

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINNESOTA FAMILY SUPPORT & RECOVERY COUNCIL
Kahler Hotel in Rochester – April 19, 2007

Members present: Julie Erickson, Juan Martinez, Robert Tipp, Anne Bradley, John Stark, Grant Forsyth, Ruth Sundermeyer, Wayland Campbell, Nancy Schroeder, Michelle Collins, Lynda Flykt, Karen Strandemo, Brandy Hauwiler, Nancy Menssen, Sandy Slocum, Pat Krauth, Mark Ponsolle, Tracy Howe, Sandy Thorne, Brian Buhmann, Jenna Penfield, Jennifer Stanfield, Yvonne Bibro, Diane Hall, Jolene Annen, Julie Ellis, Lisa Kontz, Melissa Rossow, Terri Nielsen.

Excused Absences: Lori Lofrano, Rich Thielman.

Guests: Tryge Larson, Al Budde, Tracy Walen.

1. The meeting was called to order by President, Julie Erickson at 1:45 pm at the Kahler Hotel in Rochester, MN.
2. Secretary's report: Secretary, Anne Bradley had previously distributed minutes for the meeting of February 15, 2007 by email. Motion by Nancy Schroeder, 2nd by Brian Buhmann to approve the minutes of 2/15/2007. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer's Report: Report was distributed and summary given by Treasurer John Stark. Savings balance of \$16,039.25, checking account balance of \$1014.17, and conference account balance of \$5000.00. Treasurer's report placed on file.
4. Collaborative Reports:
 - A. MSSA-John Stark reported that 4 sessions sponsored by MFSRC were well received and that the Exhibit Board was there for the 2nd year.
 - B. Child Support Advisory Board-no report.
 - C. MCRA-Nancy Schroeder reported that the quarterly meeting is next week. She requested that the Board consider a request for mileage reimbursement for Theresa Olson for a presentation that she would be giving at the quarterly meeting. Grant Forsyth made a motion that MFSRC would pay the mileage reimbursement. 2nd by Sandy Thorne. Motion carried.
 - D. MACSSA- Brian Buhmann reported that he tried to get the results from the sessions held at the conference, but was unable to have them by this meeting. He stated that there were 2700 attendees and 173 sessions, and that the Child Support presentations were well attended. He stated he has been attending the Strategic Planning meetings that are held a couple times a month, along with Mark Ponsolle, Pat Krauth, and Wayland Campbell, and that Wayland Campbell will be presenting information at the Director's meeting next week.
 - E. MCAA- Mark Ponsolle reported that on 05/03/2007, MCCA will be hosting their annual conference in St. Cloud. Topics to be covered are Legislative Updates, The Appellate Process in Child Support, Arrears Management, and CHIPS/Child Support Interface. He stated that there are new speakers this year, and that the conference has always been well received. The conference is designed for everyone to attend, and is not to conflict with the MFSRC Conference.

5. Old Business:

- 1) Contributions for Training- Melissa Rossow informed the board that because of issues that have come up we need a policy regarding reimbursement for conference speakers for accommodations and mileage. The most important issue is to make sure to get pre-approval from the program chair for these reimbursement requests. The thought is that a memo should go out to the session coordinators on what gets reimbursed and how it is done. The consensus of the Board was that a committee would be set up to draft an internal policy that could be ready to be used for the 2008-09 conference. The committee consists of Melissa Rossow (Chair), Sandy Thorne, Juan Martinez, and Jennifer Stanfield.

6. New Business:

- 1) Conference Site—Julie Erickson initiated the discussion on conference site location by stating that the Board will vote on the issue at the July meeting. Topics discussed were rotating the conference site every two years from a Northern location to a Southern location to get more local participation, that the Kahler had a good location, a professional atmosphere, more opportunities, good networking areas, good vendor locations, no weather issues, price is less, equipment needed for sessions is included in the price and that they provide people to organize activities. It was stated that it is not as tranquil a setting. Discussion was also held regarding the commuter costs, and to see if that cost could be adjusted for those that won't be dealing with all the meals. It was decided that Board members take this back to their counties, and organizations and come back to the July meeting and be prepared to vote. Jenna Penfield and Tracey Howe will check with the Kahler regarding commuter rates and if there is a required number of rooms that need to be reserved in order to guarantee the price and will email the information out to everyone.
- 2) Electronic Voting Procedures—Julie Erickson passed out a final draft of the procedures. It was discussed that all issues should try and be brought to a Board meeting, and this procedure should only be used when something needs to be decided prior to the next meeting. Procedure placed on file.
- 3) Actions of the Executive Board—Anne Bradley reported to the Board regarding the motion made on 03/01/2007 to the Executive Board by Juan Martinez, that MFSRC pay the \$20.00 per person fee charged by the Kahler Hotel for the April 19th board meeting at the Kahler. 2nd by Jenna Penfield. Motion carried.
- 4) Registration Fee for St. Louis Cty PH & HS Conference—John Stark requested that the board consider paying the vendor fee to have the MFSRC Exhibit at the St. Louis PH & HS Conference. Robert Tipp made the motion that MFSRC pay the \$175.00 vendor fee, 2nd by Linda Flykt. Motion carried.
- 5) Vendor Ideas-Jenna Penfield reported that she had gotten some ideas from NCSEA for our vendors. Such as; allowing vendors to put information regarding their organization on the MFSRC website, a rolling power point that runs before the opening session, verbal acknowledgement as well as vendor signage on our website and programs that they sponsor, and provide the vendors with a pre and post conference attendee list. She would like to incorporate this information into her letter to the vendors. Decision of the Board was that the rolling power point was a good idea, MFSRC could provide website links, and that we could also give them a County contact list. Vendors do receive verbal acknowledgment as well as they are listed in the program.
- 6) Julie Erickson requested that the Board consider sending flowers to Theresa Olson thanking her for her years of service on the Board. Motion made by Mark Ponsolle, 2nd by Jenna Penfield. Motion carried.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance – no report.
2. Constitution & By-Laws – no report.
3. Legislation – Mark Ponsolle reported that he received the memorandum of understanding from NCSEA, reviewed and signed it. He will send it in with the check #2120 for \$2000.00 which was the amount that MFSRC agreed to pay towards the Lewin Group Study. He stated that the memorandum of understanding did include that we would receive information regarding the outcome of the Study.

Mark Ponsolle also provided an update on 2 Federal Legislative bills that are currently in front of Congress to reinstate the dollars that were taken away because of DEFRA, but the dollars are not included in the budget bill, so if a bill passes regarding reinstatement a decision will need to be made regarding where the dollars are going to come from. He stated that there are also 2 State Legislative bills dealing with appropriations—one from the House includes 8 million dollars and the one in the Senate includes 4 million dollars with the Counties to cover the other 4 million.

Mark Ponsolle explained to the board the following differences between Senator Neville's and Representative Smith's Child Support Clarification and Improvement Bills: Senator Neville's includes redirection language, Representative Smith's does not; Senator Neville's extends child support judgments to 20 years with renewals running for 10 years, Representative Smith's does not address the issue; Senator Neville's cuts out the 2% surcharge on child support judgments, Representative Smith's does not address this issue here but in another bill he has address a flat 6% rate on child support judgments; Senator Neville's addresses administratively suppressing interest, Representative Smith's doesn't address this issue; Senator Neville's addresses changing the self reserve support reduction process from medical, child care, and then child support to child care, medical and then child support, Representative Smith's does not address this issue; both bills address the fact that child care should end the 1st of the month following after the County receives notice of the change not by prorating; both address the Deviation Statute in which if a child resides in a foreign Country that has a substantial lower or higher cost of living that this would be a reason for deviation rather than just a lower cost of living.

Mark Ponsolle also reported that the Advisory Committee is looking at all Human Service Provisions to see if services could be offered in any other way.

4. Historical - No report.
5. Education – No report.
6. Public Relations – No report.
7. Conference Registration – No report.
8. Overall Conference – No report.
9. Conference Program – No report—meeting to be held after the today's Board meeting.
10. Nominations & Elections – Sandy Thorne passed a list around for the Board to review. If your position is up for re-election she would like to know if you are interested in re-running for your position.

11. Awards – No report.
12. Website – Julie Erickson reported that the conference correspondence, the speaker forms and the President’s letter are now out on the website.
13. Conference Site – covered earlier.
14. Newsletter Committee—Tracy Howe reported that she had emailed Midwest Captions regarding the last newsletter to have it posted on the website, and that she needs information from them clarifying the format they need for the upcoming newsletters, and she has not heard back from them yet.

Motion by Sandy Thorne, 2nd by Brian Buhmann to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Bradley
Secretary-MFSRC