**GLS Board Meeting**

**April 18, 2023, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Best Western Lamplighter Inn, London,**

**Crystal North**

**Present:**

Brian Swainson (President) Sunbeam Community and Development Services

Carol Blaind (Treasurer) Access Community Services

Brigette O’Neill Brantwood Community Services

Patricia Kyle CWSDS

Paul McGowan CTRC

Marnie McDermott CLH Developmental Services

Joel McCartney CTRC

Tom Turner DSLG

Darlene McKenny Pathways to Independence

Jason Young Regional Support Associates

Jennifer Shaw (Secretary) Administrative Support

**Regrets:**

Brigid Fitzpatrick (Vice-President) Valor and Solutions, Ottawa

Himanshu Shah Canopy Support Services

Andrea Roberts HANDS

Tony De Agazio OPTIONS Northwest

Alastair Lamb Ongwanada

Terri Hewitt Surrey Place

**Guests:**

Sherry Novak Brantwood Community Services

**Minutes**

Brian opened the meeting at 3:40 p.m. with quorum.

1. **Approval of Agenda:**

Brian reviewed the agenda and minutes from the March 7th meeting, and they were approved by consensus.

1. **Business Arising**
   1. **Governance changes**

Carol reviewed the progress to date including the name change, bylaw revisions and timeframes for changes to take place.

Brian asked that the group discuss plans for the launch of the new name and work on updating the policy and procedure/governance manual. He suggested the new name be launched in the fall and work on the manual be done over the summer in conjunction with the strategic plan work.

New Name Launch

Anna Naud, True North Law, had submitted the paperwork to change the name of GLS to the Specialized Clinical Developmental Services Network (SCDSN) in March and the change is now official.

Marnie volunteered to chair the committee to launch the new name at the AGM. The committee will also be responsible for selecting a new logo and website design. Brigette and Darlene volunteered to help.

Revision of Governance manual and process for elections

Carol will chair this working group; Brian, Patricia, Jason and Tom volunteered to help. Carol asked all Board members to send in their Board manuals and she will review the current GLS governance manual to identify policies which will need to be added, changed or deleted. She suggested a short meeting to review these be held over the summer.

Carol also noted that a procedure for elections will need to be approved and in place before the September Annual General Meeting.

Strategic Plan Update

It was noted that Brigid had been in contact with some consultants to get quotes. Other potential consultants suggested were: CMCS (Tom Little), Jennifer Keilty, Thursday Afternoon Media and Huron Studer.

Joel, Tom and Paul offered to help Brigid and it was requested that she provide a recommendation for the June Board meeting.

Paul said he would contact Brian Davies for information on the strategic plan presentation he coordinated for the 2022 AGM.

1. **Other Items**
   1. **Provincial Network Update**

Brain said that the PN (Provincial Network) will be meeting next week, and he will have more to report at the next meeting.

* 1. **Financial Updates**

Carol reviewed the financial reports to the end of March and explained the various expenses from the last quarter. She also said she would be looking at indemnity agreements for members.

**Motion:** To approve the Treasurer’s report as presented

**Moved/Seconded:** Tom/Joel

CARRIED

* 1. **Other**
     1. **Ombudsman’s Office request**

Brian said that a request had been sent to OADD from an investigator at the Ombudsman’s office for someone to interview regarding inappropriate hospitalization of people with alternative levels of care/complex needs. The request was forwarded to him as this does not fall within the OADD mandate. Brian said he also recommended Sandy Stemp of Reena and the two of them were interviewed.

Brian said that he shared the GLS paper Reimaging Specialized Clinical Supports (subject of the 2022 conference) with the interviewers from the Ombudsman's’ office and let them know that the PN will also be bringing out a white paper on the subject in June.

* + 1. **2023 Conference Report**

Marnie and Jennifer reviewed the registration numbers; the Board thanked Marnie for her work as conference chair and coordinating the presentations. Feedback from the Board and attendees was that the event had been an enormous success.

Tom suggested that the presenters be given a small honorarium or gift to thank them for their work. It was agreed that each (there are five) should receive $50 cash or gift certificate. This discussion led to the suggestion of making a regular practice of giving presenters a small gift or stipend.

**Motion:** That GLS give $50 to each of the five 2023 GLS Conference presenters

**Moved/Seconded:** Carol/Tom

**Discussion:** Marnie declared a conflict and abstained from the vote as she was one of the Conference presenters.

CARRIED

Carol said she would withdraw money from the GLS bank account for the gifts and purchase cards.

**Motion:** That the Board make a regular practice of providing a locally sourced gift or stipend to Conference presenters.

**Moved/Seconded:** Carol/Darlene

CARRIED

* + 1. **Members Open Discussion**

There was general discussion among the members about current issues.

**5. Future Meeting Dates**

The date of the June 2023 Board meeting will be determined; the next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting the week of September 11th, 2023. It was agreed that White Oaks will be the location of the AGM and Jennifer will contact them to discuss a contract.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

**Minutes recorded by Administrative Support person, Jennifer Shaw**