

Kansas Foster and Adoptive Parent Association
Minutes - Quarterly Board Meeting, Saturday, January 16, 2010

Present: Sandra Hiller, Nancy Weigant, Dana Decker, and Nancy Duling

Attendance by phone: Richard Basham, Diane Briscoe, Joyce DeBolt, Dennis Finch, Denise Gibson, and Julie Schoemehl

Called to Order

The Kansas Foster and Adoptive Quarterly board meeting was called to order by President Sandra Hiller at 1:05 p.m., TFI office located at 1711 S. Longfellow Street, Wichita, KS 67207.

Secretary Report

Sandra opened the meeting with the announcement that Janice Snyder, Secretary, has resigned from the board of directors without disclosure. The records were turned over to Vice President Stacey Ulrich, who turned them over to the President Sandra Hiller. President Sandra Hiller has asked Nancy Duling to accept the appointment of secretary, which she has agreed to do, effective today.

The President has taken the following actions since the secretary resigned, January 2010.

1. Completed the Secretary of State annual report that was due on 11/30/2009, paid the \$40 filing fee with her personal credit card.
2. Completed the IRS e-postcard filing which as due on 11/15/08, too late to file, and due 11/15/09, was late but not penalty at this time. Report was filed and accepted by the IRS.
3. Sent membership letter asking for verification of contact information.
4. Changed pass codes to on-line banking.
5. Deposited the membership checks that were located in the secretary's files dating from 7/10/09 to current time.
6. Updated the membership list.
7. Attempted to reconcile bank account
8. Asked SRS for copies of all billings filed.
9. Asked board members for copies of all expenses for past several months, so filing can be brought up to date.
10. Need to contact bank for new signature cards for executive committee
11. Worked on separating finances from KFAPA and conference to make annual reports.
12. Received copies of all bank statements, checks written and deposited to help with reports.

Treasurer's Report

Sandra stated that there is still some work to do to straighten out the finances. Deposits were made as a total sum, and no accounting of what individual donations, membership fees, etc., made up the deposits. Our bank balance at this time is \$5,942.84

Nancy Weigant made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Richard Basham seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Vice President Reports-

Region 1-Richard Basham reported that he visited a KFAN board meeting and needs assistance to identify contacts in region.

Region 2-Julie Schoemehl reported that she was approached by KDHE with new regulations about the number of children in your home with four being the maximum. Joyce DeBolt clarified that the KDHE regulation is not new and the maximum is for six children in the home including biological, adoptive, and foster children. It was recommended that KDHE write an article for the newsletter to clarify this regulation. Julie has been working on the Bill of Rights for Foster Parents. Dennis Finch stated that the Foster Children Bill of Rights was approved

several years ago. It was recommended to contact Nebraska, Missouri, and the National Foster Parent Association.

Region 3-Eltanis Volen , no report

Region 4-Diane Briscoe reported and had questions regarding the reductions from SRS with respite care and the HCBS waiver. It was communicated that KETCH has had major cuts; Pawnee Mental has reduced by 2/3 of their staff; and Prairie View is reducing their staff. Diane is interested in receiving more information about the Walk Me Home and the conference.

Region 5-Saundra Hiller communicated that Dana Decker has agreed to be the Region 5 Vice President due to Nancy Weigant's strain with working, raising children, and being a foster parent. Nancy shared that Youthville has started an Adoption Support Group. She also copied several other handouts and distributed to the members in the room.

Legislation/Public Policy

Saundra Hiller has sent Dennis Finch an email regarding an article in the Wichita paper about proposed legislation to abolish the privatization system and to return everything to SRS. Saundra also contacted Denise Gibson and Denise was not aware of this information. Saundra reminded everyone that when you hear of local or state legislation to pass it to the executive board. She reminded our members that we cannot lobby as an organization, but we can lobby as individuals. It was recommended that someone from KFAPA be on the Children's Alliance Legislative and Advocacy committee. Richard Basham reported that the Kansas Senate Majority Leader lives in his region and he would discuss with him the possibility of attending our next meeting, which will be in Region 1.

Polices and Procedures

Saundra forwarded what National Foster Parent Association has sent to her. She asked that we read through them carefully and we can communicate through emails. She stated a final vote should be accomplished before our next meeting.

Old Business

Laptops-The organization has received two laptops from Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline. Janice Snyder also returned the laptop that Saint Francis Community Services had donated. Dane Decker stated that she would check with Hawker Beechcraft about purchasing software. It was also recommended to contact Wal-Mart.

Website-It was discussed about setting up fee payment through Pay Pal. Saundra has received the information from the webmaster, but due to the secretary situation she has not been able to review the information. Saundra has requested a website activity report from her. Please email Saundra if you would like a copy of the activity report. The webmaster has also been asked about adding music to the website. Saundra has two suggestions with Angel Little, "Home, Home, Take Me Home", and Tom Chapin, "Father, Daughter, Mother, Son." We would need to ask for permission to utilize these songs.

PR Materials-There were 1,000 hand sanitizers purchased for the Governor's Conference and Saint Francis Community Services Christmas Party. There are over 600 left and have the organization's logo on a label. We also have band-aid holders and notepads. We should have enough items for the Foster Care Affair that will be hosted on April 22-23. Families Together, Inc., is hosting a conference in Topeka on February 27. It was recommended for each Vice President to talk to the contracting agencies to see if information can be displayed in their foster care newsletters about Kansas Foster and Adoptive Parent Association.

Walk Me Home-The Orphan Train Museum, in Concordia has agreed to be our statewide coordinators. Pre-Paid Legal has agreed to be a corporate sponsor. The museum will have a board meeting at the end of the month to discuss the partnership. We need to propose dates and times. It was discussed that June was a good time to do a walk. Nancy Duling will be our liaison to the museum. Nancy will contact Carl Jones at the National Foster Parent Association to get his input on the split of contributions and donations allocated to the museum for their coordination of the event.

Annual Conference-Saundra Hiller stated that she has spoken to several contractors about doing forums this year instead of a conference. It was recommended to have the contractors send one family from each region. The agency would pay for their families to attend. At the forum, we would have discussions about child welfare, find out what's going on from the families' perspectives, found out what issues are specific to what regions, etc., and communicate their perspectives to the agencies, SRS, and KDHE. Richard made a motion for Saundra to create a proposal and to submit to the board for approval. Nancy Weigant second the motion and upon voting passed unanimously.

New Business

Elections-Saundra is creating job descriptions for the different positions. The position for President, Treasurer, Vice President for Region 1, Region 3, and Region 5, are up for reelection in June, 2010.

It was requested that the monthly reports with contacts be received by the fourth of the month to the secretary. Saundra will email the monthly report to each board member.

The next KFAPA Regional Quarterly board meeting will be hosted in Region 1, at the TFI Building, Independence, Kansas.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.