

SOUTH CAROLINA AUTISM SOCIETY

Minutes

Board of Directors

January 31, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Hock
Mark Hoffman
Becky Hughes
Vernon Jackman
Susan Kastner
Margaret Moore
Kelly Nash
Joyce Nielsen
Susie Tolson*
Roy Williams

*denotes phone participation

STAFF PRESENT

Kim Thomas, President and CEO

MEMBERS ABSENT

Renee Collins
Walter Jenner
Julie M. Kellett
Richie Maldonado
Brooke Thomas

Call to Order

Joyce Nielsen called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. A quorum was declared.

Approval of Agenda

Roy Williams made a motion to approve the agenda. Margaret Moore seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from 11/15/14 mtg.

Mark Hoffman made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Robert Hock should be deleted from the roll marked present. Vernon Jackman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Legislative Update

Kim Thomas reported that we are working to increase the PSP proviso money to \$500,000. There is a lot going on with Ryan's Law. The language is changing. We will endorse this and support it. There has been a new CMS ruling for ABA services to be provided through Medicaid. This, however, only provides for line therapy with no lead therapist to oversee the therapy. Kim will address legislators to represent SCAS families' service interests as a first priority.

Treasurer's Report

Joyce Nielsen was concerned that we have balloon payments coming up. Harry Langley stated that our current liabilities include construction loan payments which need to be refinanced. Kim Thomas will find out what we need to do. Hopefully, we may be able to get a lower interest rate. Harry Langley reported that we now have a monthly package that goes to Kim and is gone over by the Finance Committee.

Director's Report

Kim Thomas reported on grants. We got our own money from DDSN to cover respite and family support. We received \$34,000 for six months. Kim is gathering information to see if this is enough. If not, she will go back to DDSN and ask for more. We still have the Teaching Toybox grant. We need more money for the Information and Referral grant and will ask DDSN for that. We applied for two more grants with DDSN. One was funded and one was declined. We received \$27,750, but do not know which grant this amount funded yet. Service coordination continues to grow. We are trying to keep our quality up as growth continues. We had a review in December with a 92% rating. DDSN's system is changing to TherAp, which means our entire reporting system is going to change. Special events and outreach highlights can be found in the Director's Report (attached). Kim highlighted training for EMS/Police on May 19-21. Jed Baker will be the keynote speaker for the conference at Saluda Shoals. PSP mentors are staying very busy. Kim noted that some areas had to be redesigned to cover Dawn Thomas' area. Roy Williams suggested hiring a new person, especially for the busy IEP season. Regarding PR and Marketing, the website is much better.

New Business

Committees

The Governance Committee will rewrite the descriptions for everyone's job on the board. These descriptions will be a lot more detailed. This committee is still working on the bylaws and the CEO evaluation. They will complete an interim evaluation soon, with a more detailed evaluation at the end of the year. Joyce Nielsen will email job descriptions to us. They will have a commitment sign off.

The Finance Committee is working to make sure that we have all the reports that we should. We may need to work two months prior because numbers sometimes change. The timing of the reports may need to change. Deadlines should be put in place for Harry Langley to submit his reports.

The Marketing and Fundraising Committee will be up and running. Kelly Nash will meet with Kim today after the board meeting.

Robert Hock will confer with Joyce Nielsen regarding the Service Innovation Committee.

Conference Calls/Phone in for meetings

A concern was made about board members calling in for board meetings. Roy Williams stated that there are times when this cannot be helped. A suggestion was made that perhaps we should update the phone system or consider using Skype. We need better microphones. Roy also spoke about video conferencing and looking into that for us. Robert Hock suggests addressing attendance in the bylaws.

Ongoing Business

ASA

ASA wants us to sign an affiliate agreement with them. We need to work toward becoming a separate entity, which will involve a lot of work. Susan Kastner made a motion to sign the ASA affiliate agreement per our trademark agreement for one year. Mark Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Other

Robert Hock suggests that we have a board retreat to work on long range plans for SCAS. He will work with Joyce on this.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.