

**MINUTES FROM TASP ANNUAL MEETING**

**December 2, 2014**

On the call:

Susan Yuan

Ellen Gilmartin

Denice Mock

Lindsay Brillhart

Sue Jones

Lynn Fogg--Cornelio

Traci LaLiberte

Ashley Annestedt

Leslie Kinney

Maurice Feldman

Bernadette Irwin

Several individuals attempted to get on the call, but kept receiving busy signals. Most were able to communicate the problem and Bernadette Irwin apologized to them and thanked them for their interest and persistence.

Susan Yuan, President of TASP welcomed members to the Annual Meeting. Please use the following link for the complete TASP Annual Report prepared by Susan: [N:\2014 TASP Correspondence\TASP Annual Report\_SY -- 2014.docx](file:///N%3A%5C2014%20TASP%20Correspondence%5CTASP%20Annual%20Report_SY%20--%202014.docx)

Susan also provided these brief comments:

 **Organizational Progress** – Susan stated that TASP has accomplished a lot in the past year. TASP continues to move forward through the efforts of dedicated members (volunteers). TASP could benefit from a paid Administrative Aid or a paid Executive Director – however, there is no funding for these positions at this time.

 **Legislative Progress –** Bills regarding the rights of parents with disabilities have been passed in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, South Carolina and Tennessee. Massachusetts will be re-submitted

 for consideration in January, 2015.

**Page 2 (Minutes of TASP Annual Meeting – 2014)**

 Susan asked members to keep TASP informed if any progress toward bills in their State – TASP would like to be of assistance.

 **Website re-design –** Susan thanked Bernadette Irwin, Denise Marshall, Denice Mock, Traci LaLiberte for their efforts in this task.There remain some issues that still need to be resolved with the website.

 **Presentations of TASP Members –**

* 36 presentations were given by TASP Members on Parents with ID
* Presentations were given at 6 National Conferences by TASP members on Parents with ID
* Susan Yuan and Bernadette Irwin will meet with Aaron Bishop , Commissioner, Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities on December 4 to discuss how TASP can continue to move toward in meeting our Mission.
* Susan mentioned that several members have presented at trainings/workshops where Child Welfare staff were in attendance – she asked members to please spread the word that TASP is available for training and has materials that would be helpful.
* 17 Psychologists in Pittsburgh, Pa were trained in providing Assessments that are comprehensive and fair to parents with ID and that would be admissible in Court. The recently trained psychologists conducted their first assessment immediately afterward, based on the training provided by Susan Yuan and Nicole Brisson (TASP Board Member).
* TASP had their first webinar -- we learned a lot from this experience, Training members continue to work on finding a more suitable provider.

\* 13 articles on Parents with ID were published by TASP members during this period.

**Committee Reports**

 **Nomination/Election Committee**

* Susan read report submitted by Liz Lightfoot –
* Susan reported that TASP By-Laws were completed in July, 2014 (on TASP website)
* Susan reported that the number of voters did not meet the criteria of a Quorum – as Chair of the Nominations Committee, Liz Lightfoot submitted a motion that the two individuals voted on as new Board Members (Tracie LaLiberte, and Denice Mock) be approved. Motion was seconded by Leslie Kinney and approved by members.

 **Finance Committee --** Please refer to the following link for this report -- Page 2 (Minutes of TASP Annual Meeting – 2014)

Please refer to the following link for this report -- [TASP -- 2014 Financial Report.docx](TASP%20--%202014%20Financial%20Report.docx)

 **Page 3 (Minutes of TASP Annual Meeting – 2014)**

 **By-Laws Committee** – by-laws completed and approved by Board of Directors (6/2014)

 **Research Committee –** please refer to the following link for this report **–**

[**TASP RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT (11-30-14)revised.doc**](TASP%20RESEARCH%20COMMITTEE%20REPORT%20%2811-30-14%29revised.doc)

* Research Committee met in Ct at 2013 conference – not active since then
* Maurice reported that the activities discussed during several phone conversations with the MD MCED (UCEDD) did not come to fruition.
* Maurice still interested in contributing and maintaining a “Research Corner” on TASP’s website.
* Maurice will call a meeting of the Research Committee

 **Public Policy/Advocacy Committee**

 This Committee had three goals:

1. TASP submitted three Findings from Rocking the Cradle that they felt they could collaborate with members of the AIDD Network to address.

 They are:

 (A) There are few accurate and comprehensive sources of information on the prevalence of parents with disabilities; need to collect data

 (B) Parents with disabilities who are engaged in custody or visitation disputes in the family law system regularly encounter discriminatory practices

 (C) Personal assistance services (PAS) are a crucial support for many people with disabilities but usually may not be used to assist them in their parenting activities

 The goal of getting these into a collaborative advocacy agenda with other organizations was met; however, Susan reported that not much progress has been made in these areas.

2. Two Board members (Sylvia Long and Bernadette Irwin) met with attorney from Dept. of Justice (DOJ), Civil Rights Office to discuss referrals where a parents civil rights were violated – offer is still open – **TASP needs to provide fairly new cases that have not gone to court yet so DOJ can intervene at the beginning of the Case.**

3. Resume TASP’s participation in AAIDD’s their Special Interest Group on Parents with ID – this goal continues to need attention of the Committee

 **Technology**

 Denice Mock, Chair of this Committee reported the difficulty she has experienced in getting a meeting time with committee members.

**Page 4 (Minutes of TASP Annual Meeting – 2014)**

 She reported that the Committee developed several Policies and Procedures.

 Issues that continue to need attention are: developing linkages to Board members; membership issues and the need to collaborate with Membership Committee; issue with “Pay Button”

Goals of this Committee are:

(1) Have a co-chair as the work is extensive – Traci LaLiberte graciously agreed to serve in this position. Thank You!

(2) Check into cost of having a “.org” – Denice will find out cost – this will be discussed at next Board Meeting

(3) Research Corner – Denice will discuss particulars of this project with Maurice Feldman

**Conference Committee**

2015 Conference will be held in Memphis, Tennessee on October 12-13. Reception will be on the 12th. Three tracks – Advocacy, Policy Practice**.**

**Membership**

Chair position vacant.

We will postpone decision on time-frame of membership till technology issues are resolved and people can join without any issues.

Meeting Adjourned as no additional agenda issues were identified by participants.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Irwin

Acting Secretary for this meeting