

SABE Board Meeting February 10-11, 2012 Las Vegas, NV



Introduction

Ryan, Darlene, Jason, Eric, Jim, Nancy, Carol, Bernard, Glenda, Bill, Max, Betty, Chester, Vicki W., John, Juliana, Sharon, Cathy, Richard, Chaqueta, Clint, Consuelo, Bryon, Vicki T., Hannah, Krystle, Gayla, Tia, Glenda, Karen, Santa, Letice.

Sharon Lewis, the Commissioner for ADD, came to speak with the board.

ADD is committed to persons with intellectual disabilities and would like to ask a few questions.

How can we work better together?



- There have been budget cuts and are kind of playing defense in state governments and on the federal level.
- ADD took a 42% cut in discretionary cuts for Projects of National Significance (PNS). ADD pays for the “State of the State”, Medicaid Reference, and Autism Now.
- They have lost all of the funds that go to the Secretary of States for voting activities, but have been able to keep some of the voting access projects.
- President Obama thinks that it is not a good use of taxpayer money for conferences. Rules are very clear about what can be spent by federal dollars.

Good news:

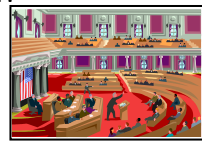
- SA summits, 4 more in next few months.
 - They have been learning experiences with common themes that emerged.
 - There is a need for resources and support at state and local level.
 - There is a need for more diverse communities.
 - We need to figure out how to bridge the generation gap. There is tension around the priorities around youth and some of the agenda of the SA movement. How do you mold those two things? What advocacy looks like is different with the two groups.
 - What happens if some people have a job and can't get off work (to attend SA events)? What about a cross disability 501C3. There are a lot of really good SA that know nothing about SAGE or do not think that SAGE applies to them.

For example there is a very vibrant rural group that knows nothing about SABE. How do we change that? What are some of the reasons behind that?

Sharon feels that SABE is not structured in a democratic way or a representative way with each organization in a state feeling that they have an equal representation. We are not an organization. If your state is not here, how does your voice get heard? Based on democratic processes-where people are represented. All states have the same vote. The National Arc-each of the local chapters get a voice. She feels that SABE has to figure out a structure-having voting at a conference is not a representative organization.

One of the biggest barriers is the disconnection. The council does not believe in SA, being cut out of funding. Money is being taken out of the budget with the funding going to vibrant self-advocacy groups. The focus is not sending people to national meetings. SA organizations are fighting against each other. How do we bring the strongest group of people together?

Arc's structure-which states have the most \$



Not what you can take, but what you can give back. How might you then say? The grassroots group that is meeting in the library is going to connect to the group that is meeting in Buffalo. Together we are going to form a state group.



- ADD has made self-advocacy a national priority.
- How do you use state allies together? Monthly conference call with all presidents/advisors
- What is ADD willing to do to fix this issue? Willing to engage in a formal conversation. Proposal- TA resources
- UCEDD's, DD Councils, PA-We can figure out some ways to help SABE
- Self-Advocacy Network=cross disability
- Punitive-that is not how national organizations work
- AFP-made us look really bad; how can you get voted on at a conference-more of a representative structure
- It's been 20 years-how are we going to move to the next level?



The board showed the power point presentation to Sharon Lewis showing the two things that each state is most proud of and what has happened in your state since the SA Summits (If your state has already been to one).

Break

The meeting resumed.

Santa from the Nevada People First came to visit the group and introduced herself. She told the group about the Nevada People First group and their collaborations and accomplishments!



SABE Board Report
October 1 – December 31, 2011

1. Status of subcontracts
 - a. Received from Portland State University, Moore Advocacy, The Arc
 - b. Have not received from the University of IL
2. The Final Report for last year has been sent to ADD.
3. The financial reporting system with ADD is in place and working well. When we submit request for money, we receive it within 3 days.
4. Project Vote article announcing the placement of the Project Vote Toolkit on the govoter.org website has been submitted to SABE Nation and The Arc for inclusion in their Newsletters.
5. Presentation on Project Vote done at TASH Conference and National Arc Conference.
6. The Vote Team will be presenting two webinars on Project Vote February 28 and April 17 with the Autism NOW project.
7. ToolKit
 - Recreated into a program that can make changes to.
 - Vote Team is updating it now and adding a new section about Partnering with P&As and other groups. Power points and worksheets are being updated and standardized.
 - When all edits are done it will be placed in a program that users cannot change. Some sections they can make changes specific to their states. This should be done by the next SABE Board meeting.
 - Will also have a text only version that screen readers can use.
 - The pictures in the Toolkit have been updated to be “real” people and things used in the training. (examples).

8. Website

- From October – December, 2011 there were over 9,000 contacts have been made with the SABE/GoVoter website.
- Now the website can be accessed by people who use a screen reader.
- Team is working to JAZZ up the website to attract more viewers.
- Team is still working on placing the audio for the past webinars on the website.

9. 2012 National Conference Proposal (blue sheet) – will discuss when national conference is discussed on the board agenda

10. Expert Advisors status:

- 3 SABE Board (John Britton, Jason Billehus, Chester Finn), 2 NYLN and 2 P&As (Ohio-Maureen Crossmaker and Georgia – Cheri Mitchell)

11. Requests to the Board

- **Appoint three board members to assist with the development of the Project Vote Sustainability Plan. If possible, have John, Jason and Chester assist.**

ELP

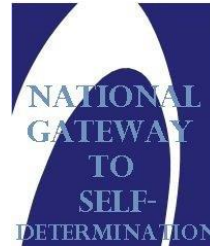
2-10-12

Carol made a motion to accept the Project Vote report. Eric seconded that motion. Motion passed.

Self-Determination Committee

National Gateway to Self-Determination

February 10, 2012



- The Self-Determination group has been working hard on researching resources that promote self-determination for the Advising through Self-Determination manual.
- The outline for the manual has been set and many are working to help collect the information that will go into these sections.
- A survey was sent to various self-advocates and advisors and we did get many responses, but we could always use more input!
- Are there any resources from your state or community that promote self-determination that would be appropriate for an advisor manual? If so, please send to Krystle and Laura.
- We are going to have a foundation part of the manual-what do you think is important for advisors to know regarding the past and present of the self-advocacy movement and disability rights?
- Do any self-advocates have a message or “advice” for advisors on how to advise through self-determination?
- Do any self-advocates have a story about People First language and what effect it has on their life?
- One issue that is sometimes tricky is when it comes to effectively advising is letting self-advocates make their own mistakes. How do you handle this situation? What do you feel when it comes to this issue? What are the barriers?
- Krystle put flipchart paper around the room so that SA can answer the above questions. Please answer these on this paper or contact someone from the SD Committee with your answers.



Autism NOW is a project SABA is doing with The Arc of the United States & others

www.autismnow.org

Free Conference Calls and Webinars

There are 3 ways to participate:

1. **Call in on your phone** to hear what is said and make comments.
2. **On your computer you can go to a website** and look at a PowerPoint the presenters
3. You can do both—call in and speak and listen on the phone and watch the PowerPoint on your computer.



You do not need a camera on your phone to participate!

These calls and webinars are FREE but you need to sign up at www.autismnow.org.

If you miss the call and webinar—don't worry you can go to www.autismnow.org and listen to the conference call for up to 30 days after it happened. And get a copy of the PowerPoints.

Date	Topic
11/15/2011	Transition to Adulthood
12/6/2011	Speaking on a Big Stage: Presenting at a National Conference!
1/24/2012	Allies and Advisors
2/21/2012	Converting Sheltered Workshop to Programs that Find People Real Jobs for Real Pay
3/27/2012	Making Information Accessible
4/10/2012	People Taking Responsibility for Advocacy in their Lives
5/22/2012	Staying Safe
6/12/2012	Using Technology to Increase Independence & Accessibility
7/10/2012	Building Relationships
8/7/2012	Sexuality
9/18/2012	Transportation
9/25/2012	Learning to Drive

Eric made a motion to accept the Autism Now report. Jason seconded it. Motion passed.

Betty discussed having Lecell contact foundations and do fundraising on behalf of SABE to help SABE operate. There was a motion made by Eric and was seconded by Jason. Motion passed.

The group broke for lunch and then will come back and meet with their committees.

Saturday, February 11

The meeting started at 8:45 AM.

Chester, John, Vicki W., Cathy, Chaqueta, Clint, Consuelo, Bryon, Ryan, Jim, Eric, Jason, Carol, Bernard, Bill, Max, Betty, Vicki T., Hannah, Glenda, Letice, Juliana, Richard, Gayla, Darlene, Topper, Krystle,

Minutes were read in silence.

Jason made a motion to approve the minutes from November 2011. Consuelo seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Carol from Minnesota lead an introduction activity where everyone went around and said their name and a word that starts with the first letter of their name.

Betty gave an update on the National Conference

SABE Conference August 30 – September 2, 2012

Wednesday, August 29th-- Option to go to the Guthrie Theater and see Sunshine Boys—7PM. ACT is inviting all SABE board members. **Need to know how many tickets.**

Thursday, August 30th – Crowne Plaza

8:30 am – 2 pm inclusive	SABE Meeting – SABE members paying for own lunch at \$19.63
2 pm – 9 pm etc.)	Registration – Name Tags, Conference Bags, Promotional Items (shirts,
4 pm – 7 pm	Kick – Off Party Italian sub with salami, turkey, lettuce, tomato, onion, provolone cheese, Italian dressing, cookie, chips, lemonade & iced tea at \$11.75 inclusive
7 pm – 10 pm	Dance Scott-Tones & Johnny Crescendo

Friday, August 31st – RiverCentre

Transportation will be available from the Crowne Plaza to the RiverCentre for people that need it beginning at 7:30 am approximately every 20 minutes or people can choose to walk/roll.

8 am – 4:30 pm	Registration – Name Tags, Conference Bags, Promotional Items (shirts, etc.), Exhibits, Art Exhibits
8 am – 9:30 am	Plated Breakfast Assorted baked mini muffins, fruit-filled strudel and mini croissants, scrambled eggs with Wisconsin cheddar cheese, herb roasted red skin potatoes, applewood bacon, coffee, de-caf, hot herbal teas & orange juice at \$19.31 inclusive
9:30 am – 10:45 am	General Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Minnesota welcome to conference○ SABE welcome and thanks to sponsors○ SABE Flag Ceremony○ Welcome to Minnesota – Gov. Dayton○ SABE speaker○ History of Self-Advocacy○ Thanks and enjoy the conference
11 am – 12 pm	Workshops
12:15 pm – 1:45 pm	Box Lunch/Regional Meetings (1.5 hours w/ 15 minute break—is this typical time?) Grilled chicken breast, romaine lettuce tossed in classic Caesar dressing with herb croutons and fresh Parmesan cheese in a plain wrap, chips, fresh fruit cup, cookie, & bottled water at \$21.89 inclusive <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Voting for Regional SABE Representatives
1:45- 3:30 General Session.	People running for officer positions prepare speeches for 3:30PM Is this enough time?
2 – 3:15 pm	General Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ SABE Speaker (VOTE 15 minutes) Can VOTE pay for part of the AV this day?○ Speaker – David Morrissey 10 minutes CRPD)○ Interact Theater Performance (50 minutes)
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	General Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Announcement of SABE Regional representatives○ SABE Officer Candidate speeches

Transportation will be available from the RiverCentre to the Crowne Plaza for people that need it beginning at 3:30 pm approximately every 20 minutes or people can choose to walk/roll.

Friday evening back to Crowne Plaza

6 pm – 11 pm

Human Rights Fair to include:

- Booths with state fair type foods
Foot long hot dogs, corn dogs, caramel apples in a dish, corn on the cob, giant pretzels, and Sweet Martha's chocolate chip cookies, ice cold milk, cheese curds, assorted sodas, pork chop on a stick, fruit cup, dipping dots ice cream at \$39.39
Inclusive
- Booth for state fair type games – Human Rights Fair games **Does SABE want to create a game? Does project VOTE want to create a game?**
- SABE Candidates work the crowd- **How do you want booths set up?**
- Other Human Rights Fair offerings:
 - Photo Booth
 - Caricatures
 - Old Fashioned Photos
 - Juggler
 - Lots more!
- Two stages with ramps for five different types of entertainment
 - Johnny Crescendo
 - Amazing Jeffer
 - Scott-Tones

Saturday, September 1st - RiverCentre

Transportation will be available from the Crowne Plaza to the RiverCentre for people that need it beginning at 7:30 am approximately every 20 minutes or people can choose to walk/roll.

8 am – 4:30 pm

Registration – Name Tags, Conference Bags, Promotional Items (shirts, etc.), Exhibits, Art Exhibits

8 am – 2 pm

Voting for SABE Officers

8 am – 9:30 am

Plated Breakfast

Assorted baked mini muffins, fruit-filled strudel and mini croissants, three cheese and ham three egg omelet, creamy hash brown casserole, sausage links, coffee, de-caf, hot herbal teas & orange juice at \$20.60 inclusive

9:30 am – 10:30 am	Workshops
10:45 am – 11:45 pm	Workshops
11:45 am – 1 pm	Lunch Tator Tot Hot dish (ground beef, onion, beef gravy topped with tator tots, oven roasted carrots, rice crispy treats, coffee, de-caf, hot herbal teas & iced tea at \$28.35 inclusive
1 pm – 2 pm	Workshops
2:15 pm – 3:15 pm	General Session 1,000 person sing-a-long (include thank you song to sponsors and helpers) Does SABE want to lead one song?
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	General Session SABE Awards & Announcements of Officers

Transportation will be available from the RiverCentre to the Crowne Plaza for people that need it beginning at 3:15 pm approximately every 20 minutes or people can choose to walk/roll.

Saturday Evening back to Crowne Plaza

6 pm – 7:30 pm	Dinner – Crowne salad with a raspberry vinaigrette dressing, stuffed chicken breast with feta cheese, spinach, sundried tomato roasted bell pepper sauce, duchess piped whipped potatoes, rolls, butter, starbucks coffee, decaf and teas, turtle cheesecake at \$38.01 inclusive
7:30 pm – 11:30 pm	Dance Power Play

Sunday, September 2nd – Crowne Plaza

8 am – 9 am	Interfaith Service – Jay Wilson
9 am – 10:30 am	Breakfast – Orange juice, scrambled eggs, breakfast potatoes, sausage links, breakfast pastry basket, starbucks coffee, decaf and teas at \$19.63 inclusive
10:30 am – 12 pm	Closing Ceremony- TBD—Will not have full AV package so need to create a program that works without projection and screens.

Conference Ends

The board is invited to attend on Wednesday August 29, to see Sunshine Boys at 7pm. Who wants to go? 30 want to go. ACT will be purchasing tickets for SABE board members.

SABE Conference will be on August 30 to September 2 at the Crown Plaza, in St. Paul, Minnesota. Flag ceremony, transportation, executive elections, booth and food fair, meals, workshops, general session, history of self-advocacy, there will be stipends for presenters- proposal due by April 20, and regional meetings were discussed. What does SABE want to do for their booth? Issues reverse fortune telling, self-advocates will tell SABE what they should work on for the next 5 years.

Bryon made a motion to accept the National Conference report. Bernard seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Close the Doors Committee Report

February 10, 2012

The Boys Are Back!

Willow Brook Film



- Carol will ask the Minnesota Conference Planning Committee to make contact with the film producer for show casing and sharing the film throughout the conference
- Did Finance committee follow up with SABE endorsement of the Willow Brook film. Finance committee to determine if SABE could send \$250 to support work on the film

Refresh Campaign for "Closing Institutions"

- Does SABE have information listed as to which states have or haven't closed institutions or will survey states to get this information
- The following states were identified to support with campaign: Minnesota, Alabama, Washington, and New Hampshire - Identify contact person from state. Have a conference call to discuss successful strategy of closing them down! In return, share with states success strategy tips.

Education

- In preparation for State Disability Day, Month or Week, encourage all states to do at least one presentation in a school. Jim to share a prepared presentation on

“Awareness to People with Intellectual Disabilities” Once this presentation is shared , if it is appropriate, this tool will be shared with states to use during the presentation if they need assistance

- It is confirmed that the “Remembering with Dignity Project of MN” will be on display at national conference. This is the project that features portraits that artists have made called, “See Their Faces”

Carol needs clarification about the \$250 to be sent to the Willowbrook filming project. The money has been sent.

Topper said that her and Max can send the State of the State report to the Close the Doors committee about which states have institutions, group homes, those that are on waivers, etc.

John made the motion to accept the Close the Doors committee report. Jason seconded it. Motion passed.



PROPOSAL TO
THE SABE 2012 CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE
February 10, 2012

Make Voting Accessible for ALL!



SABE is directing its **Make Voting Accessible for ALL!** campaign through the efforts of the National Technical Assistance Center for Voting and Cognitive Access funded by ADD and directed by SABE.. With over 10 years of experience, NTAC has built a successful Project Vote Tool Kits and resources to educate citizens with disabilities based on the following principles:

- ~Whereas voting is the most basic right and responsibility of every American citizen, including people with disabilities.
- ~Whereas protecting the rights to vote of citizens with disabilities ensures that the democratic process will work for the benefit of all.

~Whereas registering vote and casting a ballot promotes citizen involvement, self-determination and independence.

~Whereas the majority of states have elections or guardianship laws that take away the right to vote of individuals with developmental and cognitive disabilities.

With a major election happening in 2012, it is important for SABE not only continue but expands its efforts to reach even more citizens. The Project Vote Team would like to propose that “voting” be a major part of the **2012 Conference: It is All About Fairness**. NTAC, along with the national resources of three other HAVA (Help America Vote Act) Projects funded by ADD, would like to propose organizing:

- A **short Plenary Session** (no more than 30 minutes) “Disability Does Not Mean You Cannot Vote” or “Our Voices Have Not Been Heard in the Past but You Can Change That” (**select or create title**). Would like to invite Senator Harkin to present along with a self-advocate to give a motivational plea for group to take action. (**Does anyone have connections with Senator Harkin**, (Sylvia Piper, Director IA P&A has a close relationship with him as do others like Joe Caldwell, etc.) **Preliminary talks with Mary Kay, ACT, reported limited AV equipment access because it is so expensive. Project Vote will contact Jim Dixon, Clemson University to see if they can help with the cost of \$5,000 for the AV equipment.**
- Two **presentations**: “Do you really think that One Vote Does Not Make a Difference” – Project Vote Team – **focus on attitude and motivation**
“Importance of Leading an Organized Voting Effort” – Jim Dixon and Nancy Ward – **focus on taking action**
- With the assistance of Clemson University and Jim Dixon they will be able to provide voting machines used by voters for people to vote for Officers. Jim will have a staff person there

who can make the ballot and place photos on the ballot so people can vote using a typical voting machine.

- A **large exhibit space** at the Human Rights Fair featuring:

Jan 12, 2012 update: Nancy Ward spoke with Jim Dixon last evening and he talked about Clemson University, explaining they have accessible voting machines that would be available for the SABE conference. The COOL thing about the machines is that we could put the pictures of the people running for board officers on a ballot. I was really excited about the fact we would be able to add the information at the conference and this would make it seem realistic. I wanted to send this out to everyone so that we could decide if we want to send this idea to the planning committee.

We understand the need for a well-organized plan to make sure the voting is a positive experience for everyone!

~Computers to connect with the Project Vote Website and its curriculum and for participants to check and see if they are registered to vote.

Again, this would need to be well staffed. We would like to invite the 3 other HAVA grantees to assist with this as well as others. Will the conference have to pay for internet access in the exhibit area or is it included with the current arrangements?

~A survey asking questions about "Ballots with Pictures". AAPD is developing the survey. **Jim Dixson will take the lead on this. Not sure what type of support it will entail yet.**

~Handouts on Voting and information from the other three ADD funded HAVA projects.

Since the legislature won't be in session, it may be hard to get someone from the federal government to come and speak. Maybe the group should consider trying to get a celebrity to come and speak like "Rock the Vote". Also, ask Kareem Dale to come and speak to the group. It would be based upon "Why it is important to vote?" Last time only the democrats showed up.

There was a letter sent to the candidates about a candidate's forum in Ohio. As of now, only Obama and Gengrich have answered.

Jason made the motion to accept the Proposal from Project Vote for the Conference. Clint seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Betty went over the Summit information. You should know by now if you have gotten an invitation.

- March 19-20 Baltimore, MD-Vicky Betty
- March 28-29 Honolulu, HI-Tia
- April 19-20 Chicago, IL-Tia
- May 10-11 Seattle, WA-Vicky Betty

Tia will be representing at the Summits that Betty will not be present at.

Policy Seminar (April 22-24)-Max, Betty, Topper, Ryan, Cathy, Nicole, Consuelo. There should be quite a few people going. Many are going with their state teams.

Chaqueta said that South Carolina is very excited for the Summit.



Policy Committee Report SABE Board Meeting Las Vegas, Nevada

February 10, 2012

Bryon Murray and Vicki Wray

Supporting: Gayla Mumford and Vicki Hicks Turnage

1. Committee would like to ask Krystle to post the Housing Summit White paper to website.
2. Definition of Self Determination: Members of the self determination committee reviewed and suggest that it stay as is.
3. Project Vote updated the voting and guardianship statement and we sent to Krystle to be posted to the website.
4. In the future we recommend the format followed in the position statement for Voting and Guardianship be followed when writing position statements.

Bryon Murray Chair
Vicki Wray

The logo will be added to the position statement.

Ryan made a motion to accept the report. Chaqueta seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The Legislative Committee will now be presenting. Below are two drafts of letters to be sent on SABE letterhead. The SABE board asked for state groups to have their state contact Senator Grassley to restore the cuts to the ADD budget. There has not yet been a letter sent from SABE, so the Legislative Committee is suggesting that SABE send a letter to Senator Grassley and Representative Barney Frank.

******DRAFT******

Representative Barney Frank



I am writing on behalf of Self Advocates Becoming Empowered, the national self-advocacy organization, to express our strong opposition to HR2032. This bill would place limits on the ability of Protection and Advocacy organizations to file class action lawsuits on behalf of people with disabilities that are living in ICF/MR's.

This is a group of people whose Civil Rights have historically been seriously impaired. This Bill will only place further restrictions on a group of people whose Civil Rights should instead be made whole and equal to those of all other US citizens.

We hope you will reconsider your support of the Bill and instead choose to support their Civil Rights including the right to Due Process that all citizens are entitled to no matter where they live.

Sincerely,

Betty Williams

President, SABE

Jim made the motion to accept the letter. Jason seconded the motion. Motion passed.

******DRAFT******

Honorable Senator Grassley

Iowa

We are writing on behalf of Self Advocates Becoming Empowered, the National Self Advocacy Organization, to request that you restore the cuts that were made to the discretionary budget of the Administration of Developmental Disabilities.

These budget cuts will adversely affect the lives of people with developmental disabilities. These cuts will affect research, training, education and voting protection programs that directly impact the quality of life and opportunities for community involvement for people with developmental disabilities.

Your consideration of this request and of the serious negative impacts these cuts will have on the lives of many Americans with disabilities will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Betty Williams

President, SABE

Eric made a motion to accept the letter. Chaqueta seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Betty wanted to know if the group would like to send a letter to President Obama's administration. It was suggested to try to get ADD to fund a forum to get SABE back to its roots. It was suggested to have the letter ready to send to the President by the next meeting.

SABE By Laws Committee
February 10, 2012–02–11



The Committee reviewed the board member qualifications and responsibilities. After this review, all committee members agreed the By Laws are clear on these issues and the By Laws need to be enforced.

We understand that the Executive Committee has not advised current Board members that they are in violation of the By Laws therefore we are planning on sending the following notification to:

Region 1: Representative: Jim McNemara has been able to arrange to attend.

Region 6: Kenny Stallings has resigned and Chaquetta will be the new representative.

Region 7: Hope Finley was notified that she needed a letter from her employer indicating that she had to work. She is planning on attending the next meeting.

Vicki Mills was contacted and she cannot move into the alternates position due to health issues and her waiver, We tried to contact Germaine Payne to determine if she is able to move into this position,

Region 9: Letters were sent to Reginald Garey and Theresa Chappell notifying them that they had been removed from Board due to the fact that they were unable to attend.

Consuelo and Eric were notified that they were the new representatives.

Other recommendations that we will continue to follow up on include:

Quarterly teleconference, video conference or a regional meeting be held with the State Representatives from each region, representatives and alternates to get updates from the states.

The committee will host a conference call to provide information to the Regions on the roles of representatives and alternates prior The By Law Committee will send out the requirements and contact all members and alternates to discuss their responsibilities. We will also ask for input from the states on how SABE can be more connected to their states,

We will have a form with responsibilities of the alternates and/or representatives ready for the Minnesota Board Meeting. The form will also require that any individual who runs address their qualifications for the position. The form will also include a signed statement from their self-advocacy group of their endorsement. In addition the self-advocacy group

will have to agree that they will support the person running for the position and their support person (if necessary) for 8 Board Meetings.

Vicki Wray, Chair
Bryon Murray

Commissioner suggested that SABE and the states need to be more connected. It was suggested that each region get a copy of the SABE by-laws and have a discussion and bring back to the SABE board. How could SABE be more responsive to the needs of the states in our bylaws?
Example: Region 8 has their own meetings.

Decide by state who will be running for SABE office. Good way to get input. Perception out there is that SABE is not a democratic organization. Part of the input for the strategic plan. Talk to the self-advocates themselves and find out why people aren't responding. Have a contact/appointed/elected representative from each state. Have to be a member in good standing. Ask so much of the organizational dues. More discussion to follow. PNS-certain amount of \$, how the \$ DD Council is spent, work to get that stuff in the DD Act. Certain things that the Congress can set (appropriations)-want some of that money to support Self-Advocacy. Structure that we can build.

Chester would like to volunteer to help the by-laws committee with this and look up how other grassroots organizations are ran.

Carol made a motion to accept the By-Law Committee report. Chaqueta seconded it. Motion passed.

PR Committee
February 10th, 2012

Newsletter

The Winter Newsletter is done and will be sent out soon.

The next newsletter will be the Summer Edition and we will pass it out at the SABE Conference in August (The SABE Conference is August 30th to September 2nd).



Here is what we want to put in the Summer 2012 Newsletter.

- 1) "It's all about fairness". The first article in the Summer 2012 newsletter will be about equality and fairness. We want to take the *Catch Phrase* of the conference and write an article about how state self-advocacy groups answer the question, "What are the things that are fair(equal) and not-fair(not equal) for people with disabilities compared to people without disabilities?" Two examples that the PR Committee came up with are – Sub Minimum Wage: It is not fair that many people with disabilities are paid less than minimum wage for their work.

– Institutions:

- 2) Accomplishments of SABE since the last National Conference. We want every committee, including the Executive committee to give us a list of things that they have accomplished since the last National Conference (The last Conference was September 2010).
- 3) State of the States. We want to take the presentation that was given to Sharon Lewis yesterday and turn it into an article about each state that SABE represents. We want all SABE board reps to get this information from any states in their region that are not already in the presentation that we made to Sharon. We want representatives to have this information to us by Easter (Easter is April 8th).

*Is it okay to use this presentation? We would like all articles or whatever they have to be written edited and ready to go.

- 4) Profiles In Freedom, one person on the SABE Board will be interviewed by Krystle and an article will be written that shares a little about the person. This will help people get to know about who is on the SABE board.

A rough draft of the Newsletter will be done by the next board meeting. The Final newsletter will be printed and ready to hand out at the National Conference.

SABE Website

We talked about making some changes to the SABE website. Here is a list of our ideas for changes

- 1) Change the bullets from the left hand side to the top of the page. This will make more room for information on the rest of the website.
- 2) Change the title of buttons. The old list included Home, Meet SABE, Contact US, Board Members, Events, News, Resources, Policy Statements, National, State, Join, Projects, and GoVoter. The new list would include Home, Meet SABE, Events, State Groups (that would lists contact information for State Self Advocacy groups), Resources, and Projects.
- 3) Add a slide show of pictures to the homepage so that people see SABE members being active advocates.
- 4) Move Hot Topics from the bottom of the page to the top of the page (right under the slideshow). We want to keep this area updated with the most current information that everyone should know. We want to change the box around the Hot Topic to have flames or something that stands out. We want to add a link to the bottom of the Hot Topic box so that people can find "old" hot topics.
- 5) Add two new buttons to the main part of the homepage so that people can easily find how to join SABE and how to donate money to SABE.
- 6) Organize the information on the bottom of the page so that people can find information easily about each of SABE's priorities.

Eric made the motion to accept the PR Committee update. Clint seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Self-Advocacy Nation

More than 1,250 local and state self-advocacy groups



Bernard Baker
Georgia



Jason Billehus
Montana



Clint Perrin
New York

Grassroots Report—February 11, 2012

- ★ We will continue working with Krystle to get our information up on the website. It was already approved by the board in November and does not need to go through the PR Committee.
- ★ We emailed out contact at Syracuse University and will be working with them to update the SABA Self-Advocacy Starter Toolkit. Right now it includes:
 - Starting Groups
 - Working on Issues
 - Self-Advocates and Self-Determination
 - Advisor Issues
 - Materials on The Self-Advocacy Movement
- ★ We brainstormed a few other topics to cover:
 - Developing Bylaws
 - List of all the state organizations websites
 - Using language that everyone can understand in meetings
 - Before you even get to a place where you are starting a group, just start talking about it.
 - Set up some good rules for common courtesy about how we treat each other. Balance the need for respectful language with the need for people to get their feelings and thoughts out.
 - You have to be a good listeners. Go at pace that people can understand. List tips on including a person who has difficulty speaking or understanding.
 - Give everybody a chance to speak
 - Protecting rights for everyone, even the advisors
 - The advisor needs to let the members run the group
 - Advocacy can be anything from choosing what you are going to where on a particular day to testifying. A lot of people think advocacy is one thing like just doing legislative types of things. Not everyone can do all types of advocacy automatically but they can learn to. There is no “small thing” of advocacy.
 - When you are recruiting allies you need to do a background check.

- ★ Conference calls set for March 12 and April 9

Max suggested having those who use augmentative and facilitated communication as a topic.

Consuelo made a motion to accept the Grassroots committee report. Eric seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Finance Committee Report February 11, 2012



1. Budget for 2011-2012 will be read by Ryan and needs to be approved by SABE board today.
2. Marc Seifert has resigned as an accountant for SABE. We will need to find a replacement. We have a couple of leads. If anyone knows of an accountant who works well with self-advocates, please let us know. Marc said that we still are using the fiscal year from July to June, we approved the change to October to September in November 2011, and we need to inform the IRS of our change.
3. If you need support for hotel room in Minnesota in May 2012, you need to let John know by April 30, 2012 or you will have to pay for it yourself.
4. Lecell would like to support SABE by assisting in finding funding. The Finance committee has met and has discussed with Lecell on what she can do for SABE.

Suggestion: Bartering with compensation rooms (meeting and all hotel rooms) for exchange of staff disability training which will be done the week of SABE board meetings, but if.....

The hotel wants disability training when there is no SABE board meeting or an extra training for a fee, then, hotel will be responsible for trainer's lodging, food, airfare and ground transportation.

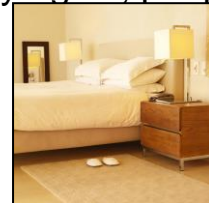
Develop a promotional video about people with disabilities staying in hotels.

Lecell need a 501c3 letter and a letter from John to do the work.

Here is what Lecell will be able to do:

❖ Lecell's Activities

- a) By May 31, 2012 Lecell will look into finding funding from a hotel chain for SABE board meetings
- b) By November 1, 2012 Lecell will be a liaison between SABE and hotels in providing trainings to hotel staff disability rights, people first language, attitudes, awareness



Finance Committee Recommendations

- ✓ Lecell will contact hotel chains about bartering compensation meeting and hotel rooms for exchange of staff training
- ✓ SABE members make short videos and power point presentations about training hotel staff.

TABLE presentation UNTIL May 2012.

John Britton, Treasurer

Ryan Duncanwood, committee chair

Eric made a motion to accept the budget. Jason seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Eric made a motion to allow Lecell to contact hotel chains about disability training for comp rooms. Bryon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Grassroots will talk about the concept of doing the short videos and power point presentations about training hotel staff.

Wait until a hotel chain agrees to do the training in exchange for room comps. Could we just video an existing training?

Bryon suggested having Lecell talk to the hotels and see what they want.

Bryon made a motion to accept the Finance Committee report. Chaqueta seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The SABE Executive Committee will write Sharon Lewis a thank you letter for attending the meeting on behalf of the SABE board.

The next meeting will be May 29-June 3, 2012 in St. Paul, MN.