

MINUTES OF THE EDI BOARD MEETING
10/25/07 (OCTOBER)

Board Attendees: Charles, Blane, Aydan, Winston, Jonah, Leslie, Mark, Don, Chris, Peter Mendoza (elected to Board at this meeting)

Other Attendees: Gina and Rose (EDI Co-Executive Directors), Karen Phung (U.C. Board Fellow), Jeff Stephens (EDI's insurance broker)

The meeting came to order at 6:40 P.M.

Public Comment

Jonah informed the Board that his access to a computer was currently sporadic. He encouraged people to call him at 549-3263.

Approval of Minutes from 9/20/07

Jonah moved, Blane seconded, and the minutes from September 20th were unanimously approved.

Approval of Agenda

Items A and E were removed. Electing Peter Mendoza to the Board was put as the first item in Action and Discussion, followed by the introduction of Karen Phung, U.C. Board Fellow, to the Board. SUS was to be discussed in the beginning of Executive Session.

Presentation of Insurance

Jeff Stephens, EDI Insurance Broker, began by acknowledging the passing of Peter Trier, former Board President. He said that he had 22 years in the non-profit insurance business and had had his own company for 13 years. He was upset about the spectacular increase in EDI insurance costs but said that in a minimum of six months to a year, if there were no further claims, he hoped to obtain better pricing. Jeff said that the website needed work on the portion dealing with transporting wheelchairs, detailing restrictions better. He pointed out that EDI repairs were costing approximately \$6000-7000 in premiums.

Rose pointed out that Marin County had required a \$2 million dollar policy instead of EDI's standard \$1 million. It was \$2000 extra and was paid by Marin. Now the amount is \$7500, and may be an issue. Marin is examining their options. Jeff opined that they might drop their requirement.

Jonah asked how long the lawsuit process was, and Rose said that the average was four years.

Rose thanked Jeff for coming and told the Board that Jeff had waived about \$4000 of his broker's commission because of the price increases.

President's Report

Leslie thanked Rose for a lot of work in getting the insurance and said that she appreciates it. Rose said that there were a lot of applications and that Natasha, in Jeff's office, was a big help.

Executive Directors' Report

Two females and one male were hired. The male will be trained in the future to do transportation.

EDI is going back to pairing up new attendants with old hands for training purposes. The EDs will be drafting a comprehensive training program for attendants to bring to the Board.

There is a formal mediation on a personnel issue this Friday.

Rose went to a California Public Authority (CAPA) conference as a sponsor. She met Public Authority administrators from all over the state, three to four of whom expressed interest in exploring Urgent Backup with EDI in some way. (An item was to be added to the Board Action and Discussion items regarding researching what is needed and desired by the Public Authorities.)

Gina went to three disaster preparation workshops in Oakland, CORE, CARD, and the City of Oakland.

EDI received a \$5000 grant from the Weinberg Foundation.

Direct contributions are coming in. Regarding grants, Belinda thinks that having a comprehensive attendant training may appeal to funders.

In-house dispatching was requested as an agenda item for November.

There were three client complaints, one usual, one regarding dispatch. Two have been taken care of.

Gina and Rose have been OK'd for Compass Point trainings. In addition, Kaiser has a Stress Management class that Gina will take as well as a Berkeley City College class.

Rose said that Belinda was contemplating having a possible fund raiser for donors that would be Board driven and directed. It was requested to be added to the November agenda.

Rose said that she was thinking of talking with Oakland Paratransit to see if EDI could help them fill their issues, but that was more when it appeared that EDI would have two vans. The last time she checked, they were not open to add providers.

Peter said that a friend of his who was having respiratory problems had called EDI for an attendant on Sunday at midnight and could not immediately get service. Rose said that if the dispatcher was aware there were respiratory problems the attendants would have been redirected to the client. Jonah said that he had had problems on Saturday night, as well.

With City Council approval, the Measure E reserve will cover a majority of the additional insurance expenses in this year's budget. Without the reserve, EDI would need to make severe cutbacks.

Jonah asked about a holiday party, and Rose said that EDI does something every year but had not started planning for this year yet.

Election of Peter Mendoza to the Board

Peter Mendoza introduced himself to the Board and stated his qualifications and interest in joining the EDI Board. Don moved, Jonah seconded, and Peter was unanimously elected to the Board.

Introduction of Karen Phung, U.C. Board Fellow

Karen introduced herself as a student at the U.C. School of Public Health. She will be participating with EDI for 10 hours a month for the next nine months. She presented a plan to outreach to minority groups in Berkeley. Charles moved, Jonah seconded, and a motion to support Karen's plan 100% was approved unanimously. Mark will be Board liaison to Karen.

Human Resources Committee

Leslie advocated for the creation of a new Board committee, the Human Resources Committee, to help staff with the hiring process, refine and create job descriptions, and look at the reasons for employee turnover. Don moved, Jonah seconded, and a motion to create the Human Resources Committee of the Board passed unanimously.

Election of Officers

Charles moved, Jonah seconded, and Leslie was unanimously elected with one abstention as President for another year.

Jonah moved, Don seconded, and Aydan was unanimously elected with one abstention as Vice-President for the next year.

Charles moved, Jonah seconded, and the team of Winston and Don was unanimously elected with one abstention as Secretary for the next year.

Jonah moved, Don seconded, and Mark was unanimously elected with one abstention as Treasurer for another year. Leslie thanked Mark for moderating the list-serves.

Committee Assignments

Committee assignments were set as follows:

Human Resources – Peter, Jonah
Executive Committee – Leslie, Mark, Aydan, Jonah, Gina/Rose
Board Recruitment – Belinda, Chris
Personnel/Judicial – Jonah, Winston, Mark, Peter, Blane
SUS – Jonah, Blane, Aydan, Peter
Invasive Care – John, Rose, Gina, Charles, Jonah
By-law Modification – Don, Winston, Blane
Disaster Preparedness – Gina, Karen, Aydan, Rose, Leslie

Late Night Policy

Rose said that 3-6 clients routinely call EDI at 3:00 A.M. or 4:45 A.M. to be put to bed. She said that she would like a policy that clients could call no later than midnight or 1:00 A.M. for this service. Jonah moved and Winston seconded to try this new policy for three months. Winston suggested that the High-Use policy could be used rather than creating a new policy, and Rose and Gina agreed to try and use the High-Use policy to tell the approximately six clients that EDI would not put them to bed after midnight. Jonah withdrew his motion.

Bathing Program Proposal

Rose gave full details of how she envisioned EDI's participation in the City of Berkeley's Bathing Program. Peter moved, Jonah seconded, and a motion to proceed forward passed unanimously.

At 8:57 P.M., Jonah moved, Winston seconded, and it passed unanimously to go into Executive Session, inviting Gina and Rose for the first 15 minutes.

At 9:35 P.M. Jonah moved, Winston seconded, and the meeting adjourned.