

CIDSO QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

January 28, 2020 Calvary Methodist Church, Normal

Call to order by President Angela Hedican at 6:07pm.

Roll call of **members present**: Josh Fuchs, Shelley Marquis, Jayna Vroman, Dawn Mattia, Dave and Denise and Baby Benjamin Manjarrez, Amy Phifer, Diane Crutcher, Angela Hedican, Kim Weber, Kathleen Peden, Hollis Peden, Wendy Boswell, Kirsten Boswell, Brenda Finlen, Sandy Ginther.

A **quorum** was confirmed by the President in the Vice President's absence.

After reviewing the **Oct 2019 Meeting Minutes**, Diane Crutcher motioned they be approved as written and Hollis Peden seconded. None opposed.

After reviewing the **Dec 2019 Budget Meeting Minutes**, Diane Crutcher motioned they be approved as written and Kim Weber seconded. None opposed.

The **Treasurer's Report** was given by Treasurer Kim Weber. Kim distributed the 2019 Balance Sheet Detail, 2019 Balance Sheet Previous Year Comparison, and the 2019 Budget reports.

Kim noted that the 2019 Balance Sheet Previous Year Comparison shows a zero balance for the golf account because it has been closed and the proceeds put in the CIDSO savings account. Therefore, CIDSO only has one checking account now. The Dec 31, 2019 total assets are down about \$2,200 from the Dec 31, 2018 total assets. Kim mentioned that some of this could be influenced by fluctuations that occur around the end of Dec and early Jan.

Concerning the 2019 Budget results, everything fell within budget. For 2020, the ISU Speech & Hearing Clinic, and the Adult Literacy/Redbird Readers will no longer be considered a CIDSO Program and will not be a line item. (Active families can access the services using CIDSO Enrichment Funds however.) This year the 2019 Budget report is doubling as the 2019 Enrichment Funds report because its line item data is inclusive.

Kim reminded the members that the deadline for Active members to seek reimbursement for Enrichment expenses in 2019 is 1/31/20.

Enrichment Funds Administrator, Shelley Marquis, re-iterated that the deadline for Active members to seek reimbursement for 2019 Enrichment activities is 1/31/2020.

Amy Phifer sought clarification on how/when a is member to submit 2020 intended service hours for obtaining Active Member status. The response was to submit an email to Shelley by 1/31/2020. Amy also inquired whether Enrichment funds received would have to be repaid if the member moved out of state before being able to fulfill their Active Member requirements. The answer was that the member would not have to repay.

It was noted that volunteer hours needed for Active membership are to be recorded. Volunteer efforts while actively creating a Buddy Walk Team and actively seeking donations was given as an example.

The **Gala/Fundraiser Report** was presented by Angela. With the loss of the Golf Tournament, the only fundraiser planned to date is the 2020 Buddy Walk. But we have the opportunity to put on an event this spring with a Park Regency Hotel contact who will be very helpful with solicitation of prizes and other assistance. Angela is willing to work on this but needs others to volunteer.

Discussion ensued including: to make this happen CIDS0 needs members to help with advertisement, entertainment, etc.; these volunteer hours could help members meet Active Member status (CIDS0 may already have more volunteers for the Buddy Walk than might be needed); no format has been determined, so could be trivia night, formal affair, Casino themed, etc.; need a date for this spring - March 21st (3/21) Down Syndrome Day was suggested; need to know the format by 2/15 to make this event happen by spring.

It was decided that a committee would be formed to produce this fundraiser. They will be Diane Crutcher, Hollis Peden, Jayna Vroman, Amy Phifer and Angela Hedican. If virtual, Wendy Boswell would like to join. Angela would like anyone else interested to please contact her asap.

Actions: Amy Phifer will seek information from a person in Springfield who has ran a trivia event and a local lady, Emily, who ran a Cash Bash fundraiser and perhaps have a meeting with Emily; Angela will contact Park Regency that this is a 'go'; after Amy has reached out to Emily, Amy will inform Angela and Angela pursue a committee meeting.

The **Social Chair Report** was given by Jayna Vroman, Social Chair. Plans are to: have a monthly event – the Buddy Walk will serve as the event for September; and to attempt a monthly Parent night in the community for dinner, bowling, etc. Looking to set up the same/recurring day for the events, starting with Sun 2/16 (3rd Sunday) afternoon at Normal Public Library for a family Sock Hop. A Bingo Night is planned for March 15th at Our Redeemer Lutheran church. Feb and March events are for all ages. But may have some events in the future be for certain age groups. Jayna would like more members to give input/ be on the committee to identify activities and discuss schedules. Amy Phifer, Social Committee member, would like to have input for adult activities for those with Down syndrome and see someone join the Social Committee. Amy would also like the moms' group to have face to face events.

The 2019 Christmas party was successful. The turnout was 8 families and 4 individuals from Homes for Hope. Thanks to Angela and Amy for the work. The cake walk was a big hit. It was suggested the Picnic to be more like the Christmas party with more outdoor games, etc. Jayna will get Social Committee meeting dates out so that all are welcomed to attend.

Amy offered 2 items of interest:

1)Easter Seals hosting a Sib Shop for 7-13 yr. old sibs w disabilities – a flyer was passed around - lunch provided - fee \$5 – on President's Day- register at Easter Seals online.

2) Amy talked to an Easter Seals Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) about forming a facilitated social skills group for younger children (and maybe another for older individuals) with a Counselor/SLP modeling behaviors while kids play together. Amy has asked if Easter Seals will host this. The SLP will approach the Easter Seals Administration. If you are interested in this, please contact Amy.

Amy volunteered to head up creating child care during CIDSO meetings. She could get teenagers to assist as well. Dawn Mattia reminded us that in the past, CIDSO had a policy to reimburse families when both parents or single parents had to get a babysitter to attend a CIDSO meeting as the answer to avoiding liability on site. Amy raised the idea of creating a waiver for babysitting at the meeting site. Also, the point of parents making reservations for child care on site would be needed before meetings. Angela will email the members to see if there is an interest in having babysitting availability.

Liability is to have 2 unrelated adults in a room.

Diane thanked the Social committee for their unique and fun ideas.

A **By-Law update** was presented by Diane. She distributed a proposed Bylaws change for the description for the Member at Large of the Executive Committee. Kim suggested more description about finding a location, getting the room set up, directional signs, etc. Diane will add that the proposed change say that the room is ready to go with these details.

Wendy Boswell asked about adding to this with arranging the speaker phone for remote calls. Angela will to set up conference calling. Angela will look into seeing if connectivity can be improved.

Diane motioned the By-Laws be accepted as amended. It was seconded by Jayna Vroman. The By- Laws will be posted on the website.

An update on the **Conflict Resolution Policy** was given by Angela. Tim Kelly, retired CPA and former MarcFirst Board member will join the committee. She has emailed the committee to have everyone introduce themselves and review some initial ideas. There is a 2-week turnaround for this step.

Angela shared that the **Enrichment Fund's** definition continues to be looked at by the Executive Committee due to the different requests for reimbursement. The Enrichment Fund will not be used for anything that is a typical expense as would be used for any child/individual, for replacing income, for supplementing income and for housing support.

It is hoped a list can be created of what is covered and not covered. However, the list cannot be all inclusive, and may change over time. The Executive committee may resend Angela's December 18, 2019 letter about Active Membership and Enrichment/Conference Funds, and add this further clarification.

It was asked if the list could be provided of what the requests were that had been approved, and those that had not. There was a decision not to do this to protect privacy.

Diane pointed out the financial challenges facing our children when they become adults and who live in a Community Integrated Living Arrangement home, at least currently in Illinois.

They will have half of their pay check and all but \$60 of their Social Security taken at the order of the state. This could be the next advocacy challenge for the future.

The **Website** has been reviewed by Diane Crutcher for updating, finding dead links, getting new pictures, etc. Diane Walker and Deb Presley have been implementing the updates. The last thing left is the Enrichment Fund Form and the update of info to be completed. If anyone has resources that have been particularly helpful, please share them with Diane Crutcher for posting. Our Web host is a CIDSO member. We also have web administrators who can implement some updates.

The **NDSC** would like to know if CIDSO will partner with them to host a conference here for teachers. NDSC will bring in speakers and handle registration. CIDSO would provide the venue and food. The NDSC wants 200 attendees if possible. Heartland Community College is a possible venue at a reasonable cost. In order to provide continuing ed, NDSC must be an Illinois approved provider of educational credit. NDSC is not, but is looking into this.

An **ABLE Webinar** for CIDSO membership was explored to assess if the amount of interest exists to have one. Dawn Mattia went to a 3-hour presentation at Normal West before Christmas. Wilson and Associates provided an ABLE presentation via SOAR. Consensus was that there is not enough interest given much access to the information. It was suggested that we provide links and announcements on the web. Diane said both DORS and DHS links are on our website.

A **Tennis Program Grant Application** has been submitted by Deb Presley and Colleen Curran (of Evergreen Racquet Club) to benefit our older children with Down syndrome. If awarded, it will decrease the cost of tennis lessons for our participants, and put less strain on the CIDSO Enrichment Funds reimbursement requests for these lessons.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Ginther, CIDSO Secretary