

SOUTH CAROLINA AUTISM SOCIETY

Minutes

Board of Directors

August 29, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Hock
Mark Hoffman
Becky Hughes
Walter Jenner*
Margaret Moore
Kelly Nash
Joyce Nielsen
Brooke Thomas
Susie Tolson
Roy Williams

*denotes phone participation

MEMBERS ABSENT

Renee Collins
Vernon Jackman
Susan Kastner

STAFF PRESENT

Kim Thomas, President and CEO

Call to Order

Joyce Nielsen called the meeting to order at 10:02 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 5/09/15 mtg.

Mark Hoffman made a motion to approve the minutes as amended with a correction on line 2 under Director's Report. It should read Teaching Toy Box instead of Teacher Toy Box. Margaret Moore seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Gary Lemel, DDSN Commissioner

Gary represents the 5th district which includes us. He wants to meet the people he represents and wants us to let him know what's going right or wrong. If we have any questions, Gary wants us to contact him.

Legislative Update

Kim Thomas reported that we did receive the increase for the Parent School Partnership program. Kim is also working on an Autism Awareness Day at the State House in April as a thank you. The Ryan's Law change did not go through this session, but it is not dead. It could still go through.

Treasurer's Report

Harry Langley reported that we are doing very well financially. We have good income and a strong bank balance.

Director's Report

There was a decrease in I&R from DDSN. However we received an increase in the Teaching Toybox. We received the same amount for summer support funds as last year. However, we were still able to help many families. We are now getting our own respite and family support funds which has been so much easier. We are able to get funds approved and to families quicker. We are applying for two more grants. Kim would like to create a lab in Greenville like the one here in Columbia. Kim is talking with someone about possibly contracting services for help with fundraising. Regarding service coordination, there was an increase from 1440 cases last quarter to 1503 cases now. Although summers are slower for the parent mentors, they stayed busy all summer. There were 14 workshops offered in the past six months. We are consulting with six school districts in the state. We have a new partnership with Edventure here in Columbia. We will be offering a twelve week cooking class for people up to age 21. Next summer, we will offer 6-8 camps for kids on the spectrum through Edventure. We want families and professionals to know about the lab here in the Columbia office. A copy of the Director's Report is attached.

Ongoing Business

CEO Training

Joyce Nielsen will look into this for Kim. Kim would like to look into the one at Columbia College. This will be addressed at the next meeting.

ASA

Kim will ask Erik Norton to attend our next meeting to talk to the board about our decision regarding ASA.

Board Retreat

Joyce suggested that we hire a facilitator for the retreat. Brooke Thomas suggested using the Lake Carolina Lake House and will look into it. Rob Hock will check into a facilitator. We are looking at February or March for the retreat. The retreat will be used for strategic planning in order to have a clear direction for the future of SCAS.

Walt Jenner announced the Low Country Autism Forum on September 19. Joyce Nielsen announced that Julie Kellett and Richie Maldonado resigned from the board.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky L. Hughes