

The Arc of Sedgwick County
Board of Directors Meeting
February 23, 2009

ATTENDEES: Ken Dannenberg, Sean Amore, Sue Schmelzer, Julie Wittich, Tom Racunas, Kayla Jean Mitchell, Sarah Vaughan, Linda McCurry, Deborah Gdisis, Curtis Tatum, Ronda Maass, Marlene Sanders, Colette Deeds-Conner, Eric Kauffman, Marge Zakoura-Vaughan

ABSENT:

PRESIDING: Ken Dannenberg, President

STAFF: Kevin Fish, Kristen Phillips, Marty Rothwell

GUESTS:

I. Call to order

Ken Dannenberg, President, called the Board of Director's meeting to order

II. Agenda Modifications

It was moved by Kayla Jean Mitchell and seconded by Ronda Maass to approve the agenda as it was presented by President, Ken Dannenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Self Advocate Report

A copy of the Self Advocate written report was made available to everyone. Shawna read her report.

VI. Executive Director's Report

Kevin highlighted that the agency is \$3500 ahead of last year's budget at this time. United Way is postponing the due date for proposals until July. Last year we asked UW for a \$35,000 increase in funding. We received \$15,000. This year we are asking for the \$20,000 that we did not receive from our previous request. Kevin thanked the board members who attended the Variety Show. Sean Amore is helping set up an awareness event at the Hyatt for National MR Awareness month in March. We are working with ACT to invite 150 community leaders. We plan to share success stories of those we serve and heighten awareness of Invisible Kansans that is addressing the issues of the waiting list. We are planning on March 6 at 11:30 a.m. Kevin expressed his thanks to Sean Amore for his marketing efforts. There will be a training for the management team and marketing committee, to make sure items are proofed and there is consistency in messaging. Ladies' Luncheon is coming up. We hope to raise \$15,000. Circle of Friends is moving to Dunbar tomorrow. We will still be looking at office space issues as the TCM department expands.

V. Endowment Allocations

The Allocations Committee had a lot of questions regarding the proposals submitted. The proposals are being presented to the board for approval. Kevin reviewed information about the endowment and the allocation of funds with the board.

1. Rainbows United submitted a proposal but because it is no involvement or collaboration project with the Arc it does not meet criteria
2. Staff from the WSU Hugo Wall School submitted a project that was costly and we do not know what we would end up with. It could possibly be suggestions of steps we have already tried. There is room to negotiate what we would like to focus on and cost, but could still end up with a plan that does not truly benefit The Arc. The board chose not to allocate funds to this project.
3. Circle of Friends submitted a proposal for a grant writer requesting a specific person that does not have grant writing experience. As a volunteer, in a six month period this individual has only received a \$500 grant. A part of the proposal is the purchase of an expensive laptop. Discussion ensued and the decision was to not fund the proposal.
4. A proposal for Interactive Special Education, which is a computer program to aid individuals with developmental disabilities in developing skills getting a community job. There were concerns if there was a pilot program to show the effectiveness or success of the program. The cost is about \$1000 a kid to put through the program. There was discussion of partnering with another agency with a computer lab. USD 259 looked into the program but did not think it did not meet their needs for special education students with moderate to severe mental retardation. They are looking at the program with modifications for High School students with learning disabilities, who are higher functioning and think are better suited for the program. There was discussion on target population. Kevin recommended that USD 259 fund it for the school district and see how the program fairs for them and look at the modified version in a year or two. It was suggested that a case study or control group are needed to show the effectiveness of the program. It was decided to not fund this proposal.

It was suggested to send something back to those who submitted proposals to let them know what was missing.

It was also suggested that we need to work on what are requesting in proposals.

VI. Treasurer's Report

There were questions on the treatment of capital expenses, such as the controllers for LOSP. They can be expensed over the next 3 years instead of one year.

The endowment started off at \$533,075 and ended at \$386,000 at -18% loss. Deborah attended a meeting by the group that advises the Wichita Community Foundation (WCF). They are new advisors to the WCF and are in the process of reorganizing the portfolio. They fly in quarterly to meet with the WCF. Our investments were hit hard by the hedge funds, the WCF is not in there them anymore. It took 6 months to get out of them. There was discussion about funds being submitted to the endowment based on its performance.

Should funds be put elsewhere until the endowment's earning power improves? It was suggested to continue to invest in the endowment and have the professionals manage it.

It was moved by Sean Amore and seconded by Marlene Sanders to return the \$23,000 of the endowment allocation not spent back to the Wichita Community Foundation.

It was moved by Sue Schmelzer and seconded by Kayla Jean Mitchell to go into executive session for the ED evaluation at 7:22 p.m.

Secretary Signature

Secretary – Linda McCurry
Recorder – Kristen Phillips