

NACDD Board of Directors Call—October 25, 2017

Board Members on call: Shannon Buller, WY; Val Bishop, SC; Heidi Lawyer, VA; Mitzi Proffitt, GA; Steve Gieber, KS; Kristin Britton, MA; Charles Hughes, MS; Vicky Davidson, MO; Dan Shannon, MA

NACDD Staff: Donna Meltzer, Robin Troutman, Jessica Misilo, Angela Castillo-Epps, Sheryl Matney, Erin Prangle, Deanna Hartzman

Not on call: Joana Cordry, TX—on vacation

Shannon Buller called the meeting to order at 1:05pm

Charles Hughes requested a motion to accept minutes from both meetings—Dan Shannon made a motion to approve; Vicky Davidson seconded the motion; **motion to approve both the July and September meeting minutes approved by voice vote at 1:06pm.**

Donna Meltzer began with a welcome to the two new board members for FY18, Mitzi Proffitt from Georgia and Val Bishop from SC. Donna walked through a brief PowerPoint presentation as an orientation for the new Board members and refresher for current members. (see presentation for orientation points)

Shannon Buller, Board President provided an update and shared her thoughts on key priorities she has asked the Board to work on this year. She began by thanking the Board for continued work and especially for the work on the P3I situation – the proposal to eliminate current funding for DD Councils and restructure the Councils into a new program combined with the SILCs and State TBI programs. Shannon said that she was pleased that with much hard work by NACDD and the Board leadership it appeared that the P3I concept would not be moving forward.

Shannon announced that she and Steve Gieber will put together a process for reviewing the first year of the NACDD Strategic Plan. She stated that a workgroup will convene to review what has been accomplished over the year and to make recommendations for changes or adjustments needed to the Plan based on accomplishments or changes that have occurred that might change the direction of the Strategic Plan. The workgroup will also discuss the best reporting structure or tool to use with Board and Assembly so that everyone is knowledgeable and included in the direction of the organization. The group will be comprised of people not currently serving on committees and will be representative of a range of voices from the network. Participants will include a mix of people from the territories, minimum allotment states, and larger allotment states.

Shannon then went on to discuss the need for a review of our current Bylaws. Shannon stated that despite changing the bylaws only a few years ago there remain some questions around particular provisions. Shannon reported that she spoke with Ann Trudgeon (OK) and asked her to head a new workgroup to look at the current bylaws and make adjustments and/or changes if needed. She noted that the workgroup was not looking for a major overhaul but rather some tweaks needed to clarify provisions that remain unclear. The workgroup will be comprised of a diverse group representative of the network. Shannon remarked that service on committees build future leaders of the organization.

Heidi Lawyer commented that Board members should still have a voice on all workgroups because they should have a voice on all decisions from the start that affect the organization. Shannon remarked that it is important that the Board be regularly updated on all discussions and decisions made by the workgroup but non-Board members should be doing the bulk of the work and communicating back to the Board. Shannon further stated that as President of the Board she serve on both the Strategic Planning workgroup, led by Vice President Steve Gieber, and the bylaws workgroup thus ensuring that all information will be shared back with the Board.

Steve Gieber, Board Vice President, added that he would be interested in recommendations from Board members for people to serve on the Strategic Plan workgroup. He suggested that Councils member names be shared and not EDs or Council staff. In response to a question from Charles Hughes, he said that he will reach out directly to ask people to serve on the workgroup and will only utilize the listserv if he doesn't get positive responses.

Committee Reports

Public Policy—Kristin Britton, chair. Committee, made up of 15 members, meets the 4th Thursday of every month. A great mix of red states/blue states; large states and small states. Committee is thrilled to have Erin as the new Director of Public Policy. Because of the change in Public Policy staff there was a break in scheduled meetings but the next call is October 26th.

Member Services—Val Bishop, chair. Val Bishop will be stepping down as chair and Chris Egan will be taking over as of November 1. There will be a transition call with Val, Chris and Robin in the next couple of weeks. Val will remain a member. Committee has done a lot the past year that is meaningful and helpful to all Councils and look forward to 2018. Committee is looking for input on “issues” that cross all councils and we will present in the correct format for each one.

Finance—Dan Shannon, chair. We received the September statements and there is a current budget surplus of \$53K. We also have a new approved indirect rate of 86.6% which will amend the TA contract budget a small amount.

Self-Advocacy—Donna Meltzer reported for Nancy Cronin, chair – Self-Advocacy Committee now a formal committee. Working on the development of a resource for coordinating and mobilizing self-advocacy efforts to impact change. Angela Castillo-Epps -- Determine approach for providing technical assistance to Councils on how to support and expand participation on cross-disability and culturally diverse coalitions. Reminder about the “Understanding Advocacy Through a DD Council Lens” available on both the NACDD and ITACC websites.

Year in Review—Donna Meltzer

Donna offered a look-back at the past year walking through the highlights of both good and bad things that faced NACDD. She noted that despite all of the difficulties thrown at us, and continue to be thrown at us; we have come together as a network stronger than ever. We have changed the way Councils speak about themselves; what their impact is, and what makes them unique and special. She highlighted that we have been investing in building relationships with the new Administration officials at ACL/AOD/AIDD, solidifying our very strong support from Congress, and working to build and expand great relationships that we have with our funding partners who help us to work on our mission.

Schedule of Meetings—Shannon Buller

Shannon reported that she has asked Robin Troutman of the NACDD staff to look into using Zoom as a low cost opportunity that allows video conferencing so that we may see each other on Board calls. Shannon asked if Board members would be open to a second face-to-face meeting during the year. Several Board members indicated that having a meeting during the DPS would be feasible as they plan to attend or could join in via Zoom. It was agreed to look scheduling a face-to-face during DPS – likely April 22. The next Board call will take place in January 2018.

Other Business— Shannon stated that conflict of interest forms were sent out and need some editing and will be resent before end of day. All Board members will need to sign a copy and send back to Robin.

Shannon reminded the group that if anyone has items they want to put on the agenda for the next meeting to please contact her or Donna.

Adjournment – **Charles Hughes made the motion to adjourn which was seconded by Val Bishop and approved at 2:57pm.**