



# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: January 14, 2009, 5:00 pm

**Location:** Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation, Auburn, WA

**Board members present:**

Non-Fiduciary	Marti Stienl	Kim Bennett	Karin Schuyleman
	Cynthia Chandler	Margie Staulcup	DeDe White
Fiduciary	Lora Dear	Don Lincoln	Jennifer Cooper
	Venus Talarico	Ralph Talarico	

**Board members excused:** Dawn Cherne                      Dave Zehner                      Eric Daniels  
Abby White                      Barb Little

**Guests present:** None

**Staff members present:** Dianne Heide                      Cyndy Schrage

**Call to order** –Chair Don Lincoln called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm

**Quorum** – There was a quorum. Discussion of a petition to remove Don Lincoln as Chair and appointment of a new secretary were added to the agenda.

**Board Petition**

Don Lincoln was presented with a petition to remove him as the Board Chair. The petition was created following SKCCN bylaws which state:

**Removal:** An officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote of the Network Board of Directors, following: (1) a vote for removal by a majority of the Executive Committee and/or (2) a petition to the secretary by a majority of Network Board members to hold a vote for removal. Fourteen days notice of the pending action must be provided to the Network and the candidate for removal must be given a chance to address the Board before the vote on removal.

Each Board member was allowed the opportunity to explain why they signed the petition. It was decided that Don would be allowed to respond to their comments at the February 11 Board meeting and a vote would be taken after hearing from Don. *Note: Don left the Board meeting during break and submitted his resignation the following day.*

**Appointment of Board Secretary**

Several Board members were concerned that Don had appointed Paula Joneli as the Board Secretary without following the SKCCN bylaws which state:

**Vacancy:** Offices vacated during the year will be refilled from among current Board members upon recommendation of the Executive Committee and approval by a majority of Board members at the next regular Board meeting.

Don stated that RCW 70.190 gave him the right to fill vacancies and that the RCW superseded the bylaws. After reviewing the RCW's Board members felt Don had mistakenly read the RCW's and Don agreed. The Board was clear that their complaint was not about Paula but about process. Since Paula was not at the Board meeting it was decided to consider her as the acting Secretary and to take an official vote at the February Board meeting. Kim Bennett and Venus Talarico indicated they might be interested in the position.

**Approval of December 10 Minutes**

**Motion 1**                      **Cynthia moved to approve the December 10 minutes as written.** Second by Karin. The motion passed.

## Board Resignations

The Board was informed that Dawn Cherne has submitted her resignation stating she did not have time to fill her commitment to the Board. The resignation will become final if not withdrawn by the February 11 Board meeting.

## SKCCN 2007-09 Budget and Uncommitted Funds

Dianne provided the Board with a chart showing planned outcomes, indicators, activities, budget and measurement tools for each of the SKCCN's five service reports. Those service reports include:

- Collaborative Partnerships – \$104,721
- Review of Community Efforts – \$54,334
- Targeted Audiences – \$39,182
- Training of Community Professionals – \$19,351
- Board Development – \$47,357

Since time was short the Board was asked to review the materials during the next month for discussion at the February Board meeting.

## Children & Families Experiencing Domestic Violence Conference

Dianne was asked to provide the Board with information on the March 25<sup>th</sup> Conference. She reported that the conference presentations were organized and the web site was up. The Conference presentations would include four main themes:

- Theme 1 – Primary Prevention: *How do we stop domestic violence from happening in the first place?*
- Theme 2 – Engaging and Working with Domestic Violence Perpetrators as Parents
- Theme 3 – Supporting the Needs of Domestic Violence Survivors and their Children
- Theme 4 – Working with Maltreated Children and their Families in Court Dependency Processes

Presentations would include:

- **Keynote** – Preventing Violence Against Women and Children – Critical Importance and Strategies for Action
- Collaborating for Family Safety – Children Exposed to Domestic Violence in Dependency Systems
- Community Domestic Violence Programs for Children and DV – Emotion Coaching, Kids Club, Teen Support Group Programs
- Engaging & Working *with* Fathers Who Batter and the DV Dads Program
- From Practice to Policy – Tools for Prevention
- An Introduction to Child Welfare Law in Washington – Includes a Special Focus on the Intersection of Domestic Violence and Child Protection
- Best Practices in Batterer Intervention Programs
- Challenges Attorneys Encounter in Serving Families Experiencing Domestic Violence
- Child Welfare Social Workers and Court Appointed Special Advocates Training – Development of Safe and Effective Service Plans in Dependency Cases for DV Survivors, DV Batterers, and their Children
- Living with Fear and Abuse – DV Perpetrators' Problem Behaviors that Disrupt Family Relationships and Functioning
- Prevention and Healthy Adolescents – Strategies to encourage healthy intimate partner relationships among adolescents
- Very Young Children and Trauma – Meeting the Needs of Infants and Toddlers who are affected by Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment
- Best Practices in the Use of Psychological Evaluations and Visitation Plans – Working with Families Experiencing Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment
- Domestic Violence Experiences of Young Asian Pacific Islander Women
- Prevention and Healthy Adolescents – Strategies to encourage healthy intimate partner relationships among adolescents
- Structural and Social Barriers to Intervention Success for Men – *Developing Culturally-Relevant Approaches to Interrupt Patterns of Domestic Violence in Families of Color*
- The Dynamics of Thriving
- Through Their Eyes – A Presentation of Children Exposed to DV Artwork

The Board was enthusiastic about the lineup and asked if the Conference needed additional support. Dianne suggested that there was a need to provide coffee and light refreshment in the morning and the Conference budget could not cover the \$1000 cost.

**Motion 2** Margie moved to approve \$1000 in additional funding for the Children’s Domestic Violence Conference to cover the cost of morning refreshments. Second by Venus. The motion passed.

**Discussion of How to Best Use Uncommitted Money**

The Board was asked for ideas about how to best use the \$33,262 in uncommitted money in the SKCCN budget. Two ideas came up.

- The YWCA has had to stop providing legal advocacy for victims of DV due to budget problems. Dianne was asked to open a discussion with the YWCA to see if it would be possible to support the services through June 30, 2009.
- Several Board members participated in a series of discussions about working with teens around dating violence with Teddy Wright. The effort ended when Teddy Wright left the YMCA and funding was discontinued. Dianne was asked to check with Teddy to see if the program could be continued.

**Hiring an Interim Contractor**

The Board discussed the next steps for hiring a replacement for the Community Services Director. The Board felt it was not a wise move to hire someone when funding was in question and without knowing exactly what they wanted to accomplish with the staff time. After some discussion it was decided to look into hiring a short term interim contractor with specific skills in planning. Realizing that there was an urgent need to get someone on staff as soon as possible the Board made several decisions.

- Dianne will discuss the situation with Laura Porter while in Olympia. Guidance on job skills and how to best manage the hiring process will be requested.
- Dianne will then create a “job offering” and send it to the entire Board for input.
- The Finance Committee will work on a salary range to include in the offering.
- All candidates for the job will be asked to attend a Board meeting so the entire Board can be involved in making the decision.
- If needed the Board will add an extra Board meeting in February or March to assure someone can be hired as quickly as possible.

*Note: On January 22<sup>nd</sup> the Board was informed of an immediate budget cut and hiring freeze. All planning for hiring a replacement was tabled until final budget figures were available.*

**Next Steps with the Board Chair**

The Board had sometime to consider the steps needed to make a decision about the petition to remove Don as the Board Chair. The conversation was limited to how the Board wanted to proceed in an effort to assure fairness – no conversation about Don was allowed since he was not there to respond. Some members expressed their concern that they could not arrive at the February Board meeting at 5:00 and if Don’s removal was first on the agenda they would not hear Don’s response to their concerns before they were asked to vote. No one wanted a vote to be taken unless everyone had heard what he had to say. As a response the Board decided to start at 6:00 pm so that all Board members could be in attendance.

**Committee and Staff Reports**

All reports were provided in writing.

Meeting adjourned – 7:15

Minutes Approved:

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_