

**Brain Injury Alliance of SD  
2009 Annual Membership Meeting**

December 5, 2009  
Community Transitions

Board Members Present – Ron Hoops, Ron Sasso, Mike Gilleland and Mary Ohman.

Board Members Absent – Ellery Schreurs, Karen Brokenleg, Robert Woodring, Anne McFarland and Shelly Pfaff.

Others Present – Maralyn Hoops, Denise Gannon, Ben Roth, Adam Ohman and Janet Gazda

OPEN MEETING – Board President, Ron Hoops, called the meeting to order at approximately 12:15 PM (MST).

*APPROVAL OF MINUTES* – Ron H. read the minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting. **MOTION TO APPROVE** minutes of November 15, 2008 – **MSC**.

*APPROVAL OF AGENDA* – Ron H. asked if there were any changes to the proposed agenda. Hearing none – **MOTION TO APPROVE** Agenda – **MSC**.

*PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE* – BIASD is an all-volunteer nine-board organization meeting four times each year. The mission is to help brain injury survivors and their families. Highlights of this past year included:

- BIASD was represented at Disability Awareness Day in Pierre during the legislative session.
- Ongoing discussion regarding a TBI needs survey. Board members working on survey are Anne McFarland and Shelly Pfaff.
- Sent "Letter of the Editor" to newspapers across the state during Brain Injury Awareness month (March).
- Approved the pursuit of 501(C)3 status. Shelly Pfaff will report back to Board.

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S – Reviewed Treasurers report submitted by email as of September 30, 2009. The checking account had a balance of \$3,116.38.  
**MOTION TO ACCEPT TREASURER'S REPORT – MSC.**

MEMBERSHIP – Reviewed member list as submitted by email and as of the date of this meeting, there are presently 29 members.

SUNRISE VILLA – Becky McManus, Administrator was unable to attend but submitted an email with the following report. They currently have 8 individuals. They work at Ability Building Services in Yankton daily. Holidays, and occasionally a sick day or doctor appointment, allow for a day or two off. The individuals seem to enjoy their work and the routine that it provides. One of their individuals was recently honored as her artistic talent was chosen Ability Building Services for their annual Christmas card. They celebrated their 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary in August. Ron Hoops reported Becky offered their facility for our next annual meeting.

SD ACHIEVE – Denise Gannon reported they celebrated the one-year anniversary in September of their day care service program at Killian College which provides more individualized services. They also have two individuals receiving day services that do not have residential services. They have seven individuals in their group home and three individuals in a resident apartment. Accommodations have been made for a female in a resident apartment. SD Achieve is seeking an Employment Specialist for their TBI clients. They have expanded by 6 individuals in two years. Denise has trained ten employees to become Brain Injury Certified Specialists.

COMMUNITY TRANSITIONS – Ron Sasso reported they are serving 50 to 70 individuals. They have hired a medical consultant and Dr. Gardner will be retiring from the VA and will pickup additional hours at CT. They now have a 24-hour care unit serving two individuals and the unit can house up to four. They are taking it slow at this point and are looking at the *community entry phase*. This facility is off-site. Ron S. indicated he has been asked to submit a business plan for four 24-hour apartments to be constructed on the Community Transitions grounds. He indicated they are not advertising at this point, but want to develop a waiting list. Funding is provided by various sources. Staff has been medicine certified. He reported one of their success stories this year is an individual graduating from nursing school in December. Another individual was also recognized for their Christmas card and tee-shirt design. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Brain Injury Conference

will be held in Rapid City on May 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The keynote speaker will be Trisha Meili, "The Central Park Jogger".

### SUPPORT GROUPS:

- Aberdeen – Meets the third Tuesday of every month from 7 PM to 8:30 PM at the Rehabilitation Center at Avera St. Luke's Hospital.
- Sioux Falls – No one present to report, however, the group meets the second Saturday of every month, from September through May at The Center for Active Generations at 2300 W. 46th Street.
- Rapid City - The group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Community Transitions in the Conference Room. They have a topic at each meeting and divide into breakout sessions for survivors and family.

### OTHER BUSINESS:

Ron H read BIASD missions and goals. Discussion followed regarding how to expand on those with possible suggestions of working with hospitals and/or doctors to develop program for packets of information to be provided to individuals or families when being released from hospitals. Other suggestions were to utilize the internet to expand education of people about brain injuries.

BOARD MEMBERS: Nominations were made, and upon hearing no objections, motions were approved for the following Board Members to be elected for two years: Denise Gannon of Sioux Falls, Mary Ohman of Mobridge, Ron Sasso of Rapid City and Mike Gilleland of Rapid City.

ADJOURNMENT: Ron thanked everyone for their participation today and their commitment to the organization. **MOTION TO ADJOURN – MSC.** Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 PM (MST).