



**SABE Board Meeting
Phoenix Arizona
Friday February 26th**



Board Members: Tia Nelis (Vice Chair, region 5), Bill Story (region 4), John Britton (region 2) Cathy Enfield (Secretary, region 4), Carol Robinson (region 5), Nancy Ward (region 9), Max Barrows (region 8), Jason Billehus (region 1), Bryon Murray (region 3), Vicki Wray (region 3), Ryan Duncanwood (region 2), Victor Robinson (region 7), Gayle Gardner (region 1), Bernard Baker (region 6) and Chester Finn (region 8).

Guests/Support: Vicky Clayson (Bryon Murray support), Trisha Jones (Guest), Richard Enfield (Cathy Enfield support), Raylynne Van Oort (Jason Billehus support), Karen Topper (Easterseals grant staff), Frank Latham (Hope Finley support), Essie Pederson (national adviser), Diana Mairose (Easterseals Committee member), Rachel Hiles (University of Missouri), Laura Walker (University of Missouri), Wilber Frank (Carol Robinson support), Robin (Bernard Bakers support), Vicki Turnage (national adviser), Beth Derby (Ryan Duncanwood’s support) and Hannah Bowen (national adviser).

Chester called the meeting to order.

Cathy asked for a motion. Nancy made a motion to accept the minutes as sent out. Bryon seconded the motion and the motion carried with one abstention.

PRESIDENTS REPORT



- **Healthcare Update:** Yesterday president Obama and congress were in a healthcare summit. So far the Community First Choice Option, this was the compromise that we worked out with Senator Harkin to put things in place so that some of the MICASA stuff is included in the healthcare legislation, is still strong in the healthcare legislation. It will help develop “money-follows-the person” in each state so that people have the option of getting support in the community. The Class Act, which is the insurance stuff, is still in the healthcare legislation. A key part is whether we will be entitled to have Medicare/Medicaid. We are working with the Obama Administration to do an executive order on entitlement to Medicaid/Medicare.
- **Sub Minimum Wage:** This is the work we are doing about people in sheltered employment being paid less than minimum wage. 14C in the rehabilitation Act of 1973 says that people who work in sheltered employment could earn less than minimum wage. There is also a provision in Social Security that says that people

in Sheltered Employment can earn less than minimum wage (sub-minimum wage). Some groups think that sub-minimum wage is good for people with intellectual disabilities but not for people with other kinds of disabilities. This is why it is important for us to speak up. One board member asked about Social Security being taken away if we earn too much money. Chester reminded people about Medicaid Buy In which allows people with disabilities to buy into Medicaid so that they can keep good healthcare and support while still working real jobs.

- **SABE representation on other groups:** SABE has been asked to be part of a national coalition for self determination out of Washington D.C. Unlike the Alliance for Full Participation in 2007 they have asked SABE to participate and they will not charge us for membership. We do not want to get involved in another situation like the one that occurred in 2007 with AFP. This once appears to be good for SABE.
- **R-Word:** Our relationship with Washington D.C. is changing. They are calling us and want our involvement. When something happens with the r-word people are starting to come to us. We are the ones who know how it feels to be called the r-word. Parent and professional groups don't know what it feels like. We need to be involved and they need us to be involved.
- **National Council on Disabilities:** The next meeting is in Detroit in April. Chester has been nominated to serve on this council. As a part of this committee he will be advising President Obama on all Federal and International disability issues.

REGIONAL REPORT

Region one report by Gayle and Jason

- **Alaska:** People First of Anchorage is not doing much. They said to call Fairbanks People First but they did not know how to reach them.
- **Idaho:** They will have a state wide self-advocacy conference. The title is "self-advocacy: it's all about we". It will be October 21-23, 2010.
Montana: Rocky Hughes, the president of People First of Montana, has done presentations on the Marriage Penalty for groups in Washington DC and Maryland. He explained how the Marriage Penalty will reduce the monthly income of a couple who both receive SSI. Seven other states agreed to help with this process. People First of Montana is setting up its own website. They are also working with Disability Rights Montana to register 500 people to vote. They will be doing presentation in schools on disability awareness and transition. They are also trying to get the hotel where they have met in the past to become accessible.
- **Oregon:** Gayle was asked to present awards at an Advocacy Days celebration a few days ago.
- **Washington:** No report

Region two report by John and Ryan

- **Arizona:** People First of Arizona had their annual meeting. There were many positions open. John Britton is president, Katie Griffith is vice president, Eric Joseyn is Secretary, Greg Devorce is Treasurer, Outreach is Trisha Jones, and members at large are Bob Hickman and Monica Cooper. Membership fee this year is 7 dollars.

The self advocates worked on creating videos of peoples' life stories at the coalition office. ABILs self advocacy department had a this is my life training. Project VOTE training team in Arizona was formed and trained. It was not one of the SABE project chosen state, but our P and A decided to do it still. The group decided on working with youth population in Phoenix or Flagstaff and in Tucson by May 2010.

Had a fundraiser at Claim Jumper for the Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona and made a few bucks. Our state D.D.C. has been restructured and it seems as though they will not be supporting People First of Arizona or Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona as they have in the past. They have set up a Request for proposal contracts only. So, the one who writes up the best self advocacy proposal will get the monies. No scholarships will be given out for conferences or SABE board meetings.

Our state legislatures had its last special session. Drastic cuts were considered in social services and education. The city has eliminated some bus routes because of the budget, which makes it hard for people who do not drive to get around. On April 6, there will be a Legislative day at the capitol from 11 to 2. The Arizona Disability Advocacy Coalition is hosting the event. Both self advocacy groups, Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona and People First of Arizona.

- **California:** California is still in financial crisis. The 24th of February is when a public hearing on the proposed closure of the Frank D. Lanterman Developmental Center is going to take place. The Frank D. Lanterman Developmental Center provides 24 hour residential care for about 380 persons with developmental disabilities. The DDS requires by state law that there be at least 1 public hearing when the State is proposing closure of a developmental center. A 2 page agenda that can be downloaded from the CDCAN website at www.cdcan.us. This proposal is a two year plan by California's governor to help with our budget. We can still send in written comments but they need to be submitted by March 5th. I will be writing my letter for approval of the closure of the Center, but I really think that they need to spend a lot of time in the transition for these residence. The important thing is that these people are seen as individuals and not just a project to help balance the budget. My hope is that they are given the chance to live in Supported Living and are given chances to grow and learn how to be a Self Advocate!!!! The Department of Developmental Services in its January 29th announcement of the proposed closure of Lanterman Developmental Center, said it would "...utilize a transition process that enables each resident to live in an environment appropriate for his or her needs consistent with the landmark 1999 US Supreme Court's Olmstead decision".

- **Hawaii:** We connected with Michael Taga who is the new self advocacy coordinator for Hawaii.
- **Nevada:** We just published our latest newsletter, which is about to go on our website: peoplefirstofnevada.org That would probably be the easiest way to see what all of our chapters are up to. I can also send you a paper copy if you'd like. We had a statewide meeting in January, where bylaws were updated, some new members were elected, etc. I believe that is also in the new newsletter. Also, under latest news, Travis Mills, one of our members, recently testified at the Regional Transportation Commission about some of the cutbacks that are being considered. His testimony will be under "latest news" on the website.

Region three report by Bryon and Vicki

- **Colorado:** No report was given
- **New Mexico:** The statewide chapter is building on the last six month process of putting together a functioning steering committee, the group will be holding a statewide meeting on 1/15/10 to develop a PATH for the chapter. At the last meeting, the group expressed a deep interest in using the PATH to move forward on their wishes for the group to be moving towards self-sustaining. Chairman Brennan Yoder has been a huge support in getting the word out to the group regarding the upcoming event. They have 8 active local chapters. Some of the local chapters are involved in the discussions around proposed changes to Mi Via and D.D. Waivers, local and statewide transportation issues, and creating a cookbook that will be used as a fundraiser.
- **Utah:** The Governor of the State of Utah put a freeze on all types of food served at meetings. This affects the People First groups of Utah because they have been able to feed lunch and snacks at their meetings. This has been a tool to have a special exception granted to the Council because the funding is federal and should not fall under the state ruling. State People First members were involved in the "meet your legislator day" at the state capitol. This gives an opportunity for self-advocates to meet face to face with their Senator and Representative, which they might not have that opportunity other wise.
- **Wyoming:** They did not respond

Region four report by Cathy and Bill

- **Kansas:** They have developed the "my own home" website (www.my-own-home.org). The website was designed for anyone interested in home ownership even if they have low income. They also wanted to show that people with disabilities could pursue the dream of owning their own home. There is a conference coming up with some great national speakers about ways to find competitive jobs for people with disabilities. It will be in Topeka, April 15-16, 2010. The website is www.kcdcinfo.com/documentview.aspx?did=640
- **Missouri:** Missouri self-advocates are involved in two public awareness campaigns. One is to promote the use of respectful language and focus on the "r" word. The other is to increase public awareness of wait lists and to encourage the public to support their elimination. The state Legislature is currently in

session, there have been serious cuts to this year's budget but most have not affected people with disabilities. Next years budget projects a shortfall of over one billion dollars and cuts are expected to hurt everyone.

- **Nebraska:** No report was given
- **North Dakota:** The state has no specific plans for the coming year. Sarah from Sioux Falls spoke about volunteerism, Wright Teleconference Series, State of the State, College of Direct Support, Dare to Think Workshop, Information about Rights and Laughter Yoga. Their plans for 2010 include Project SOS, learning about SSI and SSDI and payee options, benefits, guardianship issues and rights, and the State Budget and how all are affected.
- **South Dakota:** No report was given

Region five report by Tia and Carol

- **Illinois:** They still do not have funding but they get to meet once or twice a year and they have conference calls. They had a train-the-trainer on sex education. They have a new Governor who made a deal to not do anything about institutions until 2012. The only exception is Howl Developmental Centers. They have a few legislators who have family members who live in institutions. These legislators think that institutions are great because every time they go visit their family members all they see is people going on outings and doing fun things. The Coalition is working but the state is very pro-institution. Illinois is also the headquarters of VOR. They do not have a Medicaid waiver in Illinois. If you work and make too much money then you will loose your services. They are working on creating a Medicaid buy in so that people can pay to keep their services.
- **Indiana:** No report was given
- **Iowa:** No report was given
- **Michigan:** No report was given
- **Minnesota:** They are talking with their governor about healthcare. A lot of people are getting cut off from general assistance. They are working on "Remembering Dignity" which is an apology for people who were put in institutions.
- **Ohio:** March 21st-23rd is their state conference and the title is self-advocacy on survivor island. They are doing a lot of work to remove the "r" word. They have already passed respectful language legislation. Diana shared with us that the Hamilton County Developmental Services office removed the "r" word from their office building sign with the help of a telephone truck. They put the "r" word on the ground and celebrated by smashing it to pieces.
- **Wisconsin:** No report was given

Region six report was given by Bernard Baker

- **Alabama:** People First of Alabama is working to expand access to transportation and technology. They continue to participate on policy committees. People First has a VISTA volunteer who is assisting with organizing. They continue to reach out to partners who work with youth.
- **Florida:** No report was given
- **Georgia:** We are planning another Long Road Home Olmstead Celebration for June 22nd. We had a very successful Housing Workshop back in January but will

have another in April. We will have a legislative training on how to speak to your legislator in May and a one day conference on Sexuality in July. The People First of Georgia state conference is scheduled for September 10 -12 at Callaway Gardens. We will be collaborating with Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities and do a voter project with the Georgia Advocacy office which is the P&A for Georgia. We are also collaborating with the center for leadership in disability which is the UCEDD for Georgia.

- **Kentucky:** The Kentucky Self-Advocates for Freedom (KYSAFF) is a sponsor of the March 3rd 874K Rally in Frankfort, Kentucky. The annual event highlights the 874,000 Kentuckians with physical and/or intellectual disabilities. KYSAFF members will have appointments with their legislators and will tell their own stories of how budget cuts will impact their lives.
KYSAFF chapters continue to implement a number of ongoing projects. One chapter goes to local elementary schools speaking to special education and non-special ed classes. They talk about their lives and community involvement and entertain such questions as, "How does your wheelchair work?" The sessions result in a better understanding and appreciation of those who are a bit different. Two chapters meet monthly at different community restaurants. They complete a survey on accessibility, friendliness, picture menus, etc. They send the survey results to the restaurant managers and, in many cases, changes have been made. In all cases, the information was received in a very positive manner. Another chapter has been asked by the city to access the plans for a new community park. City leaders want to be certain that the facility is accessible to those with disabilities. Years of working on making a difference led to the city being aware of the good works and community improvement of this KYSAFF chapter. We are hoping to, once again, have our KYSAFF members attend and present at the SABLE conference this fall. Hope to see you then!
- **Mississippi:** No report was given
- **North Carolina:** We are beginning to work on the R word campaign here. We have ads on the radio that are running as well as setting up a booth to tell people about the way it hurts people with disabilities. We here in North Carolina don't like the word and we are fighting hard to get it changed. We are also looking in to the institutions and to see what can be done about that. Our state legislators are working very hard to help down size them and to close some of them if possible. We are also having our state convention with another convention this year.
- **South Carolina:** Self Advocates are preparing for Disability Advocacy Day on March 3, 2010. The goal is to have NO MORE budget cuts for people served by SCDDSN. All efforts will be made to restore and maintain critical services for South Carolinians. A rally will be featured to empower people to speak up and speak out on issues of concern. Our state organization is supported and sponsored by the SC DD Council in support of self-advocate efforts. There continues to be a need to recruit members for state and local group to make self-advocate efforts visible and viable.
- **Tennessee:** Cloverbottom Developmental Center will close on June 30, 2010. Arlington Developmental Center will be closing soon as well. This year is when it

is supposed to close. PF funding is being maintained. We will be having our 5th annual MicroConference March 12, 13, 2010 in Murfreesboro, Tn.

Region seven report by Hope

- **Delaware:** No report was given
- **Washington D.C.:** No report was given
- **Maryland:** No report was given
- **Pennsylvania:** No report was given
- **New Jersey:** New Jersey Continues to work on the r-word project around the state with the two biggest events being rallies planned with Special Olympics and the Self Advocacy of New Jersey. The rally brought together 3000 student from the Jersey City school district to show support for the r-word campaign. The second event was a rally held at the State University Rutgers, where we hope to introduce the bills to remove the r-word from all state documents. This rally comes from our state wide self advocacy group project. New Jersey state wide self advocacy spring conference is schedule for the 8th of May. And the state self advocates continue to do ongoing training around the r-word in schools and communities around the state.
- **Virginia:** No report was given
- **West Virginia:** No report was given

Region eight report by Chester and Max

- **Connecticut:** No response
- **Maine:** Speaking Up For Us of Maine has been busy with the past few months. Disability Advocacy Day at our state house, this is sponsored by Maine's DD Council, it is an opportunity for people to meet their legislators, sit in on a hearing and learn their way around Maine's statehouse. Testimony at the Legislature around budget cuts. There is no more excess to trim and people's safety and health are at issue. Rally at the statehouse, over 500 people gathered to tell our elected officials what the result of suggested budget cuts would be. Self-advocates have a voice in several committees including: Consumer Advisory Council, Maine Developmental Disabilities Council, Maine Housing Coalition, Look To The Future Group, Excellence Committee, Dual Diagnosis Committee. Caseworker trainings around the state, teams of self-advocates have been invited by the state DD department to train caseworkers around the state. Self-advocates participated in a project with the Disability Rights Center to make DRC materials more accessible. Maine was one of the three states selected to receive a 'Train the Trainer', training for Project Vote, Speaking Up With Us will be partnering with the Disability Rights Center on this project. Maine self-advocates are working on developing documents to help meeting facilitators understand what is needed for full participation on councils, boards and committees. The Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies will be helping SUFU with this project. Maine sent statements and pictures about Closing Institutions to People First of NH in support of that project.
- **Massachusetts:** Mass Advocates Standing Strong is in a big fight against a proposed 9% budget cut. Our fellow self-advocates and supporters spent many

hours of phone calls, letters and visits to the state house. The situation is still changing from day to day. Legislators and senators have heard the strong voices of self-advocates unified along with agencies about what is needed and how it will affect all of us and our families.

- **New Hampshire: People First of New Hampshire's** #1 goal is to help close institutions across the country. Members want to know ways that they can be helpful and supportive. They have a survey to help them collect information about state and private institutions across the United States that people are most concerned about. To fill out the survey go to: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C3B65VL>. Once the survey responses have been collected, they will share the results on our webpage and our board of directors will make decisions about how People First of New Hampshire can be most helpful based on the information they get from the survey. The information is important to us as we all work to help to close institutions.
- **New York:** Self-Advocacy Association of New York State, Inc. (SANYS) Testified on Proposed 2011 Budget For OMRDD before the New York State Senate Finance and Assembly Ways and Means Committees. February 3, 2010. In summary, under the dire circumstances of the state and nation's fiscal crisis, they think it is a good budget, with shared sacrifice and a commitment to continue to evolve OMRDD's services. But not related to the budget issues, SANYS wants it to be known by all that they will do whatever it takes this year to ensure that OMRDD's name is changed. We insist that our state support a name change that eliminates the r-word!
- **Rhode Island:** Advocates In Action is holding their Annual Statewide Self-Advocacy Meeting on Monday, March 22nd, 2010. It is called the War of the Words: "R" is for RESPECT! At the meeting they will talk and learn about: People don't like to be called names. Names hurt. Getting rid of "the R Word" and using a different name to label people who have a disability is NOT ENOUGH! Share your ideas about how we can all work together to practice and teach RESPECT. We will also be showing our new video: "Sticks and Stones and NAMES".
- **Vermont:** Green Mountain Self Advocates published their curriculum that they wrote with Planned Parenthood of Northern New England. It is the first of its kind in the country designed for people with developmental disabilities and their support staff to work together as a team to teach a sexuality education series. Go to this web site to view the table of contents and a sample lesson. <http://www.plannedparenthood.org/ppnne/development-disabilites-sexuality-31307.htm> It has 3 parts. We organized 3 days at the state house so far. One had over 300 people there with a press conference and dinner attended by over 30 legislators. The issues are trying to stop a 5% budget cut. Also we got passed a "walk with your class" graduation bill and have a good chance of passing a bill to stop the use of prone restraint and seclusion in schools (things they can't do with adults in Vermont). And looks like we will be able to stop a bill to set up separate centers for kids with autism.

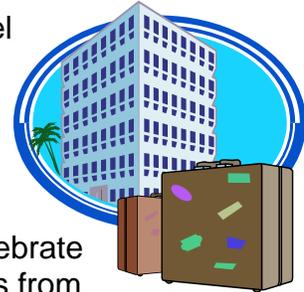
Region nine report by Nancy

- **Arkansas:** No report was given

- **Louisiana:** No report was given
- **Oklahoma:** We developed our goals at our officer retreat. We chose 6 topics: Project Vote, Medicaid reference desk, and my voice my choice are just a few of the topics. They are working on legislation to help people who need transplants. Their university got a huge grant to improve transportation. They are supposed to work with self-advocacy groups but they keep scheduling meetings during times that Oklahoma People First has large events (like a legislative day).
- **Texas:** No report was given

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The National conference in Kansas City is in September. Rachel handed out a save-the-date flier. The conference website is www.sabekc2010.org and you can sign-up for updates to be emailed to you. Registration will be online and people can also register by paper. Laura will mail hard copies to all the region reps so that they can get the information to all of the people who can not get the registration online. One of the big themes is to celebrate the past 20 years of SABE and looking toward the future (10 years from now) for self-advocacy. Tia had the idea of SABE doing a skit of what self-determination will look like in 10 years. This skit could be done during an assembly where everyone can watch and enjoy it. Tia and Laura will take the lead on creating the skit. If anyone has any ideas for celebrating 20 years of self-advocacy then please share them with Laura.



Elections for the SABE board is another big thing that we do at the conference. Essie shared the idea of having the name badges color coded so that people can easily find the other people in their region. The people in your region are the ones that will vote for you. It is important to network and talk with local groups and partners in your area. Board representatives are free to talk to partners about SABE and what we do at meetings. If anything is confidential in the meeting then we will talk about how it is confidential and we should not tell people about it.

SELF DETERMINATION

We developed a seven question survey that we would like people to look at. We are trying to show that self-advocacy activities in your state lead to positive outcomes for people. In order to get more money for self-advocacy we need to show that self-advocacy is helping people have more self-determination.

The self-determination committee has been meeting for a while. Some of the members of the committee are going to be off the board in September. We would like to know if the board will allow the same team of people (Tia, Chester, Bryon, and Nancy) to stay on the self-determination committee for the next three years. Carol made a motion to keep the same people on the self-determination committee. John seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.



FAMILY SUPPORT COMMITTEE REPORT

The team has 5 members: Chester Finn, Max Barrows, Diana Mairose, John Britton and Karen Topper working as the committee support person. So far we have successfully organized 4 conference calls and taught a workshop as part of a national training for Family Support Navigators.

The calls were:

- **November 18th** What is Family Support?
- **December 16th** Self Advocates and Families Included: Being Part of the Community, *Not Just in the Community*
- **January 20th** All Families Supported: Not Setting Up Separate Systems for People with Certain Kinds of Disabilities
- **February 17th** We Can Work. You Make It Happen. Give Us The Support. Employment expectations for people with developmental disabilities must be the same as people without disabilities.



The conference calls are going really well. Max is doing a great job facilitating the calls. We do think we need to get more people on the calls. We need SABE members from local and state groups to get on the calls. The team came up with a new campaign with the top ten reasons why people should be on the calls. They are:

1. They will enable you to be included and be a part of the discussion about what is happening with our lives.
2. It is free call on a 800-number
3. All you need is a telephone
4. Because Chester said you should be on the calls
5. It is a way for your voice to be heard
6. It is an opportunity to hear the truth coming from us
7. It is a chance to know each other and learn about each other
8. It is being part of self-advocacy
9. We will send your input to Obama
10. If you call your phone number will be put in a raffle and in July we will pick a winner who will get a free registration to the national conference.

We did training in Detroit last week. John, Diana and Max talked about their lives and their experiences. We did a couple great activities which added a lot to the presentation. People really got a sense of who we are from our presentation and we ended with a clear vision of what we need to do and how to take part. By having people with disabilities there at the training and as trainers we made it come to life for them. We were not a page on a book we gave examples of real lives.

SIBLING LEADERSHIP NETWORK UPDATE



Bryon Murray gave a report about the Sibling Leadership Network. They have just elected officers. The longest relationship that we have in our lives is with our siblings. The board is a mix of people with and without disabilities. They plan to use the SABLE model of regions as a way to set-up their organization. SABLE has a seat on the Sibling Leadership Network. This means that someone from SABLE will always be on this committee. In 2010 they are going to have a conference. Bryon will present at this conference. The president and vice-president are going to attend the SABLE conference. The Sibling Leadership Network has six state chapters. There is an international sibling conference and Bryon would like to know if SABLE would like to sponsor this conference and get our name on the top of their conference brochure. They have multiple levels of sponsorship for a variety of costs. Hope suggested that we sponsor their conference and they sponsor ours. The board liked this idea.

PROJECT VOTE UPDATE



Hope and Nancy gave the Vote Project report. SABLE is a partner in the Vote Project (sometimes called the National TA Center for Voting and Cognitive Access). Our part of the contract is to video tape people talking about voting.

The Vote Team created a list of questions that people can use as ideas to tell their voting story. We would like the SABLE board to look at the questions and decide if they look good or if any questions need to be added or taken away?

SABLE will be video taping people speaking about voting at the next meeting. The taping will happen in the evenings after the meetings. Everyone should sign-up for a time to video tape with Hannah.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Close the Doors & R-Word Committee:

Tia Nelis (Chair), Carol Robinson, Jim McNamara, and Frank Latham (support).

Grassroots Committee: Bernard Baker (Chair), Gayle Gardner, and Hannah Bowen (support).



PR Committee: Chester Finn (Chair), Max Barrow, Jeff Ridgeway, Vicki Hicks Turnage (support) and Laura Walker (support).

Bylaws Committee: Vicki Wray (Chair) and Bryon Murray

Policy Committee: Bryon Murray (Chair), Vicki Wray, Hope Finley, and Karen Topper (support)

Legislative Committee: Nancy Ward (Chair), Cathy Enfield, Bill Story, and Richard Enfield (support) and Laura Walker (support).

Finance & Membership Committee: Victor Robinson (Chair), Ryan Duncanwood, Monica Cooper and Essie Pederson (support).

SABE Board meeting Saturday February 27th

COMMITTEE REPORTS



R-word & close the doors Committee:

Tia gave the report.

Chester made a motion and Gayle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

PR Committee:

Max gave the PR Committee report

PR committee met by conference call on 1/28/2010 and communicated by e-mail and telephone to accomplish the following:

1. Opened the New website
2. Completed our next newsletter
3. Topics for our next newsletter will include:
 - a. Updates from our special projects committee
 - b. Requirements for candidates for regional representatives
 - c. Update on National conference
4. Justice for All
 - a. Updates on websites for Justice for All Action Network
 - i. Possibility of Vista Volunteer helping us



Nancy made a motion and Tia seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Policy Committee:

Bryon gave the Policy Committee report.

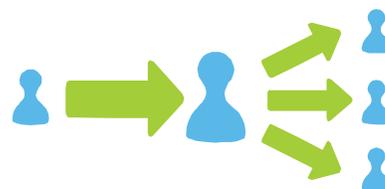
We finished the policy on employment. You voted on it last time in Atlanta. It passed and it is on the website. Now we are working on the R-word statement. Email me any suggestions.



Chester made a motion and Bill seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Grass Roots Committee:

Our board members are Gayle and Bernard. At the meeting we talked about what the grassroots committee should work on next. We need the board to tell us what we should work on. We talked about the brochure for region responsibilities, updating the state self-advocacy group contact list, and getting information out about the national conference



Robin does a spot on the Georgia area reading radio services. She has a two minute self-advocacy program on how to get involved and she runs two spots a month. Chester said that he has this service. Robin has volunteered to record a spot (which is a short announcement) and play it on their radio station. The spot will say “what is SABE, what we do, when the conference is, why people should go, and how much it costs.” Robin thinks that the Reading Radio Service may have stations in other states and they could play the spot that she records.



Chester wants the brochure done by the next meeting. Bernard says that a draft could be done by the next meeting.

John made a motion and Jason seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Finance Committee: John and Ryan gave the first part of the report. We get money membership dues and from three grants.
Self-Determination Grant: 20,000 a year
Easterseals: 80,000 a year for one year
Project Vote: 5,000 a year



Victor gave the second part of the finance committee report
We have spent \$24,209 and we have received \$31,494 this year.
Here is how we spend money

- 1) SABE Board Travel
- 2) Board meeting hotels

3) National advisors to support SABE board members

4) Executive committee travel

96% of our budget supports travel. The rest of our money is spent on dues we pay to other organizations, to charities, and supplies. We currently have \$22,099 in the bank.



Tia made the motion and Chester seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

Bylaws Committee: Vicki Wray read the bylaws committee report.

Here is what the Bylaws say about making a change.

Article 9: Amendment of Bylaws

The bylaws may be amended at the board of directors meetings by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided written notice of the proposed changes has been sent to all regional representatives at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

On October 31 2009 the Bylaws Committee gave you the following written notice. Also each regional representative received another written notice about this bylaw change in the minutes that Hannah sent out in January.

Now we will vote on the following two changes to the Bylaws.

The Bylaws committee wants to take the word consecutive out of two places in the bylaws.

Change #1: Right now the Bylaws say...

Article 4: 3.7 Representatives and alternates shall have a limit of two consecutive terms.

The Bylaws committee wants to change it to:

Article 4: 3.7 Representatives and alternates shall have a limit of two terms.

Since most terms are usually 4 years, this means a person could only be on the board for a total of 8 years.

Change #2: Right now the Bylaws say...

Article 5: Section 1

... No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same position.
A term shall be one election period.

The Bylaws committee wants to change it to:

Article 5: Section 1

... No officer shall serve more than two terms in the same position. A term shall be one election period.

So officers will be limited to no more than 4 years in the same position.

A short break was taken...The bylaws committee decided that they would mail everyone the bylaws and a written proposal about the change to the proposal. The vote will take place at the meeting in Kansas City.

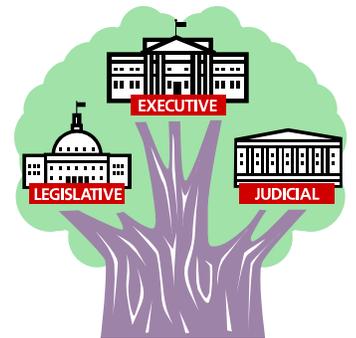


Tia made a motion that we table the bylaws until the next meeting where we will vote on the amendment to the bylaws. Chester seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Legislative Committee:

Nancy announced that the Legislative committee wrote a letter about the Community First Choice it was sent to Vice-President Biden and the whole Health Care Committee. They will bring copies to the next meeting so that everyone can have a copy.

Hope made a motion to accept the committee report. Jason seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.



NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is going to be on June 25th and 26th. There is a big event in Kansas City at this time and we might have a problem getting the hotel. If we can not stay at the hotel then we might want to meet somewhere else.

The Board discussed other places to meet if we cannot meet in Kansas City

- Cincinnati, Ohio
- Sacramento, California