

DSANV Board of Directors Meeting- May 18, 2016

DSANV OFFICES

Meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m.

Board members attending in person- Erin Thompson, Brad Lee, Charlotte Woodward, Jessica Kuss, David Egan, Dave Hoffman, Nora Bahamonde, Heather Gogola, Katie Ramchand, Dorene Ryder. Board members attending by phone: Abel Sussman, Sean Salins, Casey Craig, Heather Trammell

Welcome and President's Report- Casey thanked the new board members for joining us. We have six new board members and a full board according to our by-laws. The Spring Picnic was very successful- there was a good turnout and the weather cooperated. Casey will be pressing upon the board to look at the organization from a three-year standpoint, with the idea that we are working on Year 1 to accomplish our goals for the organization in Year 3.

Approvals

Motion by Katie Ryan to approve the agenda as written

- Motion seconded by Dorene Ryder.
- All in favor.
- Motion is approved.

Motion by Sean Salins to approve the minutes for the March meeting.

- Motion seconded by Nora Bahamonde.
- All in favor.
- Motion approved.

Motion by Heather Trammell to approve the list of new members as provided.

- Motion seconded by Jessica Kuss.
- All in favor.
- Motion approved.
-

Executive Director Report- Self-advocate Wellness Programs are going well and have reconnected many of our families with the organization. Board Member Charlotte Woodward gave a presentation to Flint Hill High School about the R-word, Down syndrome and inclusion and was great. The Buddy Walk on Washington was a great experience, and Joe recommends targeting other self-advocates to participate along with Board Members David Egan and Erin Thompson. Erin Thompson was able to present the NDSS Champion of Change award in person to Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-VA).

Financial Report (Joe Lintott/Dorene Ryder)- All programs are on budget unless adjustments had been made. At this point it appears that we will not have to make an additional withdrawal from the investment account unless we add programming.

Casey would like to impress upon the board a philosophy of making the organization bigger, which will require increased fundraising. In addition, the organization is heavily reliant on one major fundraising effort, the Buddy Walk, which is risky for an organization such as DSANV. Casey would like to see additional sources of revenue explored so that we are less reliant on one event to fund the organization.

New Business

Discussion of scholarships/camperships/medical goods.

Motion by Katie Ryder to adopt campership recommendations with modifications discussed at meeting.

- Motion seconded by Heather Gogola.
- All in favor.
- Motion approved.

Summer events- Discussion of potential summer events. Joe will look into possible venues for two summer events, as well as looking into a Buddy Walk incentive. Consideration of potentially tying these events into an advocacy message will be considered if appropriate.

Golf Update- Sponsorships and Auction/Raffle Items are coming in, although we could use help securing additional items. Golfers are in the 50's at this point- there is a maximum of 144, although most years it is between 90-100.

Buddy Walk Update. George Mason has been secured, and this year it will be on a Sunday. The discussion of Saturday vs. Sunday was discussed in terms of increasing participation, however, based on George Mason's commitments the date of Sunday, October 2nd was the only option based on our requirements. We will be looking to build on corporate sponsorships from last year. In addition, we are focusing on trying to increase the amount of individual fundraising. We are, however, in a better place in terms of planning than last year.

Members survey- Efforts to create a member survey have not proved fruitful- Jessica Kuss and Charlotte Woodward are going to attempt to come up with a working document that board members can help finalize. There was a discussion of previous survey with poor response rate, and incentives and strategies to improve response rate were discussed.

Strategy Groups- Casey discussed five areas he would like to see examined or improved, and he asked for the creation of the groups to explore DSANV's current state and ways to improve it. The groups formed were: Fundraising (Casey Craig/Dorene Ryder/Dave Hoffman); Social Media (Jessica Kuss/Brad Lee); PR/Marketing (Heather Gogola/Heather Trammell/Dave Hoffman); Technology (Casey Craig/Dorene Ryder/Brad Lee); Legislative/Advocacy (Katie Ryder/Heather Gogola/Charlotte Woodward/Dorene Ryder/Abel Sussman/David Egan).

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by David Egan.

- Motion seconded by Dave Hoffman.
- All in favor.
- Motion approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Lintott
Executive Director