

**Gulf Coast Down Syndrome Society
Meeting of the Board of Directors
NOVEMBER 11, 2010**

Call to Order/Approval of Agenda:

Cindy Hansen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and offered the agenda for approval. No additions were made to the agenda. A motion was made to approve the agenda by Darlena Stratton; Deidre Davis seconded the motion. The vote to approve the agenda was unanimous.

Board members in attendance were:

Donna Brewer
Cindy Hansen
Riley McIlwain
Deidre A. Davis
Darlena Stratton
Kim Duffy
Regina Rosskopf
Jennifer Hamner

Those Board Members absent: Jerry Martin, Beth Goellner, Mary Langenbacker, Boe Collins

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the October 21, 2010, board meeting were sent to each board member in advance. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Deidre Davis and seconded by Riley McIlwain.

Financial Report:

The Treasurer Riley McIlwain reported that the current balance in the checking account is \$46,709.69. There have been donations received since the last board meeting and more were brought to this meeting to be deposited roughly totaling \$1,500.00.

The sales tax application was completed by Riley and with obtaining the necessary signatures the form will be sent in for processing in the coming week. This will allow the sale of items such as magnets, calendars and decals.

After a discussion of the financial data presented by the Treasurer a motion was made by Deidra Davis to approve the financial report, Darlena Stratton seconded the motion.

Support Group/Outreach and Advocacy -

A support group meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2010, at the Gulfport location. The Speaker will be Mamie Carlson from SMRC. Topics expected to be covered is the various services that SMRC can assist families of special needs individuals with such as Diagnostic Services, Case Management Services, Home Based Waiver Program, and Medicaid. Handouts will be available and will also be posted on the web site as soon post-meeting as possible. Cindy Hansen presented that she does have a few leads on some alternative Harrison County meeting locations. Kim Duffy also highly suggested Church of The Redeemer's new location although the exact location of the new church was unknown. Kim and Cindy agreed to follow-up with each other about this possibility of partnership for Harrison County support group meeting location.

The December support group will be the Christmas Party on December 11, 2010, at St. Paul UMC in Jackson County. Darlena Stratton has decided it more economical to not cater the event this year. She is making spaghetti dinner, Cindy Hansen is in charge of dessert and the board agreed for expense reimbursement to both of them for the supplies necessary. It is encouraged that Darlena Stratton allow other board members to help her with this event and distribute tasks assignments as necessary. Regina, Donna and Deidra all agreed to help. The party is scheduled to start at 4:00 p.m. and decorating/set-up needs to begin by 2:00 p.m. All board members who can come early to help is encouraged to do so.

Goodie bags to board members and those to the children are being donated by Northrup Grumman. We need to collectively sign a thank you to this business sponsor expressing our appreciation to them for their continued support of this organization.

The January meeting will be in Gulfport although the location is not yet confirmed pending inquiries by Cindy and Kim.

Buddy Walk 2011

Chairperson Darlena Stratton reported that after price shopping and obtaining quotes from other vendors besides Haygoods of Pascagoula, Haygoods still beat the competition by quoting \$3.60 each for t-shirts for the 2011 walk. The shirts have been ordered (4000) and one-half of the payment will need to be made next week. Darlena has also placed the orders for "Save The Date" magnets and these magnets will be available for distribution to the GCDSS members at the December 11, Christmas Party.

The Myles Sharp Band has been secured for the event. Rebecca Powers is waiving her fee of \$600.00 as a donation to GCDSS but the \$500.00 customary fee to the band will be paid by GCDSS.

Members are encouraged to begin planning early for their teams for the 2011 walk.

New Parent-

Two new babies born on the coast were reported since the last meeting. The welcome baskets are being distributed as needed.

Board Development:

Cindy Hansen announced that there are officially four board seats needed to be filled. It was announced that Jerry Martin has decided to not serve another term. Requests to various individuals for consideration of becoming a board member will be made and hopefully the prospects will attend the general membership gathering on December 11.

Old Business:

2011 Calendar project by Amy Williams has been a success and the calendars are in the printing stage. Calendars will be available for members at the Christmas Party on December 11, 2010, and will be available for purchase after the first of the year as well. It was reported by Darlena that everyone who came out to the photo shoot will have his or her picture in the calendar. Patrick McIlwain was chosen for the cover. It is currently anticipated that the calendars will be sold for \$5.00 - \$6.00 each, just enough to cover the costs of printing. The calendars will have a spiral binding.

New Business:

The motion was made by Kim Duffy and Darlena Stratton that a memoriam of some sort on behalf of GCDSS should be made in memory of Baby Dillon. Various ideas were tossed around by the board members and the overall winning thought was that a donation or memoriam in honor of Baby Dillon to a Hispanic assistance program would be the ideal. Kim Duffy and Cindy Hansen agreed to do some investigating as to appropriate outreach groups and will report back at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Riley McIlwain that GCDSS donate \$500.00 to Reece's Rainbow Adoption Ministry. Motion was seconded by Deidra Davis and approved by all present.

Announcements:

MSPTI is having a Parent Training Seminar in Natchez, Mississippi on November 20, 2010. This is the same presentation as held in Ocean Springs on August 21, 2010. For registration please visit the web site for MSPTI.

The GCDSS annual Christmas Party and General Membership gathering is currently scheduled for December 11, 2010, at 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The event will be held at St. Paul UMC.

Adjournment:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and passed by unanimous vote. Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2010.

Approved:

CINDY HANSEN, President

Attested:

DONNA L. BREWER, Secretary