors open. We have a garden in the back. We have had green bell peppers, tomatoes, and a watermelon. Pet Therapy wants to start back up in October or November. We hope to have approval on the city building downtown today.

Case Management – Ms. Scoggins said she has one case manager resign. She will deconflict the case load and moving forward case managers cannot provide case management to an individual that receives direct services billed by the same organization. Case Managers are doing well with meeting productivity and are working with families to help facilitate changes that may need assistance during this pandemic – lots of changes.

Early Intervention – Ms. Scoggins said we are the only agency in Beaufort county presently taking new referrals. We get approximately 17 per month. Most Early Interventionists are meeting productivity and they continue to improve. We did have an EI out for an extended period of time due to COVID. Early Interventionists are continuing to work with families to provide Family Training and Service Coordination.

VIII. POLICY/DIRECTIVES COMMITTEE – Grace Dennis, Chair

Mrs. Dennis has resigned. We will need to appoint a new committee Chair.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Wendy Bukowski, Chair –Nothing to report
- Personnel Committee, Lynn Russo, Chair – Nothing to report
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair – Absent

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

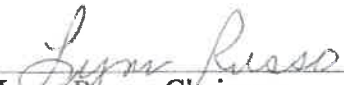
Mr. Love said he will schedule a meeting for September since we did not have a quorum today.

XI. The next board meeting will be held on TBD:

**100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906**

XII. ADJOURNMENT

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 3:00 PM.



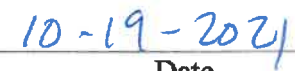
Lynn Russo, Chairman



Date



Nancy Pinkerton, Vice-Chairman



Date