

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD

100 Clear Water Way

Beaufort, SC 29906

November 18, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Brown, Grace Dennis, DeWayne Frederick, Margaret Ann Gatch, David Green, Nancy Pinkerton, George Marshall, Jill Striebinger, Ann Wirz, Morris Campbell (Ex-officio)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Collar, Gardenia Simmons-White

STAFF PRESENT: Mitzi Wagner, Bill Love, Robin Krehbiel, Janice Beach

GUESTS PRESENT: John and Trey Gatch

I. CALL TO ORDER – Jonathan Brown, Chairman  
Mr. Brown called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS  
Mr. Brown welcomed Mr. Gatch and Trey Gatch.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2014 BOARD MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2014 MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2014 AGENDA  
Ms. Wagner said she would like to add to her report the following items:  
~Letter going to Commissioners  
~Port Royal goals  
~County Council meeting on December 8, 2014

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY JILL STRIEBINGER TO ADOPT THE NOVEMBER 18, 2014 AGENDA AS AMENDED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Jonathan Brown, Chairman

Jonathan stated a great job was done at Retreat and to applaud all who attended. He said we need ideas on how to get more members of County Council to attend. He stated Board needs to look at what was accomplished at Retreat and work towards achieving goals that were set. A copy of 2015 goals was handed out to members. Ms. Wagner suggested to Board to vote on goals set and look at how to achieve goals. Goals set at retreat were, to continue with communication of local priorities to Disabilities Commissions and Legislators and its ongoing goals, maximize collaborative efforts of services and programs, and continue to develop outreach and education for aging out school students, aging caregivers or those who need 24/7 care in regards to life transitions. Mr. Brown stated Board will look at goals at next meeting and discuss ways to achieve goals.

MOTION WAS MADE BY JONATHAN BROWN AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO ACCEPT GOALS MADE AT BOARD RETREAT ON OCTOBER 24, 2014. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mitzi Wagner

Ms. Wagner said two homes in Bluffton have been purchased. A visit to both homes has been planned for Monday October 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. One home is located at Lawton Station at Lakes Crossing and the other home is located at Pinecrest. Ms. Wagner said Ivy Lane replacement has been approved to be purchased, home is located on 34 Frazier Road. She stated current owner has removed insides of home and is in process of rebuilding to ADA specifications.

Ms. Wagner stated last week BCDSN had ALLIANT review, which is SCDDSN Contract Compliance Review organization which comes once per year. She said last year review was 98%, this year review was Administration 100%, Day Program 100%, Residential 100%, Early Intervention 100 % and Service Coordination had a few errors. She was hopeful for 98% again this year.

Ms. Wagner stated BCDDSN is seeing some increase in revenue from SCDDSN which will come at a good time due to a 15 passenger van needs to be replaced, along with additional things. She said this revenue is a result of mandates between SCDDSN and Health and Human Services that providers get fee that Medicaid paid for services delivered. In past administrative costs were taken out, now these funds have to be paid back. She said funds will be paid to BCDDSN directly.

Ms. Wagner stated BCDSN has an internal Transportation Committee who is looking at finding ways to replace passenger vans. She said First Vehicle maintenance department will be meeting with committee to look at best kind of vehicles for replacement and to have a plan for replacement which would provide best overall safety. Mr. Love stated consumers are coming in with larger electrical wheelchairs which are the biggest issue with lifts on vans.

Ms. Wagner read letter which will be presented to Commissioners on November 20<sup>th</sup>. She said there are two organizations made up of Executive Directors who serve Boards across the state, she is in both organizations. Ms. Wagner stated the newer group founded has made the most difference to State.

Ms. Wagner stated one of her and Gary Kubic's priorities is to replace Port Royal Community Residence. She said when you have 15 individuals in one facility it is no longer a home, it is an institution. DSN tries in every way to make home non-institutional. Gary Kubic visited residence; his comment was one of his priorities in the next two years was to find a replacement for residence, it was too crowded. An idea is to acquire four homes to house individuals who live at residence and to hire additional staff to work in homes so housing would not be considered institutionalized. South Carolina law states if a State building is sold, revenue goes back to State. Port Royal is not owned by County and is not owned by BCDSN, residence is owned by State. If property is sold according to South Carolina law, funds will go back to State. A committee has been formed to work towards making State Legislation aware of issue, try to achieve some kind of legislative action to allow exception to law, and allow SCDDSN to sell facility and return funds back to BCDSN to purchase homes to place fifteen individuals, at Port Royal facility, in a smaller setting.

Ms. Wagner stated on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. consumers will be presenting their annual Christmas gifts to County Council. This is a way to say thank you to County Council for all they do throughout the year. Everyone is welcome to attend.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Bill Love

Mr. Love stated he had no additions. He said with State challenges this is a way of being a lot more creative as to what we do and raising expectations. He feels this is a positive direction for DSN and he is looking at doing a lot more things in regards to these changes. He said the trees have been removed at entrance to DSN building in preparation of placing new sign.

VIII. POLICY COMMITTEE, Grace Dennis

Ms. Dennis said the Policy Committee reviewed the directives listed on the agenda and asked that they be approved as written.

MOTION WAS MADE BY GRACE DENNIS AND SECONDED BY NANCY PINKERTON TO ADOPT THE DIRECTIVES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee  
~Position is still open
- Personnel Committee, Jonathan Brown, Chair  
~Mr. Brown stated Board is glad to have Mr. George Marshall and Mr. DeWayne Frederick as new members.
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair  
~Mr. Green is till monitoring SCDDSN and Health and Human Services changes.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

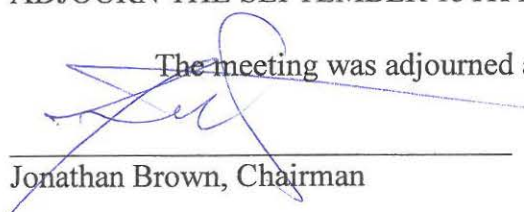
No comments

The next board meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 16, 2014** at 4:00 p.m. at:  
Disabilities and Special Needs Department  
100 Clear Water Way, Beaufort, SC 29906

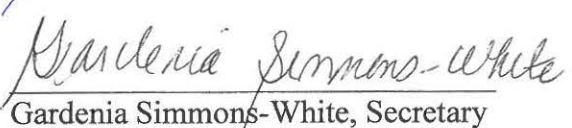
XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY GRACE DENNIS AND SECONDED BY JILL STRIEBINGER TO ADJOURN THE SEPTEMBER 15TH MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

  
Jonathan Brown, Chairman

1-20-15  
Date

  
Gardenia Simmons-White, Secretary

1-20/15  
Date