

CIDSO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

July 13, 2023 - virtual via Zoom

(Note: Agenda printed in Upper Case)

Minutes Approved on October 24, 2023

CALL TO ORDER was made by President Deb Presley at 7:05pm.

ATTENDANCE certified a quorum. Present: Deb Presley, Bill and Diane Crutcher, Shelley Marquis, Kim Weber, Bethany Romer, Angela Hedican, Wendy Boswell, and Sandy Bauer.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES APRIL 20, 2023 were moved by Diane and seconded by Shelley. Passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Deb

LIBRARY BOOK WALK UPDATE Deb still can't get permission to use this book. This is at a stand still for now.

NORMAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMER DISPLAY Deb has completed the CIDSO/ Ds display and will meet with the library the last week of July to hand it off. It will be on display the month of August in the Children's Library. She has loaded all the pictures in the CIDSO Google Drive.

VP REPORT - Diane.

IDDC The IDDC meet recently and are selecting schools for awareness fairs. CIDSO will have a table along with the Children's Foundation, Life-CIL, Autism, and others. Fairview will be the 1st venture into the schools. (Deb will get the Display Board to Diane for use in the school fairs and the Buddy Walk.) As well, the IDDC Advocacy Committee will be taking on enhancing community living opportunities in for adults with disabilities. With lots of housing being built, there is none for those with disabilities. Deb will forward a supportive housing webinar link for sharing with the committee.

PATH UPDATE no report

AFNAP MEETING -NEED FOR BETTER COMMUNICATION - Item skipped.

WEBSITE Diane has done an assessment of the website and only located 1 place where the info@cidso.org had been missed for replacement with the cidsofamilies@gmail.com. If anyone finds any others, please inform Diane C., Diane W. or Deb. Diane C and Diane W. have experienced an email test not getting through. This appears an ongoing problem and is being worked on.

Wendy asked if an email she sent to info@cidso.org about Homes of Hope wish list had gotten through. Deb saw that it has, along with some others that Diane W will get to.

NEW BROCHURE. The new brochures are done and have been distributed to the Executive Committee. Diane has more stored at her home when needed.

TREASURER'S REPORT/VP FUNDS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT - Kim, Shelley. Financials were sent out. We are sitting pretty much where we were at this time last yr - just slightly higher. Budget shows most of our bigger expenses have been paid. We now have 9 members that have applied for the Enrichment Funds. A 10th one is beginning the process. Kim received a letter from the bank that our savings has had no activity for the last 3 years. Kim is wondering about moving some of our checking balance into savings. Deb agrees that Kim should move money leaving enough in the checking to easily manage the Buddy Walk needs.

Diane asked about the CD. Kim reports that it is sitting due to her schedule. The CD comes up in March 2024. Kim favors leaving the CD until then to avoid early withdraw penalty fees.

Deb asked if her Enrichment Fund request went to Quarter 2 or 3. Kim will look into that. Kim reported receipt of a thank you card from McKale Marquis for the birthday gift card, and commented about McKale's nice handwriting. (Kim picks up the mail.)

SECRETARY REPORT - Sandy. Phone line quiet, and no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUDDY WALK - Angela, Kim. Registration will open on Aug 1st. The Walk is 9/9 at Eastview Church. Angela is working on finding organizations that would like to have a resource table. Current takers are: Paws Giving Independence, Peoria; Vision Point; Eastview Special Needs Program; SOAR; Special Olympics; Seedling Theater; Easter Seals; Kim Peterson, OT Special Needs Music and Movement Classes; Envision Unlimited. Others in the works are Miracle League and Central Illinois Riding Therapy. Angela is still waiting on Marc First, Ambucs, Kinder Music and Ivy Rehab. Others suggested were EPIC - Peoria, and Healing Rides.

Diane will get some IDDC flyers. Bill, if feeling well enough, will contact some golf tournament donors. (Kim will get him the info letter to work from.) Volunteers will be needed to get raffle prizes and corporate sponsors. Kim is encouraging solicitation by phoning or in person for these too, as last year only 10% of letters netted donors.)

There will be new posters of our individuals this year, and a Sign Up Genius for families to get an appointment with the photographer is now out on Facebook, and coming to email. Volunteers will be sought for specific tasks when a comprehensive list of the needs now being developed is ready.

There will be no Buddy Walk T-shirts this year as some make their own, and a CIDSO 50th T-shirt was abandoned over discussion of if we are calling 2023 or 2024 the Anniversary year.

{See resolution on this - under 50TH ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATIONS FOR 2024 further down in these Minutes.}

ADVOCACY Sandy- Item skipped.

SOCIAL MEDIA/FAMILY OUTREACH/SOCIAL Angela, Wendy.

BIRTHDAY CARD OUTREACH - Wendy reported there are no birthdays in July. However it was noted that Ryan Alexander had a birthday in July.

SOCIAL/FAMILY OUTREACH - Angela. Angela will be selecting an August date for the picnic and securing the rental.

NEW PARENT - Angela, Kim. Angela said a basket is being put together which Angela will take to a new referral from Bethany. Also Angela will be talking tomorrow with Sarah Cullen, Director of the Parents One Call Hotline through the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Association. They are using best practices in how to preen people and deliver baskets. Angela will discuss how they do their training with Sarah.

Angela also will be speaking with NADS leadership on the use of a QR Code on their website for connecting to families with newborn babies with Down syndrome in hospitals. If she is able to get good information, she would volunteer to implement that for CIDSO.

OLD BUSINESS

STATUS TO BY-LAWS AND CRITICAL DECISIONS MATRIX - Diane C., Bethany. Deb and Bethany talked a few weeks ago. Bethany will get moving on this when she has met face to face with Diane (as health issues settle) to better understand how things work. Diane noted she understood that this needs done before Bethany starts school again on Aug 15th. Bethany stated she would reach out to Diane when she and Bill return from Houston's medical visits.

UPDATES ON FUNDRAISING/AWARENESS EVENTS WE KNOW OF. Angela reported on the Down for the Ride Fundraiser June 2023 had good participation (regardless of bad weather) with a gross of \$4,265.40. Expenses were the purchase of food and drink for CIDSO families, and a small fee for the Square Reader service used for the silent auction, both of which occurred at the end's final stop. Having our families volunteer at every stop on the ride

meant a lot to the participants. So it would be important to repeat that next year. Also, it was significant that Bill spoke for a few minutes about CIDSO and its 50th years at the final stop. Bill and Diane, as elders and founders, thanked them all personally. Angela expressed her personal appreciation for this.

50TH ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATIONS FOR 2024. Deb discussed the survey administrated by Angela with the findings of: 15 families in favor of a family type event and 7 an adult event and 2 said either would be fine. Two, maybe 3, people said they would be interested in volunteering. Thus, we will move forward with some type of family event. With much discussion, there appeared to be consensus on some points. These points and their discussion are listed below:

- March 2024 for the Anniversary Family Event. March 2024 (World Down Syndrome Day-ish) to avoid timing conflicts with all our other events. Sandy recalled a discussion about a synced 50th billboard campaign being either around the Anniversary event or Down Syndrome Month (Oct 2023 or Oct 2024?)
- A Year-long format. Deb has already added the 50th to the Library Display. Mention will be made at this year's Buddy Walk. But also throughout 2024 by doing something at the March event, Down for the Ride, Buddy Walk and Christmas Party. Maybe Buddy Walk shirts in 2024?
- 50th Recognition by the Normal Mayor's Proclamation. Deb has spoke with a Normal Councilwoman who sees no problem and will help to facilitate that happening. Deb will pursue the proclamation when a date is discerned. With our Incorporation papers of Jan 1974, this could be like a kick off of the 50th year (2024), and announced at all other Anniversary doings.
- Sequence for the cost determination. Should a committee determine a maximum amount they need/propose be spent for the Anniversary OR do we want to give some guidance right now of an amount? Kim feels it is easier if they propose a budget. This Committee could give options such as sponsors to offset costs, a fee for families' participation, etc. Deb likes the idea of the committee proposing options. Angela suggests the committee would need to have these proposals ready in time for the 2024 Budget approval. This means the proposals be presented with a round dollar amount at the Nov 2023 General Membership meeting. If needed, we can push to this meeting to early/mid December.
- CIDSO History Front and Center. Number of families helped over 50yrs? Has any other feedback been sought or received from past members? Angela thinks we need to seek a group to come up with a format that is appropriate and works for everyone. Who wants to lead this effort and come up with the next step?
- Angela will Chair the Anniversary Committee. Shelley, Bethany, Kim, Sandy volunteered to be committee members. Wendy was unsure. Deb asked if Diane and Bill could be the focal point of the celebration. Diane replied they didn't want it to be about them. Yet several members implored them to be recognized (Founders, Heart and Soul - even in the midst of severe health concerns, etc). Diane agreed that if they play any role, it will be very, very slight to avoid attention and accolades. Deb has asked the Normal Councilwoman to make the Crutcher the recipients fo the proclamation. Diane replied that if it helps CIDSO, ok. They want it to be about the organization.
- T-SHIRT IN CONJUNCTION WITH BUDDY WALK. The 2024 Buddy Walk t-shirts will be done for the 50th. Its also the 20th Anniversary of the Buddy Walk.

NEW BUSINESS

IEP CONFERENCE? Angela was wondering about CIDSO hosting an IEP conference. She would like a national speaker and did briefly look into Catherine Whitcher. Even though she may not be will known in Illinois, she is outside of Illinois. Also, Angela has 2 friends in Chicago would come down to see her because they do know of her. Angela has also spoke with McLean County Autism president about collaborating (sharing costs) on this potential

conference and they have agreed. Angela sees this as a much later project. Deb spoke to CIDS0's history of producing conferences on education which were well received and of benefit to our members and beyond. Diane mentioned that Chuck Hartseil (former Director of Special Ed at Unit 5) is doing workshops on IEP and 504, and he would be current on many topics concerning our children's education. He is with McLean County Autism. Angela and Jason are forming a special needs hockey program for our area. They have commitment for the ice time, ISU is helping with funding, equipment and volunteers, McLean County Autism is helping with these, as well as subsidizing players needing assistance. It is thought that the 1st few years will learning and then forming a team. The Hedicans have experienced this with a Blackhawk program that Seth participated in until the Blackhawks lost funding.

STANDING BUSINESS -

SHARING RESOURCES YOU USE WITH YOUR CHILD THAT MIGHT HELP OTHERS
Shelley reported McKale participated in the U of Wisc at Milwaukee's Energy Expenditure and Weight Related Behaviors in Youth with Down Syndrome research project. (Aged 5-18) They found it pretty time-intensive. Still they found rewarding to be part of important research and worked with very nice staff and students - one of whom has decided to go on specializing in Down syndrome.

OPEN QUESTIONS TO FAMILIES - HOW CAN CIDS0 HELP YOU? ANYTHING ELSE FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE? Diane sends McKale our best wishes for her healing of her broken leg. Diane proposed the IDDC link be added to the CIDS0 website resources especially for providing access to the Resource Directory. Diane C will also send email to Diane W to post.

RESPECTFULLY, our thoughts and prayers for the Crutcher as they navigate Bill's medical journey. Mindie has been told that Bill is having lots of appointments so that he will continue to feel good.

ADJOURNED at 8:20pm.

NEXT MEETING VIA ZOOM October 24, 2023 at 6pm.

Approved 10/24/23 seb