

Arc of Iowa Board Annual Meeting

August 14, 2019

Ames Public Library, Ames, IA

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

11:05 AM: Welcome and Call to order:

Delaine Petersen, Arc Board President called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM.

Present in person: Delaine, Doug Cunningham-Executive Director of Arc of Iowa, Donna Bachman-Secretary, Kristen Aller, Alice Philips, Chelsey Markle, Sam Houston-Treasurer, Mike Wood, Al Fagerlund, Julie Beckett, Jim Francis. No phone-in participants.

Housekeeping Issues: Delaine reported that Susan Teas would like to retire from the Arc Board; Delaine expressed thanks to Susan for all of her hard work and dedication through the years.

Delaine asked Kristen to be a quasi-timekeeper to limit conversations so that we can get all of our information shared with the whole group.

Policy information: Julie Beckett is in attendance today; she has been instrumental in establishing support services for persons with disabilities through a waiver program that is widely used today across the nation.

Board Meeting Minutes:

Review of Annual Arc Board meeting minutes from October 2018; Donna Bachman made a motion to accept the minutes, Alice Philips seconded the motion, and the motion carried on a vote.

Review of May 2019 Board Meeting minutes were reviewed; name spellings were corrected. Donna made a motion to accept the minutes with the corrections to the spelling of members' names, Kristen seconded the motion and the motion carried on a vote.

11:10 AM: Local Chapter Updates:

Woodbury County Report: Jim Francis: They just finished camps for persons with special needs, they served 89 youngsters, of various ages Included 3 counties in addition to Woodbury. Summer camp has received financial support from the mental health entities. They are considering relocating camp for a more centrally located camps.

SE Iowa Report: Chelsey Markle: They also just finished summer camp programming, for half and full day camps for teen through preschool aged persons. SE Iowa offers respite and supported community living. Will have new staff this Fall with turnovers, with difficulty in making the reimbursement rate cover the expenses of staff and administrative costs.

Bags and Bidding Fundraiser: will have a Bags tournament and offer a raffle and silent auction. \$5.00 per ticket for a bike, kayak, and Yeti cooler, with discount for more tickets.

Will get their website rebuilt by Geonetric; the Arc applied along with Arc of Eastern Iowa. Both Arcs are going to get a rebuild.

Marshall County report: Al Fagerlund: Summer camp had some changes this year with facilities being torn down after the tornado; rebuilt buildings will be more suitable for persons with special needs. Transportation is an issue for their Arc; can get buses, etc. but have to search/work to get what they need.

Cerro Gordo report: Alice Philips: They are offering information on how to listen to candidates and to make decisions. They have some meetings set up with city personnel in order to work on improving interactions with housing personnel and landlords. Six self-advocates signed up for the "Make Your Mark" self-advocacy workshop in Coralville in September.

Carroll Report: Donna Bachman: DMACC just completed summer camp in Carroll; half day camp for children Kindergarten through 4 or 5th grade. Served around 50 persons. Kellen's Kingdom is being built this week; the materials have been there all summer. Volunteers are being used to help assemble the playground.

Scott County: Doug reported: The Scott County Arc will join with the Quad Cities Arc; lawyers are working on the paperwork. They hope to be completed by January, 2020. They want to invest ~\$14,000 to buy vending machines. Will put machines in 4 stores, and also in their Arc facilities. These Arcs are both very strong programs and will be very active in working to increase employability of persons with special needs. They will also build a summer camp program together. Delaine suggested that we have Michael Glanz, their director, come in October to explain their past, their progress, and their plans for the future.

Arc of Cedar Valley Report: Doug reported: He and Delaine went to their recent annual meeting. They have had challenges with maintaining their Arc these past years, and Arc of Iowa has been working with them to help rebuild.

They are working on some grants, and a fundraiser, and a membership drive. Delaine is helping them write grants;

11:35 AM: Resource Committee Report:

First meeting held with attendees from the Arcs of Marshall County, Story County, & South East Iowa . Next meeting will be held in Iowa City on August 24. Three basic ideas in the works:

1. Host an Arc March every year in March, will help any chapter set up and hold the March.
2. Membership commitment: we need to build our membership. We would like to build numbers for a more formidable presence at the State Capital. Eventually, we would like to make membership dues more uniform across the state.
3. We have purchased a donor registry; any chapter can use this online registry without cost to enroll Arc members. Ten dollars will go to Arc of Iowa; \$5.00 will go to this committee in order to build the offerings. The remaining money will go to the local chapter.

Doug also shared that the Arc of Iowa has a volunteer Match program on the website, so that if you are looking for volunteers for an activity, you can fill out a form online and make connections *globally* for \$100 per year. Local Arcs will be able to use this but will have to contact Doug in order to get their information online. This website is the highest searched website for volunteering.

The website page for each chapter has a place to register to be a member in that chapter (which is also available on the state's home page). They will also have a link in order to donate just to that chapter. On the Arc of Iowa home page, the Donate link will allow persons to donate to the State Arc of Iowa, rather than to individual chapters.

Delaine made a motion to that we support the current work of the Resource Development Committee and encourage them to study membership levels/costs, test them and refine them. Then report back to the Arc of Iowa Board at the summer Board meeting in 2020. The Resource Committee will also revisit the amount for the self-advocate fee. Mike Wood seconded the motion, and the motion was carried on a vote.

12:05 PM: History Committee Report: Mike Wood reported: Several persons or groups working on different sources of information. From Scott county archives, Mike learned that this chapter was very active during the 1950s. At this time, this chapter is down to three members; Mike would like to understand how the chapter evolved over the years.

The committee has partnered with the Harkin Institute at Drake University, but has had limited movement during the summer months.

Mike reported that he feels that they have enough information coming in and now they need to decide next steps for the committee, including what to do with the information. Doug reported that National Arc has become interested in history of the Arc, and also providing national recognition for past members whom have made significant contributions through their work and efforts.

12:15 PM: Executive Committee Report: Doug reported on many of the activities across the state. The Arc of Iowa is moving forward in reaching sustainability, with the vending machines paid off and local Arcs interested in purchasing vending machines. We are starting to grow, and to offer support to local chapters, developing relationships, and building from our history. We also have several persons in mind to add to the Board.

Advocacy, Resource and Communication: these three ideas are actually what we at Arc of Iowa are about and what we are now able to offer to our members.

Delaine added that she feels like the Arc of Iowa is gaining traction. Trust is start to build among the chapters, and we realize that we are all really working for one goal: to support persons with disabilities. We have made the first step to make our face known at the State Capital level: Julie Beckett, Katie Beckett's mom, has agreed to represent the Arc of Iowa at the next legislative session.

Julie talked about her history with starting the Waiver program. She indicated that the savings, in the beginning, in one year, for one person, was over \$300,000. And she questioned where the money from these savings has gone. Julie would like to learn the chairmen of certain committees at the legislature, and also the person and the chapter of the Arc who can be responsible to get 10 calls in to that person, when needed, to make a difference on a certain policy or law. Julie is on board to help the Arc of Iowa at the State Capital and has more ideas that she hopes to put into place as we move forward. Julie is looking for members for a Policy Committee.

Delaine moved that in general the Board would be in favor of retaining Julie in a contract position as a capital liaison to protect advocacy rights. The Executive Committee will then bring a contract to the October Board meeting for discussion and approval. Donna Bachman seconded the motion, and the motion carried through a vote by the Board.

The Arc of Iowa will be using membership fees to help pay for this.

After the last Arc Board meeting, Mike Wood wrote a letter to Kim Reynolds, Iowa's governor, and copied it to his representatives. At the end of several talks with different people, he talked with Liz Mathes (the governor's aide on MCOs) about his letter, and he was then invited to come to Des Moines to talk with the governor on August 26. He and Doug and Delaine will attend. He plans to suggest that the state separate persons with long term conditions and disabilities from short term medical concerns in the MCO payments.

He is reaching out to 1 Democrat and 2 Republicans that might support that suggestion when he presents it to the governor.

Jim Francis talked briefly about I-Start, which is a program that uses data to make quality health decisions regarding where to spend the public's money.

Officer Election: Delaine presented the following roster of nominees

President: Delaine Petersen

Vice President: Paula Connelly

Treasurer: Sam Houston

Secretary: Donna Bachman

Past President: Alice Philips

Doug entertained recommendations for other nominees; no persons were nominated. A vote was held and the roster of nominees carried for the coming year.

Chapter Development: There will be an Affiliation Fees Work Group starting up this Fall; Doug will be sending out information soon to the local chapter directors regarding this group and getting it started.

Delaine discussed the idea of having affiliate member status for entities. Doug elaborated on what this might look like and how this might help the Arc of Iowa and what we can do for our members.

Finance Committee: Doug explained that the affiliation fees at the top of page one are not income at this time, but these are the fees that are expected to be paid.....

Office expenses covers cleaning, wifi for the vending machines,

2018 Audit Results: Doug presented the information; Delaine commented that the Board should look at taking a bid for future audits, in order to get more information from an audit. Several Board members agreed, especially in order to get more transparency to donors and members.

Donna Bachman made a motion to accept the audit as written, Alice Philips seconded, and the motion carried through a vote.

For the Statement of Financial Position, Delaine and Doug reviewed the material for the group

Sam Houston moved to accept the Statement of Financial Position, Kristen Aller seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote.

2:10 PM: Delaine wrapped up the meeting with a few comments and reminded members about supporting Chelsey's raffle and Board members' trip to the National Convention.

Kristen Aller made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Donna Bachman seconded, and the motion carried through a vote. Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Upcoming Trainings:

2019: Make Your Mark Conference; Sept 26-27, Coralville Iowa

<https://idaction.org/make-your-mark-conference/>

2020: Together We Can Conference; May, 2020

Upcoming Meetings:

October 9 in Ames Public Library

December 11, location to be determined