



MINUTES
GREENVILLE COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS
BOARD of DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 26, 2015
5:30 PM
Patrick Center Annex—Room 103

Notice of the meeting was sent to all Board Members, The Greenville News, The Greenville Journal, WYFF-TV 4, Fox-TV 21, and the Clerk to Council, Greenville County. Notice and agenda were posted in the lobby of the Patrick Center Administration Building and the Patrick Center Annex and the Agency Website prior to the meeting.

Members Present:

Alex McNair, Chair	Bern Mebane, Vice Chair
Bob Ariail, Treasurer	Bryant Nixon
Cynthia Baughan	Paul Hamberis
Peggy Farmer	

Senior Staff Present:

John Cocciolone, Executive Director	Stacy Whitsel
Sandy Brown, Recording Secretary	Peggy White
Anne Arrington	Martin Watson
Curtis Arrowood	Mike Teachey
Patty Barnes	Katherine Mitchell
Kay Brooks	Al Hill
Alicia Grubel	Elise Hardin

Call to Order: The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 5:34 PM by Alex McNair, Chair.

Invocation: Chairman McNair offered the Invocation.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items: A motion: To approve the Consent Agenda items of the March 26, 2015, Board of Directors meeting as presented. Bern Mebane made the motion with a second by Peggy Farmer. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation by Guest: Alston Lewis spoke to the Board and provided a PowerPoint presentation on his Eagle Scout project at the Patrick Center that involves teaching individuals served by GCDSNB to use a hydroponic greenhouse to grow produce for self-use and to sell in markets. He explained the hydroponics process of submerging the plants roots in water and adding nutrients with the benefits of more produce per square foot, faster growth, and an organic product without pesticides. He discussed the cost of building a greenhouse and estimated the costs at approximately \$24,000 including electricity and heating.

Finance Committee: At the request of the Executive/Finance Committee, Mr. McNair reported a proposal was received from Entrepreneurial Resources (a.k.a. ER Executives) to provide Chief Financial Officer services on a temporary basis. The goal is to assist with the strategic plan goals, examine financial policies and procedures, streamline processes, improve communication between Board and staff, and help identify candidates for a permanent CFO if needed. A copy of an assessment of the agency's Finance Department that was performed by ER Executives was provided to the Board. Details of the contract were discussed.

A motion: To engage Entrepreneurial Resources on a temporary basis to provide interim CFO services. Motion by Peggy Farmer with a second by Bob Ariail. The motion passed unanimously.

Employment Opportunity Expansion: Martin Watson reviewed plans to start up a several businesses with the goal of employing individuals served by the agency outside of the workshops. A handout was provided and Mr. Watson reviewed details of the various activities. He noted that Garrett's Golf Carts has the potential to employ 20 individuals, but warehouse space is desperately needed to proceed. Discussion followed on the expected revenue, expenses, and staffing needs.

A motion: Motion to adopt the contract employment expansion plan as presented. Cindy Baughan made the motion with a second by Peggy Farmer. Discussion followed on the risks involved, with Mr. Cocciolone reporting the risks are minimal. Mr. McNair asked Mr. Watson to provide updates, and Mr. Mebane requested a regular report on employment opportunities.

After discussion on the warehouse space needed to move employment plans forward, the previous motion was withdrawn to adopt the contract employment expansion plan.

A motion: Bryant Nixon made the motion and Peggy Farmer seconded, to approve the employment expansion plans as presented, and to authorize staff to search and identify warehouse options and report to the Board. Motion passed unanimously

Accreditation Recommendation: Cindy Baughan reported on the efforts of the Program /Quality Committee to select an agency to assist GCDSNB in obtaining accreditation. The Committee recommended CARF, saying CARF is well-aligned with the agency's services and felt Mr. Cocciolone's experience with the CARF process would be valuable. Discussion on the benefits of accreditation ensued.

A motion by the Program/Quality Committee: Motion made by Paul Hamberis and Cynthia Baughan to select CARF as the agency to conduct the accreditation process for the agency. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cocciolone recommended with all the CMS changes, the new CFO, and the familiarity of Chris Clark with the DDSN system, he recommended the agency renew the contract with Chris Clark's agency.

A motion: To authorize Mr. Cocciolone to engage Chris Clark's firm to perform the audit services for one year. The motion was made by Bern Mebane with a second by Peggy Farmer. The motion passed unanimously.

Closed Session: A motion: To enter Closed Session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Motion by Peggy Farmer with a second by Paul Hamberis. The motion passed unanimously. The Board entered Closed Session at 6:42 PM and reentered Public Session at 6:55 PM without taking any action.

Adjournment: The Board of Directors Meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 23, 2015, at 5:30 PM.

Submitted by: Sandra W. Brown 4/23/15
Sandra W. Brown, Recording Secretary Date

Approved by: Alex F. McNair 4/23/15
Alex F. McNair, Chair Date