Arc of Iowa Board Meeting

May 5, 2018

“Together We Can” Conference

Iowa State Fairgrounds

11:45 AM - Meeting called to order by Delaine Petersen and Executive Director, Doug Cunningham.

Board members present: Donna Bachman, secretary; Alice Philips; Paula Connelly; Absent: Susan Teas, Karen DeGroot, Codie Amason, Mary McCalley, Tricia Crain (CE), Karen DeGroot (CE) - Guest – Julie Beckett (interested in board)

This meeting was informational as a quorum was not present – therefore not decisions or motions were made.

Executive Director Update:

1. Vending Machines: Arc of Iowa has 28 machines in place and generating income. We have 1.5 years of loan payments before all of the machines will be debt-free and able to build significant profit on sales. Currently, there are three volunteers and 2 part-time employees who keep the machine stocked.
2. Delaine reported on companies and foundations who have interest in supporting capital investments. Doug and Delaine also requested/received some potential leads for The Arc ECI director, Anne. A strong potential is the Wittern Group Foundation; 4 other grants have been written and are pending. No action taken by the board at this time.
3. Doug reported on the development of the website. Much of the website work is done. He would like to be able to connect new membership and renewals to local chapters, so that there can be one payment point and also immediate access of member information for the member, the local chapter and the state chapter, Arc of Iowa.

After reviewing multiple Arc websites across the nation and talking with Arc of the US, he learned that none of the chapter websites are set up to handle membership with due distribution to the local, state and national electronically. Arc of US is very interested in what we at Arc of Iowa are trying to accomplish with the website. If Arc Iowa can accomplish this, they want to test.

Doug will set up local Arc pages on the website, so that a local chapter can use the Arc of Iowa website to share their news, connect with their local members, receive information from Arc of Iowa and Arc of US, and learn what other local chapters are doing. It will also build a sense of relationship among and between chapters instead of feeling isolated. It will also give small volunteer chapters resources they can’t afford. Delaine Petersen suggested that Doug select one to three of the smaller local chapters to trial the local Arc webpages and to test the membership aspect, as it is developed. All concurred.

1. Discussion held on the current “Together We Can” conference, to provide input to Doug for future conferences. All members agreed that the conference is a worthwhile event for networking and for sharing information with families. Concerns expressed about reaching the rural regions of the state. There is already some discussion about having remote sites for the conference with connecting to the conference/speakers via the web, so that families do not have to make the trip to Des Moines. The Board expressed favor with this idea and shared some suggestions with Doug on how to best advocate for this solution and how to organize the remote site use, for ease in planning and executing the event, and facilitate success. Doug will be in the debriefing session in a week or two and will make sure to support the need to support rural areas.

12:30 PM - Meeting was adjourned so all could attend the afternoon session of the conference.

Next meeting: June 16, 2018, at 10:00 AM, in the Ames Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bachman

Board Secretary