Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered Board Meeting

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April 13-14, 2013

Laurel, Maryland

Attending:

President: Bryon Murray, Utah

Cathy Enfield, Missouri

Betty Williams, Indiana

Nancy Ward, Oklahoma

Bernard Baker, Georgia

Jason Billehus, Montana

Shawn Kirk, Virginia

Eric McVay, Maine

Darren Morris, Alabama

James Grabick, Wyoming

Clint Perrin, New York

Chaqueta Stuckey, South Carolina

Ryan Duncanwood, California

Carrie Varner, Minnesota

Amira Rasheed, New Mexico

Bill Story, Kansas

Max Barrows, Vermont

Sam Jenkins, Oklahoma

Consuelo Castillo, Texas

David Taylor Jr., North Carolina

Advisors/Supporters: Vicki Turnage, Karen Topper, Juliana Huerena, Laura Jackson, Krystle McCarthy, Teresa Moore, Essie Pedersen, Tia Nelis, Chester Finn, Hillary Spears, Richard Enfield, Darlene Martin

Bryon Murray called the meeting to order

Regional Reports: Due one month before board meetings.  Board members need to contact their states in their regions to get them in.

Bryon Murray:

* + SABE will be having an audit conducted. This is important because of the grants are a part of.
	+ We are going over the Strategic Plan this afternoon.  The plan will help everyone's committees to do their work. On Thursday the Executive Committee met with Andy Imparato, who is the head staff for US Senator Harkin. We need to finalize our Strategic Plan for people like Andy to help us achieve our goals.

Teresa distributed the ‘Our Community United’ Survey. The Board is reviewing topics for webinars that will happen over the next year.  Topics will help self-advocacy organizations across the US grow stronger.  9 most popular webinar topics will be presented by the team.

The Board reviewed the minutes. Shawn Kirk made the motion to accept. Motion seconded by Sam Jenkins. Unanimous approval

National Governor’s Association: Last September Betty Williams participated in discussion on employment.  She will participate in May in one of the next sessions.  She will have a discussion with staff from representative in late April or May.  They are working on NGA conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

National Sibling Network:  Eric McVay represents SABE on the network.  Since his first meeting he has been on 2 conference calls, which were both successful and well attended.  A sibling ‘meet and greet’ will happen at Disability Policy Seminar.  The National Conference will be in Pittsburg, PA in conjunction with the AAIDD Conference June 3rd-6th.  Sid Katz from New Jersey is sick and Eric is filling in for him.

Sid in hospital and is not doing well.  John Britton is also recovering.  Betty sent card around for John.

Easter Seals Transportation Report: Bryon Murray spoke about a partnership with ES and Administration on Community Living. The Administration on Aging wants to partner with SABE if there are any grants or projects in the future.  They are eager to work with us.  They will send updates for our SABE newsletter on the transportation grants.

SABE National Conference: The 2014 SABE National Conference in Oklahoma in October 2014: The Board meeting immediately before the Conference will be October 16-20 at the Renaissance Hotel.  They will also have a reception for the Board and a tour of the hotel to get a feel for the conference.

Disability Policy Seminar 2013: Cathy Enfield- There will be a self-advocate ‘meet and greet’ Tuesday morning, April 16th at 7:30 AM. It will be co-hosted by Bryon and Cathy.  On Wednesday morning, April 17th there will be a kick-off breakfast at the Senate Hart building.  Sherrod Brown and another senator will be there.

Video Partnership- Loveland:  Essie- James Meadours let us know about a film telling the story of a woman with a disability who is placed in an institution after living a relatively good life.  Many of the actors will be people with disabilities and anyone could have applied to be an actor or actress in the film.  Filming is being done in May.   Consuelo Castillo said she talked to Joe Meadours and the movie is going to be done pretty soon.  Bryon had a conference call and the movie ideas are exciting.  They asked us to support it with a $500 sponsorship and the Executive Committee agreed.  We will also help promote the film once it is finished.

‘Glee’ Episode: One of the characters, Becky, brought a gun to school and it went off.  How would SABE like to respond to how this portrays people with intellectual disabilities?  Discussion followed: Vicki stated that it is a portrayal that persons with disabilities are dangerous (i.e. the media reporting the Newtown shooter was on the Autism Spectrum).  This is an insensitive time to do this with all of the other national tragedies. Chester Finn who sits on the National Council on Disabilities made suggestions. They sent a letter to the Vice President. Krystle said that she thinks we should watch the episode before we make a statement and also try to educate Glee producers about disabilities.  Bryon said we are going to watch the episode later on today.

Sid Katz’s Health:  It was announced that Sid has become an inactive member of SABE's board.  He is very ill and cannot attend meetings. SABE wants him to continue as a board member, but become inactive until he becomes healthy and can return.  Sam Jenkins from Oklahoma will keep the board posted on Sid's health. He will post updates on Facebook.

It was suggested to create a policy for board review about alternate's replacement.

Advisor Election: Information regarding advisors will be passed out. All advisors have to be re-elected because it is a new board.  The elections will be at the October Board meeting.  Tomorrow there will be a discussion about the roles of advisors.  *It was decided at the Sunday meeting to keep the advisor structure the way it is for this upcoming election cycle.*

Grant Reports:

Autism Now- They showed a video "Presume Competence" on disability awareness that included understanding people who are non-verbal can still speak through other means.

The whole board applauded the video and really thought it was a great way to teach people to presume confidence.  The video was very real as to how people with disabilities are confident!

**NTAC for Voting and Cognitive Access**

**Report to SABE Board of Directors**

**Baltimore, MD**

**January 1 – March 31, 2013**

**Post 2012 Election Day Checklist Report**: This report has been completed and will be submitted to NDRN in this quarter’s report. The findings are based on 164 interviews with voters who have a disability. Our findings were both positive and negative from voters. Overall society has a way to go before making the voting experiences of people with disabilities private and independent. We also have data on the individual states who participated with the collection of checklists (Ohio, Georgia, Arizona, and Oklahoma) yet to prepare about their individual Election Day experiences. The reports will be available on the [www.govoter.org](http://www.govoter.org) website. Also, we would like to thank board members who were interviewed for this project.

**Webinars**: Project Vote will be hosting two webinars. The first on May 2, 2013, 1:30 – 3 PM EST on the findings of Project Votes interview teams on the accessibility of voting locations for people with disabilities. Also the South Carolina P&A did a survey that was based on Project Vote’s checklist that will be discussed. Areas to be discussed are: parking, entrance accessibility, signage, accessibility of the voting area, equipment and experiences with poll workers. We are asking each board member to share information about this event with your regions. You will receive an electronic copy of the announcement. The second webinar will be on September 26, 1:30 – 3 PM EST on “accessible ballots”. Clemson University will discuss the work they are doing to create a universal voting machine. Jim Dickson will also be joining him. Project Vote will use the webinar resources of NDRN for the webinars. If you have any questions on the webinars please contact Teresa Moore.

**Project Vote Toolkit** is on the [www.govoter.org](http://www.govoter.org) website and downloadable. The Vote is in the process of announcing the availability of the Toolkit on the website to agencies and organizations across the country.

**Website and Facebook:** The Project Vote website on constantly being updated and improved. The Team has also opened a Facebook page for ongoing alerts about Project Vote activities. Please join us!

**Training:** Project Vote staff will be presenting two workshops at the NDRN Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX on June 6, 2013. The workshops will be on the “Election Day Checklist Findings” and “P&As and Self Advocacy Groups Working in Partnership”. Vote staff will be presenting with P&A staff.

**Outreach to P&A’s** is ongoing but this quarter staff personally contacted each to talk about the partnership between NDRN and SABE on voting and ways that Project Vote might be of assistance to them.

**Handouts and Fact Sheets** for Project Vote and NDRN are being updated. Clip art is being changed to actual photos of people and the information is being reviewed for any needed changes. Book Markers are being developed to describe Project Vote activities and our partnership with NDRN. Vote staff has also reviewed materials developed by NDRN on voting and working with self-advocacy groups. This exchange of information has been very helpful for both SABE and NDRN to better understand each other’s need.

**2013-14 Grant Application to AIDD**: There will be another cycle of funding that Project Vote can apply for. NDRN has invited SABE Project Vote to partner with them again for funding. Project Vote staff is discussing what they would like to do for next year. Once some recommendations are decided they will be presented to the Executive Committee for final decision.

Project Vote will disseminate the "book Marks" and the Election Day Findings at the July Board Meeting.

NDRN asked SABE members to assist them with collecting information about the accessibility of train stations.  Board members were asked to help collect the information.  Board members are to let Essie know if they wish to volunteer.  Also, the survey will be made available the SABE List Serve.  South Carolina will be on the webinar

Our Community United Report:  Teresa has given out the survey for possible webinar topics. More information and webinar dates and topics will be out as soon as decisions are made.

Self-Determination Committee Report: The Self-Determination committee will be doing a webinar as part of the ‘Our Community United’ grant.

Please check out our website [www.NGSD.org](http://www.ngsd.org/).

**Partnering with Other Organizations:**

Hilary Spears presenting from NACDD: "How can we better support self-advocacy?" She counted how many people are on DD Councils and are serving on SABE Board. Asked us if you get funding do you have to report back?

The Board asked Hilary questions and they had a discussion about how to get connected with DD Councils.

* Nancy brought up the concept of writing grants.
* Clint stated that SANYS has had a relationship with their DD Council for 15 years.
* Amira said her DD Council said it is a conflict of interest to support her to attend SABE board meetings since she is on the DD Council.
* Bryon said he has had the same problem in the past and he just has to leave the room when they have the discussion.
	+ Hillary said that many DD Councils are not allowing out of state travel.  It's not a personal thing in most cases, it is just happening across the board. Every state has a plan that has dollars attached, if it's not in the plan then they don't have money they can just give.
* Jason said his DD Council won't support those that are not on the Council.  He feels that is discrimination.  Hillary said each state is different. Ask your state if they aren't supporting you to attend SABE meetings, how are they supporting SA in your state and how can you be a part of that?
* Carrie asked how can we get the Minnesota DD Council to support more outside of just the larger cities?
* Betty said they have a good relationship with the Indiana Council. They do fund them for some of their year round activities.
* Essie said that in Ohio they went to the DD Council, P&A, and UCEDD asking for money and support.  Could we try that?

Hilary would like to work as an intermediary between NACDD and SABE and would like to offer her help.  She will need to work with advisors on this.  She will type up information to share with your local DD Council.  She would really like to help!

The National Council on Disabilities will be working on DD Act; probably after done with Rehab Act.

Question: What do you do when you have a good relationship with your DD Council and you have a difference in opinions and then they say that they are funding you so you have to do things their way?

**Additional Notes from DD Council Conversation:**

* 13 board members have served on the DD Council at some point
* 6 currently serve on their state DD Council
* About 5-6 people receive funding to attend the SABE meetings from their DD Council.
* People want to know how they can be members of the DD Council.
* SABE board members who are interested in being on a DD Council are going to let Bryon, Claire or Hillary know so that they can be connected with their state’s DD Council executive director or chair.
* Does the board have suggestions on how this can be supported?
* SABE board members said that it would help if they got to know the executive director in their state.   Possibly have the executive director reach out to the board member in their state.
* SABE board members said that they would like help learning how to write grants so that they don’t have to rely on the DD Councils for funding.  Is this something DD Councils or NACDD can help with?
* SABE board members said that they appreciate when DD Council members attending self-advocacy events and meetings.
* SABE board members wanted to know how they can approach their state DD Council about funding them to attend the SABE meetings.  They want to know what they can do/ present back to make it valuable to the DD Councils to invest in.
* They want to know how they can go about having the conversation the conversation about the benefits of supporting a SABE board member.  They are willing to bring back and work with the DD Council, but need guidance on what they would want.
* SABE board members understand that DD Councils may not be able to fund them; however they would like to know what the DD Council is doing to support self-advocacy.  They would like to know if there are ways to become involved with the DD Council in supporting self-advocacy.
* SABE board members were interested in working with Hillary to provide reports back to their state DD Councils after the board meeting to help spread the news on what SABE’s working on and opportunities to get others involved.  Hillary will be available after the SABE board meetings to receive phone calls from members who can give a short verbal report which she will type and give to the representative via email or snail mail to give to their state DD Council.

Overall, SABE wants to build a relationship with the DD Councils, a give-and-take relationship. They are ready to share, but need feedback and an openness to continue to work with NACDD and Councils themselves.

The group then worked on the Strategic Plan and SWOT Analysis with Teresa Moore and Juliana Huerena.

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| **Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered** |  |  |  |
| **Income Statement For The Period July 1, 2012 Through April 4, 2013** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Revenue:** |  |  |  |
| Self Determination Grant |  |  20,000.00  |  |
| Project Vote Grant |  |  50,929.00  |  |
| Autism NOW Grant |  |  9,010.00  |  |
| National Disability Rights Network (PV) |  26,230.00  |  |
| Membership Dues |  |  9,595.00  |  |
| Other |  |  4,722.00  |  |
| **Total Revenue** |  |  **120,486.00**  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Expense:** |  |  |  |
| Printing |  |  3,978.00  |  |
| Donations/Sponsorship |  |  3,500.00  |  |
| Executive & Finance Committee |  |  2,784.00  |  |
| Project Vote  |  |  55,335.00  |  |
| Autism NOW |  |  17,342.00  |  |
| National Disabilty Rights Network (PV) |  16,952.00  |  |
| Board Travel |  |  9,862.00  |  |
| 990 Tax Return |  |  1,800.00  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Total Expense** |  |  111,553.00  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Surplus (Deficit)** |  |  8,933.00  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Pending Revenue** |  |  |  |
| Self Determination |  |  10,000.00  |  |
| Project Vote |  |  26,000.00  |  |
| **Total Pending Revenue** |  |  36,000.00  |  |
| **Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered** |  |
| **Balance Sheet as of April 4, 2013** |  |  |
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| **Assets:** |  |  |
| PNC Checking Account | 85,654.00 |  |
|  |  |  |
| PNC Savings | 502.00 |  |
|  |  |  |
| Accounts Receivable: |  |  |
| People First of Missouri  | 2,045.77 |  |
| New Jersey DDC | 301.71 |  |
| People First of Missouri  | 560.69 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Assets** | **89,064.17** |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Liabilities:** |  |  |
| Accts. Payable |  | 0.00 |
|  |  |  |
| Total Liabilities |  | 0.00 |
|  |  |  |
| Net Assets |  | 89,064.17 |
|  |  |  |
| Total Liabilities & Net Assets |  | 89,064.17 |
|  |  |  |
| Outstanding Billing |  |  |
| Self Determination |  | 10,000.00 |
| Project Vote |  | 26,000.00 |
| Total  |  | 36,000.00 |
|  |  |  |
| **Adjusted Liabilities and Net Assets** | **125,064.17** |
|  |  |  |