

West Virginia Advocates, Inc.
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Charleston Office, Charleston, WV

May 25, 2010, 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Sam Benson, Terry Dilcher, Robert Hardesty, Cathy Reed and Carla Walker

Members by Telephone: Pam Akers and Clifton Clark

Members Absent: Paula Mieczkowski (unexcused) and JoEllen Zacks (unexcused)

Guests: Ted Johnson and Phil Reed

Staff Present: Clarice Hausch and Barbara Criner

Mr. Hardesty called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He noted that Ted Johnson had resigned from the Board due to a conflict of interest. He expressed his appreciation for Mr. Johnson's contributions to the Board and to the agency. Both Ms. Reed and Ms. Hausch also thanked Mr. Johnson for his service to WVA.

Mr. Hardesty asked for any additions or deletions to the agenda.

***Motion:** Ms. Reed moved that the March 16, 2010 minutes be approved with the following change: Phil Reed should be added as guest. Seconded by Mr. Benson. Motion carried; none opposed; no abstentions.*

Mr. Hardesty asked for an update on the Brady Gun Law. This was listed as an unfinished item from the March meeting. Both Ms. Reed and Ms. Hausch stated there was no update.

A discussion followed concerning seats available on the Board. Ms. Akers stated that she knew an individual who could fill the current seat for a court appointed guardian of a person with mental illness. Ms. Hausch added that both the Personnel and Membership Committees need to be reactivated. We have two current applications for Board membership to be reviewed.

Program Director's Report

Ms. Hausch presented the report in Ms. Simiryan's absence. She noted that both the CAP and PABSS numbers have improved. The increase in clients has resulted from the Employment Conference and the television ads.

Ms. Walker asked if the investigations had started at ResCare. Ms. Clarice noted that the investigations are on-going.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Hausch distributed her report. She noted that an update to her report is the WV Bureau of Medical Services decision to change Medicaid coverage for all SSI recipients, except those on Waivers, to managed care services. There are three different steps that managed care organizations (MCOs) have to complete with the Bureau before the implementation period can begin. WVA and the PAIMI Council are very involved with this issue.

Ms. Hausch reported that she had responded to the first draft of the PAIMI site review. We should receive a response in 30 days.

Ms. Hausch reported that she has not yet dealt with the PAIMI Peer Review document. She noted that they have a problem with how we write our Priorities and Objectives. We will change how these are written.

Ms. Hausch reported that the Priorities and Objectives (P&O) process is going well. The public forum was held in Bridgeport with the same number of people as last year. The staff P&O committee was held yesterday. Mr. Hardesty requested that the Program Director pursue finding a member of the deaf community who would be interested in serving on the Board.

Ms. Hausch reported that in early June she will meet with Todd Rundle of UCED who works with assistive technology for veterans.

Ms. Hausch reported that she met with Kevin Stalnaker of DHHR concerning the Potomac grant. She noted that as we had not hired an advocate we are out of compliance. Newspaper ads have been placed to recruit an individual for the position.

Executive Committee

Mr. Hardesty noted there was nothing to report.

Finance Committee

Ms. Hausch noted that the committee did not meet in May.

Quality Assurance

Ms. Reed reported on a very favorable survey.

PAIMI Advisory Council

Ms. Reed reported that she had chaired the meeting in March. Mr. Johnson had appointed a Nominating Committee and she had been named chair of the Council. She reported that the Council met last week to discuss the P&Os. She will be attending the NDRN conference in Los Angeles, CA.

Unfinished Business

Ms. Reed asked about the President-Elect position. Mr. Hardesty asked for volunteers to serve on a nominating committee. The committee includes Ms. Walker and Ms. Reed, chair. This will be presented at the July 13th meeting.

Ms. Criner distributed Audited Financial Statements for FY 2009.

A discussion followed concerning the agency's current capped amount for PEIA health coverage. Ms. Hausch stated that in May 2009 the Board authorized WVA to absorb the premium increase that year with the issue to be discussed at the May 2010 meeting. She noted that PEIA has not increased premiums for the contract year ending June 2011. She noted that these amounts had already been built into this year's budget. Mr. Clark agreed that WVA should again absorb these costs this year and look at the issue again in May 2011.

Motion: Ms. Reed moved that WVA continue to absorb the PEIA increase that was implemented in July 2009. The issue is to be discussed again at the May 2011 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Dilcher. Motion carried; none opposed; no abstentions.

A discussion followed concerning the technology use policy. Ms. Hausch was asked to bring additional information concerning flash drives to the July meeting.

A discussion followed concerning the proposed change to the sick leave policy.

Motion: Ms. Reed moved that the Sick Leave Policy be revised to remove the wording "must also contain the nature of the illness or injury treated" from the required medical certification. Seconded by Mr. Benson. Motion carried; none opposed; no abstentions.

Motion: Ms. Reed moved that the Sick Leave Abuse Policy be revised to remove the wording "must also contain the nature of the illness or injury treated" from the required medical certification. Seconded by Mr. Dilcher. Motion carried; none opposed; no abstentions.

A discussion followed concerning the committee listing. The listing was reviewed and assignments made.

Next meeting is to be held on July 13th at 5:00 p.m. No further business appearing, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Transcribed by Barbara Criner