

Southern Arizona Network for Down Syndrome
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 12, 2009 6:15 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Easter Seals Blake Foundation
717 S Alvernon



Board members present:

Chad McKinley, Cindy Schaap, Geoff Gonzales, Steve Freeman, Amanda Holbert

Board members absent: Mandy Scholer and Frank Ganz

Guests: None

1. Call to Order

At 6:25 p.m., President Geoff Gonzales called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken, see above.

3. Minutes from November 17, 2008 meeting review

Minutes from November 17, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Minutes were approved with any necessary corrections as needed. Vote was 5 to 0 in favor.

4. Election of board members whose terms have expired

Terms for board members; two years for the first term and yearly after that. Mandy Scholer the treasurer is the board member whose term has expired at this time. Mandy resigned the position of treasurer on January 10, 2009. Mandy will stay on until the position can be filled and transitioned. Currently there are no nominees from current board members for the position of treasurer, but Amanda Holbart expressed an interest in holding that position. President Geoff Gonzales will write a "call for board members" to send out on the constant contact and our e-mail list. (Kathy Getman general board member resigned via e-mail two weeks ago). We currently are short two board members.

5. Financial report

Geoff Gonzales gave a brief overview, as Mandy Scholer was not in attendance.

A majority of the Give it Backs (GIB) received in 2008 were honored, to include the ones that arrived after the deadline (November 30, 09). In the community sponsorship, we went over budget. The 2009 budget will only consist of the monies raised from the 2008 Buddy Walk (approximate \$34,000.00). We will attempt to stay on budget this year in more efforts to realize the long term goals SANDS has set for itself.

6. Budget 2009

\$9,000.00 to \$10,000.00 will be put aside each year to be used for Buddy Walk. The second half of the monies SANDS committed for the Wrightslaw training is due

All the board members are invited to assist in an open discussion with the planning of the 2009 budget. The executive board will then present two or three options to the board for a final discussion.

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7. Fund raising

All the board members need to get involved in ideas for fund raising and following through with current ideas on the table (eeges, Bashes, ink cartridges, etc.)

Cindy Schaap needs to bring some type of proto type for ink cartridge recycle receptacles.

8. 2009 Planning Retreat

The 2009 planning retreat will be held at Amanda Holbert home. The date were narrowed down to either March 21st or 28th, 2009, this information will be e-mailed to the entire board for a decision. Amanda will coordinate the refreshments with a local restaurant.

9. Handling of correspondence

President Geoff Gonzales will handle all physical correspondence and Secretary Cindy Schaap will handle all e-mail and telephone calls from this day forward. Cindy and Geoff will keep the rest of the board informed of correspondence and phone calls that are received and the resulting outcomes.

10. Need for board members

See #4

11. Brochures & Business cards

Business cards, letterhead and envelopes were picked up and presented to the board. The blue and gold colors were too dark. When the next order is submitted, we will request the blue and gold are lighter, closer to the colors in the newsletter. Business cards were distributed to the members present. The brochures were not available for pick up, as printer believes that someone else inadvertently picked them up by mistake.

12. Marketing and Out Reach Committee

There have been many inquiries from other Down syndrome groups across the country about our newsletter, example: software used, locally or professionally produced and circulation.

There have also been several complements received.

Information needs to be sent out at least a week prior to the event we are publicizing.

We need to find a way to shrink the size of the newsletter's file, to make it more e-mail friendly.

Jeff Miller has accomplished an outstanding job on updating our web page, Geoff will ask him implement the changes.

13. Give It Back! Program

See #5

14. Praying with Lior

Everyone that had seen the movie was moved by the message. We would like to bring it back for another showing at a later date. There is a great message for family and siblings.

SANDS provided a display that includes, GIB applications, Albertson cards, newsletters and brochures; available for the length of the Jewish Community Film Festival.

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15. Inclusive Education Workshop update

Over 85 people were in attendance and additional tables had to be brought in to accommodate everyone. Steve Freeman wishes to thank Mandy Scholer and Joey Kenney for all the assistance they gave! The workshop has out grown the location and next year a larger location will be needed. The next workshops will be in the fall of 2009, and Steve hopes to have some type of flyer available at the Wrightslaw training advertising them.

16. Wrightslaw

Steve Freeman will provide a something in writing to be sent out in our e-mail loop advertising the training. SANDS need to provide a list of attendees by February 1st for planning purposes. Currently the steering committee is still fundraising.

SANDS will add a button to our web page for Wrightslaw, directing those interested to the Pilot Parents web page.

17. Year in Review

All board members were asked to forward to the Secretary Cindy Schaap, everything that SANDS was involved in for the past year (2008), example: TROT minicamp, DSC swim party, Praying with Lior, etc.

18. Future Agenda items

None at this time

19. Announcements

At SANDS sponsored events, all SANDS board members are asked to wear Buddy Walk t-shirts and SANDS name tags. Cindy will order name tags for the individuals that currently do not have name tags that read; Name, Director, Southern Arizona Network for Down Syndrome.

The Down Syndrome Connection (DSC) is having a retreat on January 24, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and all SANDS members are encouraged to attend.

20. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Cindy Schaap