



Arc Board Meeting
February 4, 2021

Welcome and Call to Order:

Present: Doug Cunningham, Delaine Peterson, Kristen Aller, Michael Glanz, Lonnie Polok, Theresa Lewis, Julie Beckett, Jim, Kyle Shramp, Nancy Baker Curtis, Alice Phillips, Paula Connolly, Jim France, Al Fagerlund, Joy Barlean, Tricia Crain, Chelsey Markle,

- **Minutes -**
- Donna Bachman made a motion that minutes be approved with changes made for personal information if needed, Kristen Aller seconded, and the motion carried on a vote.
- **Executive Director Report**
Doug reported that we are utilizing 2 AARP workers to contact members and ask how they are doing with the pandemic.
Goodwill is expanding to a Goodwill Outlet store in Iowa City, we will be adding a couple of machines there. Goodwill is building a new administration building, we will be adding machines there as well. Goodwill also has a factory to produce oil to which they add vitamins and sell to third world countries/
Doug applied for PPP money and it looks like it will go through this time. May be several hundred dollars.
Working on insurance etc. for liability and vending machines.

Financials

Budget: remains same; no changes. Next meeting will have a first quarter report.
Management Summary: we have 2 yrs of Affiliation Fees to national chapter on this report, and decreased income from vending machines this past year. Doug reported sales of drinks are picking up.
Motion to accept financials made by Paula Connolly, seconded by Kristen Aller. Motion carried on a vote.
4th Quarter Financials: for ending Dec 31, 2020. Delaine sent out cards for donations before Christmas, and received \$5000 in donations in 2020, and more coming in for January. Kristen Aller made a motion to accept the quarter report, Theresa Lewis seconded, and the motion carried on a vote.

Advocacy – Mike reported on current bills affecting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

- **Bills of Interest:** Michael Wood reviews new bills each morning (Thank you!!). Over 900 bills submitted so far this year. Nancy reported on HF33, the Changing Spaces bill. It was supposed to be before committee yesterday, but canceled due to weather. Will target 3 subcommittee



members to encourage them to push it (and HF 38) through for the subcommittee vote. She has updated the Facebook page to ask for public comments, as these comments have helped in the past to influence legislators; they do read them! Delaine will share Nancy's email address with a sample email to send to legislators.

Reporting requirements for home and private schooling; may be there to slow the scholarship bill. HF

HF 229 on parental choice on learning; passed and signed by governor.

HF 292: child care reimbursement rate; will probably pass the House.

HF 294: reimbursement rate for health care; may pass but minimum wage rate at federal level may affect this

HF 302: gradual phaseout of child care reimbursement

HF study bill 27: appears to give the court the ability to order a visitor to check on guardianships.

HF 169: requires payment on clean claims for MCO within a set time. Michael believes this may go forward and would help some payment issues.

HF: helps persons with a tax break if working with persons with disabilities.

SF161: program improvements for Medicaid. Want a third-party decider for MCOS and Medicaid; but he does not think that it will move forward.

SF81: Medicaid recipient to direct primary care. Involves childless adults and pregnant women.

SF195: passed the Senate, locked up in the House. Bill about private education scholarships, charter schools etc. Has been promoted by the Governor.

SF161: establish a data base of long-term caregivers.

SF190: replacement of MCOs with a fee for service. Will probably not move forward; MCOs are not going away.

Michael puts out a sheet each week with updates; Doug will upload it to the Arc of Iowa website, so that all chapters can review it.

Funnel week is March 5.

Circles of Connection Meeting Summary and Accomplishments: Paula reported on education issues during COVID-19. The group talked to Dept of Educ and the Governor's point person for education regarding the issue of getting/providing services. After discussion of personal experiences, the Dept of Education will put out a paper regarding the breath of services for the pandemic and the long-term effects of this year. The Dept is working on a document about special education services and will share it with Paula's group when it is completed. Paula reported that the Dept was pleased with their input; Paula asked to be part of future discussions in these areas. Her group also asked the Dept to consider implementing more vocational education for students with special needs in the high schools, and that students have full access to the vocational education already in place. Joy Barlean expressed gratitude for holding the meeting.

Education Updates:



- **Future Ready Iowa:** Julie Beckett reported on this group; she is part of this group. It works to help get people ready to work in the area of disabilities. It is working to provide scholarships for persons to attend school for nursing to work with persons with disabilities. Also trying to help high school students to access apprenticeships and programs for nursing and child care training. Setting up some summer internship programs in these areas also. They plan to work also on increasing wages for people who work with this population. This group has reached out to Kirkwood and they are interested in being involved in educating workers other educational entities are being contacted also.

Board Activity

Grant Work:

Paula has looked into a grant from *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*. She has found a grant looking at target population of families with young children with disabilities. Would use the Family to Family concept to connect people with the grant money. Large grant; at least \$50,000. She has asked for input/help from Mark Smith as to the feasibility of a grant with this group.

Ben & Jerry's Grant: they are now re-opening their grant applications and Delaine will re-apply. Maytag has been good to Arc in the past, and will be approached again.

Walmart: several mini-grants; the Arc received around \$7000 to help to promote awareness of the mission and work of the Arc of Iowa, which has helped with our website building, etc.

Doug reported that it is simple to apply for and get money from Walmart; local chapters should apply, as long as they are not getting United Way money.

Veridian grant: looking at employment opportunities, may be simple to move ahead.

Alliant Energy: Delaine will look into this grant possibility in more depth.

Delaine also wants to look into the Fred Hubbell grant that the Arc applied for last year.

Board Member Recruitment:

Michael Glanz provided a lead for an educational professional, but this person can only be an Arc member, not a Board member, due to family issues.

We are still looking for a lawyer, for a Treasurer, for a Vice President.

Chapter Updates:

Alice Phillips: North Central Arc: new personnel at the vocational center. Got a small grant in December. Biggest concern is staying connected as the COVID drags on. Have some telephone trees, and in-home activities to keep people connected.

Theresa Lewis: Arc of East Central: implementing new strategic plan. Organizing to reinvigorate the community advocacy group; have hired a new staff and has worked out well so far. COVID closures continue.

Chelsey Markle: Arc of SE Iowa: Figuring out COVID vaccinations in Johnson county, to get staff vaccinated. And to get vaccinations out to clients and qualifying family members. Working on hiring teaching staff. Also working to get the After-School program back in force; have renovated the space. May look at adult activities also for individual persons and their staff personnel. Looking to use the vending machine work as a job opportunity for clients. She



reported that the Goodwill Center in Iowa City has a For Sale sign and is looking to sell their building.

Quad Cities Chapter: Michael Glanz: doing a Parent series about School to Adult World and also Signs of Abuse. Continuing services in Iowa, planning activities for the last quarter of this year. Been trying to hire a licensed psychologist for their area, but have not had results yet.

Al Fagerlund: Marshall County: working to stay in contact with the adult population, doing things virtually or in very small groups. Looking forward to summer, planning for continuing restrictions due to COVID, but will be able to provide activities as they did this past summer.

Jim France: Arc of Woodbury County: Looking to try to have summer camp activities this summer; probably only 2-4 weeks, and half days instead of full days. Doing a survey of families for interest in Woodbury County. Had grant money last year to spend on camp, and went back to the grant people and received the money for this year instead.

Tricia Crain, Arc of Story County: Special Olympics has come out with a 'return to play' plan, so following that. Hope to have some kind of social activity in March, with social distancing.

League of Women Voters asked the Arc to sponsor a Saturday Wake up meeting with local legislators, so doing that this Saturday and Tricia gets to talk about the Arc of Story County. Project SEARCH still going on.

Cedar Valley Arc, Lonnie Polok: trying to plan activities for Valentine's Day with virtual connections. Working on a grant for creative arts for everyone; may do something with the local art center. May make art packets to drop off for clients. Interested in getting more information regarding the education for future care workers.

Carroll county, Donna Bachman: no new information.

Wayne County: Doug C gave update: chapter has lost Leonard Jondle

Doug helped the group rewrite their outdated Articles of Incorporation. Can file your Biennial Report online; Doug can provide info on this.

Darlene Vorhies also has passed away this year, and the Arc of Jefferson County is looking to move ahead in the future.

Doug will share a link on our Arc website to the Des Moines Register article on Changing Spaces. Delaine asked for other new business. Discussion about Changing Tables continued briefly. Also legislature connections.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn was made by Donna Bachman, seconded by Kristen Aller. Meeting was adjourned by Delaine at 1:15

Future meetings:

Thursday, March 18, 2021

Thursday, May 20, 2021

Thursday, July 15, 2021

Thursday, September 16, 2021



Thursday, November 18, 2021