

## Kentucky Self-Advocates for Freedom, Inc.



### **KYSAFF Board & Committee Meetings Louisville Springhill Suites / 820 Phillips Lane**

**Thursday, October 16, 2008**

**10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.**                      **Board Meeting & Training**  
*Lunch will be served at noon*

**Friday, October 17, 2008**

**10:00 a.m. until noon**                      **Board Meeting**  
*Lunch will be served at noon*

## **M I N U T E S**

- Call to Order. President Chesser called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
- Roll Call. Geana Richardson, April's PCA, April Sharon, George Knoop, Kelly Knoop, Joe Trammell, Abby Ramser, Pat Wentzel, Lea Hall, Gertie Hendricks, Cathy Edwards, Felicia Napier, Donna Caudill, Nancy Chesser, Jim Chesser, Mark Newton, Heather Bava, Elvis Smallwood (via Internet connection), and Adrienne Grizzell.
- Announcements & Good Things to Share.
  - Jim Chesser announced that he will be attending and presenting at the national ARC conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico on self-advocacy and how to start a statewide group. He requested that KYSAFF pay for his registration fee

of \$250. Joe made a motion to pay Jim's registration fee of \$250. Felicia seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Jim's mother, Nancy Chesser, has already paid the fee and will be reimbursed for this expense.

- Kelly has a new puppy named Daisy.
- Donna announced that the November 2 is the Miss Wheelchair Kentucky at 3:00 p.m. at the Center for the Arts. Abby announced Heather McClure.
- Cathy received news from VocRehab that they would begin building her accessible shower in the next couple of months. She has been waiting for some time for this addition to her home.
- Lea and Pat are in the Special Olympics Bowling. The regional tournament is on November 2 and 3.
- Joe said that August 3 he went to Crossville, Tennessee to his sister's home. She opened a bar and grill. Joe helped her out to make sure that the restaurant is accessible to people with disabilities. Joe will visit the Roadhouse Bar and Grill again to see that it remains accessible.
- Cathy Edwards was reappointed to serve on the HB 144 committee.
- Sue Feese passed away last month. She had cancer, but additional growths were found out too late. She was a member of the Lake Cumberland Chapter. KYSAFF send plant and card, and Heather and Mark attended the funeral on behalf of their chapter and KYSAFF.

- Elvis said that his mother, Mary, is healing after her fall. She broke her arm and nose, and had cataract surgery.
- Nancy Chesser announced that she attended a two-day conference on August 18 and 19 on Disaster Preparedness for At-Risk Populations to train first responders and other groups. One of the sessions was about people with disabilities. It was co-sponsored by the DD Council. She was amazed at how professionals are not aware of people with disabilities. Nancy proposed that the annual conference include a speaker to talk about disaster preparedness—how to put together a kit in case of a disaster. There is a way to become registered to have first responders know what your needs are. The Louisville Red Cross handled a session. Joe suggested that local chapters hold town meetings to educate. George said that every time one enters a building with a person in a wheelchair, you should locate exits.
- Approve minutes July 2008 meeting. Felicia Napier read the minutes. Motion to accept the minutes Donna Caudill, Kelly Knoop seconded. Passed unanimously.
- Treasurer's Report. Cathy Edwards reported that the checking account balance is \$8,460. The CD \$4,320. The Kroger card balance is about \$1,800 short of recharges in order for KYSAFF to receive a \$200 check. Additional Kroger cards were distributed.
- Chapter Reports
  - = Greater Lexington Chapter: April & Debbie Sharon. April reported that the chapter Ramsey's and Siam Thai were the topics of their restaurant reviews. They have a new member. The chapter has 16 members.
  - = Lake Cumberland Chapter: Mark Newton & Heather Bava. Heather said that both chapters helped a five-year-old boy who is immobile. He has a bicycle to get around. The Campbellsville

chapter and Lake Cumberland donated \$500 so he could keep the bicycle. Baskin Robbins is doing a fundraiser on November 3. The chapter will receive 20 percent of the proceeds from one night. The candidates for state representatives from their counties came out and spoke to the chapter and set up a mock voting booth and ballots and demonstrated.

= Campbellsville Chapter. Mark has served as president of both chapters. We have found someone to help with the Lake Cumberland chapter and now Heather can concentrate on the Campbellsville Chapter. They have been having training sessions on what it means to be a self-advocate.

= Louisville Self-Advocates in Action:

Donna Caudill, Felicia Napier & Mary Anne Ostertag. They have been conducting voter registration, signing up self-advocates. They are beginning to get together information for a cookbook fundraiser. Please submit recipes via e-mail or postal mail.

= Louisville Metro Connection: Lea reported that the group has been talking about the economy. They are bringing someone in the help them understand how it will impact people with disabilities. They are re-working their brochures. They are starting their membership campaign to bring in new members.

= Mattingly Center. They are writing letters to companies in the area to let them know about Tropic Thunder and the language. They are holding a dance tomorrow night. There are six members. Abby talked about Apple Patch. Lea said that last year they gathered donations for the women's shelter. This year they are gathering things for the men's shelter. They are also reviewing restaurants. Tumberweed did a nice job.

= Southeastern Kentucky People Who Care: Joe Trammell and Elvis Smallwood reported that there isn't much activity with their

chapter. Joe discussed an idea that KYSAFF purchase each chapter a \$50 gas card and donate to each chapter to raffle off for raise funds. Adrienne said that KYSAFF gave a \$50 gas card to James' mother as she was traveling between Corbin and Lexington. Donna made a motion for KYSAFF to purchase \$50 gas gift cards and donate to each chapter who wishes to hold a raffle to make money to support the chapter. Jim Chesser seconded. Passed unanimously.

Gas Cards were provided to these chapters to raffle as a fund raiser:

- = Greater Lexington Chapter
  - = Lake Cumberland Chapter
  - = Campbellsville chapter.
  - = Louisville Self-Advocates in Action
  - = Louisville Metro Connection
  - = Southeastern Kentucky People Who Care: \$100 card and will send a \$50 check to KYSAFF
  - = Central Kentucky Chapter: Jim Chesser is working to schedule meetings.
  - = Owensboro. Adrienne said that the ARC of Kentucky forwarded contact information of people in Owensboro who are interested in starting a KYSAFF chapter.
- Elvis made a motion to let Cathy add Yahoo Messenger to the KYSAFF computer. Kelly seconded. Carried unanimously.
  - Educational Training: A Guide to Statewide Services

Presented by Nancy Chesser. Attachments and handouts are in members' board binders.

- 2008 SABE Conference. Adrienne showed the board the PowerPoint presentation that Cathy and Jim used for their SABE presentation. Donna's presentation was also included, even though she was not able to attend due to illness. Marie also presented on being a self-advocate. Evaluations on all presentations were very positive.
- Board Vacancies. Mary Anne Ostertag and Marie Braun resigned from the KYSAFF board when they were appointed to the DD Council Board. From the Bylaws:

## **BYLAW V GOVERNING AND MANAGING THE ORGANIZATION**

### **Section 1. Board of Directors**

D. Vacancies in Officer or Board member positions will be filled as follows:

3. A vacancy in a Board member position: the Board will appoint an eligible KYSAFF member to serve until the next meeting of the KYSAFF membership at which elections will be conducted. At that time, the KYSAFF members will elect a person to fill the rest of the term, if any time is remaining.

Joe recommended Denise King. He nominated Denise King and Tina Perry to fill board vacancies. Jim nominated Pat Wentzel. The board decided to wait to ask Pat about transportation and support. Pat would not be able to have transportation to the board meetings so she declined, but will still be a member of the Conference/Annual Meeting Committee.

Cathy made a motion to nominate Denise King to fill a board vacancy. Jim Chesser seconded. Passed with one abstained. Joe had checked with Denise and her parents who supported this nomination.

- Board Nominations Committee Report. Joe made a motion to approve the revised 2009 Call for Nominations form. Kelly seconded. Passed unanimously. (The report follows these minutes.)

## **State Coordinator Report**

1. 874K Rally Committee: Thursday, February 5. Adrienne received OK to sponsorship.
2. ARC Conference Committee for April 24 & 25 annual meeting. Theme: "Celebrate the Possibilities—Advocacy in Action".
3. Kentucky Voices for Health. KYSAFF supports initiatives.
4. Recommendation to pay annual dues of \$140 to Kentucky Mental Health Coalition.
5. Certificates to Jeff Kielson and Trudy Fletcher.
6. Fidelity bond to protect KYSAFF from board or staff errors or omissions.
7. Newsletters:
  - SABE
  - ARC
  - NAMI
  - KYSAFF

Issues: type size, content, committee. Spotlight member each issue. Info on each chapter. Conference. In memory of. Calendar. Membership application. Board info. Benefits tip. List board members include phone number and e-mail address. 13-year old with Lowe's father story lives in Winchester Shawn Kiser is the father.

8. In the news:

- Bailout provides more mental health coverage

Conference Committee Notes:

- April 3 & 4: move March 26 & 27 board meeting to April 2 & 3 preceding conference
- Soft drinks
- Personnel Committee Report. Cathy Edwards reported from the Personnel Committee. The committee voted to increase the PCA fee from \$10 per hour for a 16-hour day. The PCA will be paid an additional \$5 per hour for each additional person, not to exceed three people. New and less experienced PCAs payment will be assessed at future meetings.

The State Coordinator's pay was increased. The State Coordinator survey results indicated that the board is pleased with her performance. Joe made a motion to increase the PCA pay. Donna seconded. Passed unanimously. Donna to increase the State Coordinator pay. Felicia seconded. Passed unanimously.

Joe suggested that we offer reimbursement for gasoline expense related to KYSAFF board and committee meetings. Jim seconded. Carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

## **Friday, October 17, 2008**

President Jim Chesser called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll call: Joe Trammell, Gertie Hendricks, Jim Chesser, Cathy Edwards, Mark Newton, Jeanna Henderson, April Sharon, Kelly Knoop, Karen Knoop, Elvis Smallwood via the Internet connection, Nancy Chesser, and Adrienne Grizzell.

- Website Update. Joe said that he would like minutes from this meeting forwarded to him. Other than that, no report.
- State Coordinator Report.

Adrienne recommended that KYSAFF be a sponsor of the 874K Rally Committee: Thursday, February 5. Jim made a motion that KYSAFF be a sponsor of the rally. April seconded. Passed unanimously.

Recommendation to pay annual dues of \$140 to Kentucky Mental Health Coalition. Kelly made a motion that we renew this membership. Joe seconded. Passed unanimously.

- Annual Meeting Committee Report. (This report follows these minutes.)
- Additional Business.
- Adjourn.