**Present:**

Doug Cunningham
Delaine Petersen
Susan Teas
Donna Bachman

**Absent:**

John Timmons
Lori Vaughn
Pat Steele

**NOTE:** Discussion on meetings and items to be discussed. Not enough members to have a quorum, so no votes can be held.

**BOARD MEMBER UPDATE**: Discussed the need to fill out the board roster. It is difficult to get anything done without a full board.

Doug suggested finding someone from the Sioux City North West Iowa Area involved in service provision

Other areas of concern: Dubuque, Council Bluffs, Davenport; but have active Arc groups across their state borders. Perhaps we can engage the Board Arc’s to work together.

Several of the Arc’s have voiced frustration with dues and in paying them. Especially the smaller Arc’s that raise funds through fund raising.

**New Business:** GROW YOUR ARC MEETING- Doug would like to invite all of the executive directors from all of the individual Arcs of Iowa, to involve them in Arc of Iowa business. He would like to call this the Iowa Council of Executives or ICE. We could host monthly telephone meetings and an annual Leadership meeting. Delaine suggested having a person present to answer advocacy questions for the individual Arc leaders.

We would like each chapter to report on the goings on in their region, and what involvement that the local chapter had in that. We want people to feel welcome, have fun and able to share and feel like they are part of this group.

We felt it may be good to invite Pam Jochum and Lisa Heddens as guest speakers to inform the members how we can best support improvements in the legislature and talk about advocacy.

GROW YOUR ARC MEETING AGENDA

* 10-11: Board meeting to approve minutes, etc.
* 11-12 Lisa Heddens/Pam Jochum talk
* 12-1: sack lunch: we provide
* 1-2: chapter members talk

**New Business:** HEARTLAND SELF ADVOCACY NETWORK - Doug has partnered with the Iowa Disability and Aging Advocates Network (IDAAN) to assist us will building a self-advocacy network. This has been quite successful and they are now meeting weekly, and have several people from different groups on this committee.

Here are some of the things that they are working on:

* A webinar of self-advocates sharing The History of Disabilities in Iowa
* Construction of a website and Facebook Page
* Hosting listening sessions around the State to determine the best opportunity for linking various existing self-advocacy groups together.

**New Business:** FUND ING AND GRANT DEVELOPMENT – Doug applied for a $25,000 grant from the Fred Maytag foundation to assist with growing the vending machine program. He foresees us using resources raised to become a statewide leader in providing legal services that affect advocacy, protecting vulnerable individuals with disabilities and assisting families with encouraging saving for their children over the long term through the ABLE Act.

Each machine costs on average $6000 to buy and set up; if we can get donors to give that amount, we can put their name on the machine and then all the funds raised can go to helping us meet the mission of the Arc.

Doug has asked Casey from Systems Unlimited if we can put machines in his place of businesses in Iowa City and Cedar Rapids. Machines would have food and pop, possible additional frozen food machine.

There are other benefits of these machines that also help us expand our efforts. For example, as Doug and KJ fill the machines in local communities, we get to know the local chapter members and become friends in the process. If creates a team atmosphere versus our existing us and them attitude.

A machine placed in a good location with over 100 employees is expected to generate $20,000 per year. Currently we have no sites that would generate that type of revenue.



**MISSION**

The Arc believes that all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have strengths, abilities and inherent value; are equal before the law, and must be treated with dignity and respect. The Arc represents, supports, and acts on behalf of individuals and their families regardless of level of ability or membership in The Arc. The Arc believes in self-determination by empowering people with the supports needed to make informed decisions and choices.

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