**Red Rock Center for Independence Board of Directors**

**August 21, 2019, 3:00 p.m.**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR COPY OF THE STRATEGIC GOALS WITH YOU TO THE MEETING**

**Attendees: Board Members**: George Gehling (President), Tom Brownlee (Vice President), Michael Mills (Secretary), Lester Ruesch (Treasurer), Kester Tapaha, Diego Acosta, Jesse Stocking

**Staff:** Barb Lefler (Executive Director), Brenda Adair (Note taker)

**Guests:** Carol Golichnik (Bookkeeper)

**Absent:** Brad Robinson

**Excused:** Angela Pool-Funai, Darin Day

**Resigning:** Deanna Osborne, Em Diefenderfer

**Welcome**

**Agenda & Meeting Priorities**

VOTE: Michael motioned that the agenda be adjusted to reflect the resignation of Em and Deanna, and that the modified agenda be approved, Tom second, Board voted unanimously in favor.

VOTE: Tom motioned to accept resignations, Michael second, Board voted unanimously to accept.

It was observed that this leaves the board with only one remaining female member and suggestions were made to seek out more and also those to represent outreach areas.

**Consent Agenda**

Minutes

Executive Director Report

VOTE: Lester motioned to approve consent agenda, Michael second, Board voted unanimously in favor.

**Barb Lefler’s health update:** She is up to the eleventh radiation treatment doing the latest on this morning and noticed doing it earlier in the day is much harder. It is better to do in the evening as there is an accumulative fatigue that is taking its toll. She is going to be passing on hormone therapy. She is cancer free and looking forward to having all treatments finished up and getting back to normal.

**Finance**

Lester presented the finance report and Carol added a note about overage due to new vehicle purchase, but that it does not affect state reporting. There will be more year end audits and reports coming in the next few weeks for board review.

VOTE: Lester voted to approve finance report as presented and reviewed by finance committee, Tom seconded, Board voted unanimously to approve.

**Board Business**

Board Elections: Proposed nominees for executive committee: President: Lester Ruesch, Vice President: Jesse Stocking, Secretary: Tom Brownlee, Treasure: Michael Mills. The floor was opened for additional nominations and that since none were offered the nominations were closed

VOTE: Michael moved that the slate be closed, and nominations stand as submitted, Tom second, Board voted unanimously in favor of selecting proposed nominees.

**Discussion Items**

Scholarship Recommendations- Lester reported that committee recommendations were submitted to board members via email. It was recommended by the nomination committee that the RRCI board fund the top four scholarship applicants. These top four applicants were all from SUU. The fifth selected applicant was also from SUU. The sixth selected applicant was from Utah State.

VOTE: Lester Motioned to fund the top four applicants for the amount of $500 each, Michael second, Board voted unanimously in favor to fund.

George proposed that due to the fact that people with disabilities are far behind others in collage attendance, he would like to fund a fifth applicant and would fund an additional $250 for a sixth applicant if board members would fund the other $250. The following board members committed to contribute the following amounts: Diego $50, Lester $50, Mike $50, Tom $30, Jessie $20, Kester $20, Barb $30. Lester will send Barb the names of the six student applicants that have been chosen to be awarded the scholarships. Barb will get together with Angela to present scholarships to the winning applicants at the SUU campus.

Veteran Directed Care-Fee for Service Program- Barb reported that she has been doing her due diligence to investigate the program. She spoke to the administrator of the Veteran Directed Care program in SLC and was notified that the reason there has been a push for independent living centers to facilitate the program is because there has been a lack of organizations to do so in other states. However, here in Utah there are many. So many in fact, that there aren’t enough eligible participants to go around. Here in St. George, Five Counties is already signed on the facilitate the Veteran Directed Care program for our area so RRCI would be in direct competition with them if we chose to facilitate the program. Taking all these factors into consideration, Barb has decided not to pursue this endeavor.

Building status/Fundraising Event status- There have been many Table Captains found who are excited to help with the event. Barb asked if any members of the RRCI board would want to be a table captain and host their own table? Or if they would simply want to attend and sit together as a board? Lester, Tom, Michael, Jessie, and Diego expressed interest in siting at a board appointed table with Michael agreeing to be the host of that table. George said he would be a Table Captain and be responsible for filling his own table.

Evening Respite Program Discussion (P&L in packet) – last year the respite program ran into the hole by $60 a month. Barb spoke to the employee over the program and she asked that the Board please not make it go away. She has started another participant who has DSPD funding. She has had some staff members express interest in helping her in the evening, but this is not needed, she thinks she can make up the $60 and at least break even. Board members expressed interest to keep supporting respite program even if it’s not doing more than breaking even, because it fulfills and important, unmet need. Suggestions were made to continue to pursue other fee for service opportunities while continuing to support and get the word out for the respite program.

Diego expressed gratitude for being allowed to use the kitchen for classes for the Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. He noted that the oven temperature is off, it is dark in the activity room, and that it would be useful to procure an angled mirror to be placed on the ceiling to help class participants to better see the instructor cooking, Barb will check into cost of a mirror, getting a thermometer for the oven, and look into the lighting. George suggested that since the class is a benefit to the agency, would they consider funding a mirror and donating it to RRCI? Diego said he would ask.

Lester stated that the bylaws state that minutes should be sent out to executive secretary within 10 days, and that he would like to receive them as well.

Tom asked if there were any new leads on the building. Barb replied that Doug spoke with Shari Dial plans for a new building and reported that she said, she might know a guy who could help. Barb will touch base with Shari to see if she would be interested in becoming a Table Captain for the Friends of Red Rock Fundraising Breakfast.

George expressed his enjoyment and gratitude to have had the opportunity to serve as Board President. Members present expressed their gratitude and appreciation for his service.

**Adjourn: 3:49**

**Important Dates and Events**

**Board Meeting Schedule:** September 18, 2019

**Friends of RRCI Free Fundraising Breakfast:** November 6, 2019