



Minutes of the January 18, 2012 Phone Conference Meeting

FY 2011 – 2012

Present: J. Alberts, H. Als, D. Buehler, J. Helm, S. Kosta, g. Lawhon, S. Mader, G. McAnulty, K. Vandenberg, I. Warren, V. Youcha

Dr. Als opened the meeting at 2:04PM EST.

Adoption of Minutes from Covington, KY meetings: Fri 23 Sep 2011 & Tues 27 Sep 2011

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried it was by majority

VOTED: To adopt the Board meeting minutes from Friday 23 Sep 2011.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried it was by majority

VOTED: To adopt the Board meeting minutes from Tuesday 27 Sep 2011.

Task Force on By-Law Changes – Update on edits to the By-Laws

Dr. Helm reported that he and the task force have begun the process of editing the by-laws. Article 1 has been reviewed and Article II will be sent out soon. The goal is to have a version ready for Board review by late March/early April and then be voted on formally at the May meeting.

Dr. Als asked if the revised by-laws will be distributed to the Membership for their input and vote. Dr. Helm replied that he intends to raise this topic at the May meeting. Since it is his feeling that the Membership wishes to be involved in these decisions he plans to set up a process by which the Membership may read and react to the document and then he will integrate their feedback in time for a vote at the annual meeting.

Dr. McAnulty and Ms. Kosta joined the task force and will review the edits along with Dr. Helm, Dr. Als and Ms. Warren.

Fundraising Committee Update

Dr. Vandenberg began by listing the members of the committee as Dr. Youcha, Dr. Buehler, Dr. Sizun, herself and she asked Dr. Alberts if he was still interested in being a member of the committee. Dr. Alberts agreed to join the Fundraising Committee.

Dr. Vandenberg told the Board about her recent trip to Montana where she met with prospective funders, one of whom was the former CFO of Apple. They gave her advice but did not offer any funding. She stated that their main observation was that the current members of the Board are all the “worker bees” and that the Board should work toward transitioning from worker bee members to business oriented members, but that it is still too early to make this transition. The Board should work with foundations and solidify the NFI’s mission.

Dr. Vandenberg is exploring Easter Seals and the Kellogg Foundation. She explained that she will pursue the Ronald McDonald house again. She stated that Dr. Roger Sheldon offered to help by talking with someone he knows who is involved the charity.

Dr. Als asked what is preventing the Board from asking individuals for donations. Dr. Vandenberg suggested asking the membership to help with the appeal. Dr. Als pointed out that we need staffing to acknowledge donors. She stated that the Fundraising Committee needs to spearhead this effort. Dr. Vandenberg pointed out that parents and insurance companies stand to benefit from the work of the NFI. She indicated that the NFI needs to approach insurance companies and asked if anyone has any connections in the insurance industry. Dr. Alberts indicated that he may know someone and offered to pursue. Dr. Als asked for advice on how to approach this method of fundraising. Dr. Alberts mentioned a possible resource to tap for how to approach the insurance agencies. He will explore that option. Dr. Vandenberg asked Dr. Alberts if he would like to keep in touch with her on a regular basis. Dr. Alberts stated that he'd like to keep in touch with regular calls but he'd also like set up a time to meet up with Dr. Vandenberg in person.

Dr. Als indicated that the urgency of bringing in money is strong. She agreed that the NFI should foster connections and explore insurance companies but she also urged the Board to think about a short term influx of money. She asked Dr. Helm about the possibility of another appeal that expands past the membership. Dr. Als suggested that a small group be assigned to complete it. Ms. Warren stated that she knows of many people who have done NIDCAP training but have not signed up to be members. Dr. Als stated that the completed database will be useful for determining such situations. Ms. Warren added that most trainers have lists of those they have trained and perhaps this would be useful in reaching out to more individuals. Dr. Helm added that the database will have numbers of those certified. Dr. Vandenberg stated that she will search for someone to take on the task of organizing an appeal. Dr. Helm explained that at least two people have agreed to help with data entry and that they could get something done in several months. Dr. Vandenberg offered to search for an assistant to aid with data entry. If she can then she will take it on. Dr. Helm suggested that the Board think about whether this appeal can be done electronically.

Dr. Buehler reported to the Board that she was invited to San Francisco General Hospital for a meeting and tour. She spent 1.5 hours with several heads of departments. She will follow-up with her contact there to explore ways to help the NFI.

Trainers Meeting Update

Dr. Lawhon reported that she sent out two different evaluation summaries of the meeting – one tabulated from the internal evaluations and the other a summary of the evaluations collected by Contemporary Forums. She asked the Board whether these evaluations should be posted on the listserv for everyone to review. After much discussion of the pros and cons of doing this the Board decided against this mainly because those completing the evaluations were not made aware of the possibility of public posting. Dr. Helm suggested that a general summary could be created and sent to the listserv.

Family Committee – Update on text for website

Ms. Mader indicated that the Family Committee consists of Samantha Butler, Dalia Silberstein, Deborah Buehler, Whitney Brady, and herself. She reported that she is working on finalizing the text but needs 2-3 more weeks to complete it.

There being no further business upon motion, duly made, seconded and carried, Dr. Als adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m. EST on Wednesday, January 18, 2012.



Deborah Buehler, PhD
Secretary
NIDCAP Federation International



Sandra M. Kosta, BA
Assistant Secretary
NIDCAP Federation International

