

**HCRS JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Springfield, Vermont
September 6, 2016**

Present: HCRS Staff: Katherine Cook, Lisa Northup, Susan Hennessey, Karon Eagles, Opeyemi Parham, Malaika Puffer, Lori Lintner, Ben Dana, and Crystal Morey

Client/Community Representation: Katie B., Diane L., Barbara G., Louise M., Todd A., Bill V., Linda M., Miranda, Kathy H., Mary D., Phil C., and Michael T.

Board Representation: Sally Ann Silfies and Carlotta Gladding

Welcome: At 12:15 George Karabakakis, CEO called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made including those participating via video conferencing.

CEO Update:

George provided an update on the status of the agency:

- Elections are coming up in November and George encouraged everyone to get out there and vote. HCRS staff are available to support clients who may need assistance.
- At the State level; Vermonters have voted Sue Minter (D) and Phil Scott (R) as the Democrat and Republican nominees for governor. The Council will be putting together mission statements about each of the candidates to share with the designated agencies.
- HCRS continues to advocate for services and is working with the other designated agencies within the state to make that happen.
- DS interviews are under way for the DS Director's Position. There are currently three candidates interviewing for the position. HCRS is working with a former DS Director from another agency for consulting work.

Children's Update:

- The Children's Standing Committee met this morning. Chrissy Cheney, Chairman of the Standing Committee brought in her 9-day old baby boy. The group is currently reviewing core requirements for the next year. More committee members attended and minutes were voted on.

DS Update:

- A loua was held and HCRS raised \$300 for Advocates for Action. Any money raised goes back into the group and money is used for clients to attend conferences.
- On October 26, the Developmental Services Program will hold its Annual Halloween party.
- The Windsor Group will hold its annual harvest dance and a pasta bar on September 28, 2016.
- Save the Date – Direct Support Professional's Week is on Sept 12. It's a celebration for all staff and consumers.

- The DS Standing Committee met in August. It was their first meeting since the summer and the group shared what they did over the course of the summer. Their next meeting is one week from today.

Adult:

- Zane – new chair person
- Grace – new secretary
- Identified individuals to review the client satisfaction survey results. Grace is part of a subcommittee that will review the results in another forum.
- Grace is also trying to organize a picnic for the group at Stoughton Pond – no other details at this time.
- Living w/ Complex Health related individuals. It is the hope of the Adult Standing committee that there will be a group like that at every location.
- Sally Ann Silfies, Board Member has also volunteered to be a member of the Adult Standing Committee,
- Katherine announced her resignation from HCRS. Kate Lamphere will serve as the Interim Program Director until further notice. George thanked Katherine for her hard work and compassionate care at HCRS. George also thanked Kate for accepting the position as interim director.
- Sherry Haines will be leaving the committee to move to NJ. The committee wishes her the best of luck.
- Zane – scientology – would like to bring more material about this to the group.
- Pet therapy: Onyx was introduced to the group. He is a black lab service dog. Others use equine assisted therapy and participate in various exercises to aid in self-confidence.
- For staff, HCRS has Pause to Pet for staff where dogs come in and say hello to staff. It has been really well received.
- Gardening: two new garden beds were built through the InSHAPE Program.
- Maternal Wellness Outreach position offering post natal support to new moms. She is also a doula and would be willing to connect with pregnant moms.
- Smoking Cessation Group – was very successful and will start back up next month,

Meeting Minutes: The team reviewed the meeting minutes from the June 7, 2016 meeting. Zane made a motion to approve the minutes as written. All in favor!

Next meeting: The next Joint Standing Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 12:00 PM. Lunch will be provided.

Minutes by Crystal Morey, Recorder