**SCDSN Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**April 9, 2024**

**Four Points by Sheraton Thorold**

**Present:** Brian Swainson, Carol Blaind, Marnie McDermott, Tom Turner, Jason Young, Paul McGowan, Sherry Novak, Joel McCartney.

**Regrets:** Patricia Kyle

**Guests:** Brigette O’Neill

**Recorder:** Jennifer Shaw

**Minutes**

Brian opened the meeting at 4:31 p.m. with quorum and noted that the conference day had been very successful. Glad ADM Glass spoke in person and stayed for part of the event.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Brian asked if there were any changes or additions; there were none and Brian called for a vote to approve the agenda.

**Motion:** To approve the agenda as presented.

**Moved/Seconded:** Paul/Jason

CARRIED

1. **Approval of past minutes**

Brian asked if there were any questions or concern with the previous Board meeting minutes. Hearing none he called for a vote to approve.

**Motion:** To approve the March 5th, 2024, Board meeting minutes as presented

**Moved/Seconded:**  Carol/Tom  
CARRIED

1. **Business Arising**
   1. **Strategic Plan Update**

Paul said the committee is recommending moving forward with the proposal from MADJ at a cost of $15,000k. Paul noted that the quote is higher than anticipated but in line with other consulting increases. He also said their references include DS agencies.

**Motion:** To approve the committee recommendation as presented.

**Moved/Seconded:**  Paul/Marnie  
CARRIED

b. **Website Committee Update**

Brigette said the new website is live although there are still a few small items that need to be addressed. She said she will circle back to 2 Gen about these items noting she will be asking for written confirmation that the site is AODA compliant. She noted that conference abstracts can be submitted on the website.

Brigette said that an issue had arisen during the process. She said 2Gen missed the deadline of having the site up and running 2 weeks prior to the conference. She said that no work had been done on the site until 1 week prior to the conference.

She agreed that the work done was good but was concerned about the missed deadline. She recommended the Board review the contract and consider a review of the pricing.

c. **Board nominations**

Brian noted that per the Terms of reference for the Board nominations committee he was required to poll the Board and membership to determine Board vacancies after the April meeting. Brian asked Jennifer to send out an email to see who was interested in being on the Board for 2024-25 (starts at the AGM in September) and who was interested in an executive role; the information will be reviewed at the June Board meeting.

1. **Items**
   1. **Updates from the Provincial Network**

Brian said the PN meeting is scheduled for next week, but he has received a cancellation notice. Brian noted that the Health DS working group have the slide deck completed and are waiting for the PN to approve before distributing. He said the speaking notes are attached to the slides so they can be used by multiple people, once approved.

* 1. **Financial Updates**

Carol said the SCDSN is in a good cash position (just over $44,000) and the investment continues to improve (currently just over $41,000). She noted that all membership payments have been received and that the Conference revenues had been good.

**Motion**: To approve the financial report as presented

**Moved/Seconded:**  Jason/Paul

CARRIED

* 1. **2024 Conference Updates**

Marnie said the conference had gone well and there has been good feedback about the presentations although the lunch was 45 minutes late.

Marnie said that she would like authorization from the Board to give the conference presenters a $50 gift card (one per presentation except her own). She noted that although presenters did not need to register (pay) for the conference not all were paid by their agencies to attend. She suggested a policy regarding presenter renumeration for the future.

**Motion**: To approve purchasing $200 worth of gift cards as $50 for each of the four teams of presenters

**Moved/Seconded:**  Marnie/Tom

CARRIED

d. **Dr. Bruce McCreary Scholarship**

Brian reviewed the creation of the Dr. Bruce McCreary Scholarship and the support ($1,000 annually) provided by GLS for the $5,000 scholarship. He noted that this year the recipient was Elliott Wong and that SCDSN & Ongwanada had already provided the funds for the scholarship for 2024. He suggested the Board connect with Lak Chinta (Ongwanada CEO) to determine if they will continue to award the scholarship and what their expectation is of SCDSN.

e. **Members open Discussion**

Carol shared her enthusiasm for all the work done over the past couple of years to move the network forward and put ideas into action. She mentioned the new name, new website and new logo. She said that a communications strategy is still needed, and Brian offered to follow up with the communications firm used by Sunbeam.

There was general discussion about the impact of labour relations, amalgamations and conciliation.

Marnie mentioned that the DDJC has not been able to secure funding after June 30th. She talked about the work done by the project and the need to find sustainable funding. Members suggested she consider links with local OHTs.

Tom said he had been contacted about a review of OPRs in his area being done by MCCSS; he said they were looking at a range of stats and would be comparing them with stats from TPRs. He also said that a significant issue within clinical hubs was mental health. It was noted that health and mental health services seemed to refer to DS by default when a client had IDD when in fact it should be a collaboration of all three services.

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 5:53 p.m.

Next meeting: June 4th, 1:00 p.m. (virtual)

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