

**KFAPA Executive Board Meeting
August 23, 2008
Enterprise, Kansas**

Present: Sandra Hiller (President), Janice Snyder (Secretary), Tracie Wyatt (Treasurer), Richard Basham (Region 1 VP), Eltanis Volen (Region 3 VP), Nancy Weigant (Region 5 VP)

Agency Representatives: Joyce DeBolt and Debi Hatfield (KDHE), Mary Tucker (TFI)

Members Present: Dennis Finch, Nancy Duling and Bill Weigant

The meeting was called to order at 1:33pm by President Sandra Hiller. Introductions were made. President Hiller asked for approval of the minutes from the July 21, 2008 minutes. Nancy Duling pointed out a typo in the minutes, and made a motion that the minutes be approved with that correction. Motion was seconded by Richard Basham, motion passed. Janice Snyder will make correction to the minutes.

Treasurers Report:

Beginning Balance:	\$2285.37
Deposits	\$190.00-memberships
Expenses	\$69.00-USPS 5/4
	\$200.00-JJA Conference 7/1
	\$22.00-reimburse S. Hiller for Articles of Inc. 7/29
	\$126.00-USPS 7/29
Total Expenses	\$417.00
Ending Balance	\$2058.37

Reports from the Board:

President: Two appointments were made to the Board

Julie Schoemehl-VP of Region 2

Dennis Finch--Chairman of the Advocacy/Public Policy comm.

Sandra Hiller gave an overview of the JJA conference that she attended in July. She attended 8 different sessions with a variety of topics. She learned that there is a new RFP out for the JJA kids that very few CPA's have applied for. Received information on how to influence public policy makers. Attended a session with Bill Cordes of Lawrence. Enjoyed his presentation and would like to see about getting him for our Annual conference. Overall she said it was an okay conference.

Talked about the Best Team that Sandra Hiller and Janice Snyder attended on August 4, 2008. They would like KFAPA to be involved in helping identify what issues the families have. There was a lot of discussion about the change last year allowing non-licensed staff to conduct certain parts of the home assessments and licensing tasks, and whether those have been positive. It was decided that not enough information had been obtained to make that decision and the committee would continue to monitor this. The team was very welcoming and appreciated our input.

PALS training: Partnering and Leadership Strategies in Kansas City--Written in part by Denise Gibson of Children's Alliance and presented by Aly Romero of AYS and Angela Braxton, a birth parent whose children were removed. Focuses on how we perceive birth parents and how we can better focus on strengths/positives instead of negatives and how that impacts the decisions on the reintegration team. Will be presented again at the Gov. Conference by Denis Gibson.

Children's Alliance training Committee: They are looking to KFAPA to give input as to what type of trainings the families want. Denise was asked to write an article for our Oct. newsletter on how trainings are done. We have asked CA about becoming a member, considering having us as associate members.

Vice President: Not present, no report

Secretary: Janice Snyder has been working on the newsletter as we told the IRS we would have it posted to the website shortly after our August meeting. Copy is being passed around; please make changes/additions as needed. Our first invoice went to SRS for reimbursement with our grant last week. Attended the Best Team meeting with Sandra Hiller on August 4th. Handed out the membership postcards that had received for renewal. Informed all present that we have numerous members that have not paid membership dues for the new year. Two emails were sent out by Janice Snyder and two by Sandra Hiller.

Treasurer: Tracie Wyatt reported that she had met with some prospective Foster and Adoptive parents and she told them about our association.

Region 1 VP-Richard Basham reports he is new to the position. His goal for this meeting is to get direction and a position description so that he can better full fill his position.

Region 2 VP-Julie Schoemehl was unable to attend due to a prior commitment, however she did send a report to Sandra. She reports that she met with a Graphic Designer who worked on a logo design to support our mission. Several logos were given to Sandra for the board to look at. She has made contact with several of the local agencies in the area. Her goal is to be included in their newsletter to let people know that there is representation available to them locally. She has also received an overwhelming response to the new KDHE regulations. She states that several families are opting out as "it is just to much trouble" as well as with gas and food prices on the rise families are deciding to take care of their own families first.

Region 3 VP-Eltanis Volen reports that she just went through the new survey process and found it to be painless. She is currently helping a family to become a licensed foster home. She did receive a phone call from a foster parent who is thinking they would like to adopt, she was able to refer them to the proper people for assistance. She gave a couple of presentations in July and spoke to them about our association.

Region 4 VP-Vacant

Region 5 VP--Nancy Weigant stated that she is mostly hearing families complain about the new KDHE regulations.

Committee Chairs:

Dennis Finch, Advocacy/Public Policy Committee: He had a family that had children removed and lost their license that he was contacted about. He did some research and found a website that false allegations that he soon found out he did not want to be a part of and had a hard time being removed from the mailing list. This topic is one that he feels is very misunderstood. KDHE representatives explained the difference between SRS substantiated/unsubstantiated and KDHE's substantiated/unsubstantiated. They explained that SRS looks at the issue at hand, and to see if there is any child abuse or neglect. KDHE looks to see that foster care home licensing regulations have been followed. KDHE explained the process that must happen in order for a license to be pulled. Dennis stated that he made some contacts at the county fair, one of them being Senator Janice Lee. He has taught two classes through Children's Alliance and he is currently teaching two DT classes.

Nancy Duling, Resource Development: She stated she is still unable to find the Walk Me Home Training Manual on the website as she is now overseeing the Walk Me Home program. Sandra told her we will talk about that under old business.

Old Business

501 c 3 update---Sandra Hiller reports that the IRS now has all the information needed for the 501 c 3. She is hoping to have a decision by early next week that will be retroactive back to 03/03/07. She shared the information that she had put together and sent to the IRS. If the 501 c 3 is granted we will be considered an Educational Institution.

SRS contract---Reviewed the budget and informed board members to have their expense sheets to Janice Snyder at the first of the month as we are doing monthly billing. Also talked about Insurance and Bonding for the Executive Board members. Sandra Hiller has talked to some other associations and some of them have none and some of them only have liability. Sandra Hiller is going to get some figures and information to discuss with the board.

PR materials--Saundra Hiller presented the board with the prototypes for the logo. There are six different designs with the 4 R's logo. Nancy Duling mentioned that with the shading that was on some of them we would need to make sure that we took that into consideration because that would increase the price. Nancy will pursue this and report back to the board. Table top presentations were discussed. It was thought that we should start with two and then as the need grew for more of them we could order more. This motion was made by Dennis Finch and seconded by Richard Basham, motion passed. Saundra Hiller will order them. We discussed getting some type of promotional material such as pens, band aid holders, nail files. Debi Hatfield from KDHE stated that last year at the Gov. Conf. Some of the organizations gave away or sold t-shirts. A motion was made by Dennis Finch seconded by Richard Basham that we give Nancy Duling a budget not to exceed \$1000.00 to use to purchase materials. Motion passed. Nancy Duling states that she will do some research on materials and prices and email that information to the board.

Membership--Saundra Hiller has drafted a membership letter that she plans to send out to the foster/adoptive/kinship families of Kansas.

Walk Me Home--Saundra Hiller told board that Nancy Duling will oversee the Walk Me Home program. We discussed if we should participate in the Walk Me Home next year and discussion was positive that people enjoyed it. Dennis Finch stated that when he tells people about the walk and that they could do one for their region they are excited about that. It was discussed that the VP's from the regions should help coordinate the events in their areas, giving the people in those areas a local contact. A motion was made by Tracie Wyatt and seconded by Eltanis Volen that we participate in next years Walk Me Home. Motion passed

Website--Saundra Hiller stated that the blog is up and running and that a link is going to be added to the website. The Board of Directors is going to be added as well. KDHE representative, Debi Hatfield, stated that she would have to talk to her supervisor but she thought that they could add us as a link on their website under the Foster Parent site. She also thought that if KFAPA could write a letter describing who we are and what our purpose is, they could include that in the new license packets that go out to new foster parents as well as those foster parents that move and need to relicense. She is going to check with her supervisor and let Saundra Hiller know.

New Business

Saundra Hiller handed out position descriptions to the board. She asks that we go home and read them and contact her with any questions/concerns.

Foster Care Affair--September 25 and 26 in Wichita Nancy Duling is going to send the email to the board with the brochure for viewing. This is a free training for foster parents. KFAPA was asked to donate a \$25.00 gift certificate/door prize. Lots of ideas were given. Motion was made that we prepare a KDHE compliant First Aid box along with a smoke detector for a door prize by Tracie Wyatt, seconded by Nancy Weigant, motion passed.

Governor's Conference--October 29-31, 2008 in Wichita. Board was informed that they could view the brochure at the KCSL website. It was discussed if we should have a booth at the conference, at a cost of \$150.00. That is only for the booth, if we want to attend the conference and have meals there it would be additional cost. Nancy Duling stated that SFC is a sponsor of the event and part of the sponsorship is a booth spot, however SFC is not going to use theirs so she will contact KCSL and see if she can donate that to KFAPA. A motion was made by Tracie Wyatt and seconded by Richard Basham that if Nancy Duling is unable to donate the booth space, we spend \$150.00 dollars on a booth as well as donate a door prize for the Gov. Conference, motion passed. The door prize will be a KDHE compliant First Aid kit with a smoke detector. Will need volunteers to be at the booth on these days. Contact Saundra Hiller or Janice Snyder if you are able to do this.

Annual Conference--Saundra Hiller stated that she has been talking with Kansas Family Advisory Network about doing a joint conference. They are excited about this and would like to start making plans. Saundra Hiller is going to email them the members of our committee so that a

meeting can be set up to get started. Bill Weigant, Richard Basham, and Joyce DeBolt form that committee.

Grandparents Day at the Topeka Zoo--September 7th Eltanis Volen and Tracie Wyatt will attend this and hand out brochures and answer questions about the association.

Vice President's absence from the past three meetings was brought to the attention of the board by Tracie Wyatt. She stated that according to the by-laws he was no longer in compliance to set on the board. It was noted that he has not paid his dues for the fiscal year, which according to by-laws must be paid with 45 days of the new fiscal year. Due to these facts he is no a member in good standing and is not able to hold a board seat. President Sandra Hiller will send him a letter with these findings. The board was informed that the president is unable to appoint this position, so a person must be nominated and a vote take place or the position will sit open.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:08pm

Respectfully submitted

Janice Snyder
Executive Board Secretary