

MINUTES OF THE EDI BOARD MEETING
2/28/08 (February)

Board Attendees: Aydan, Charles (6:55), Mark, Winston, Don, Blane, John (7:02), Jonah (8:45)

Other Attendees: Gina and Leslie (EDI Co-Executive Directors), Karen (Cal Fellow), Louie (EDI employee) (6:57), Ayanna (EDI employee), Steve Olsen, Vicki

The meeting came to order at 6:38 P.M.

Public Comment

Jonah said that he had tried Friendly Cab and that it was a viable alternative to EDI transportation.

Approval of Minutes for January 24, 2008

Jonah moved, Don seconded, and the minutes for January 24, 2008 were passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

It was determined that Vicki would present first on the agenda, followed by the reports. Jonah moved, Blane seconded, and the agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

Presentation by Vicki

Vicki introduced herself to the Board as someone who had been involved in transportation for 20 years and described her proposal. She said that there was a \$4 million grant to fill gaps in disabled and senior transportation in Alameda County and that her two partners and her wanted to apply for up to a \$500,000 share of that grant on behalf of EDI. A guaranteed ride home program, a cab-type program, expanded wheelchair repair, and a web-based transportation coordination plan could all be involved. She would set up the operations, one partner would do financing, and one partner would write the grant application(s). She said that she would provide funding for 5-10 vehicles and would set up dispatch at the EDI office. She said that the grants are a 5% match for non-Measure B recipients, so that EDI would have to pay a \$25,000 match for a \$500,000 grant, but that she was trying to talk Angelique deCoud or Paul Church with the City of Berkeley into sponsoring us, and the City of Berkeley is a

Measure B recipient. If all else fails, she said that her partners and her would take out a loan to cover the \$25,000.

Jonah moved to support working with Vicki pending any provisos. There was no second, and it was determined to discuss the proposal in Executive Session later in the evening. Vicki was told that Aydan would get back to her and let her know what the Board had decided.

Proposal from Louie

Louie arrived during Vicki's presentation. Some Board members knew before the meeting that he was interested in asking for the Board's assistance, so he was added to the Agenda and given the floor. It turned out that Louie had been given a large quantity of wheelchairs, scooters, and repair parts, and he was keeping them in storage for \$230 per month. He asked the Board for a loan of \$500 to keep the material in storage while he worked out a business plan. The Board agreed to discuss the issue in Executive Session.

President's Report

In February, the Board and the Co-EDs gave careful scrutiny to EDI's contractual obligations. The Board has begun a strategic plan to strengthen EDI's foundations. Input will be solicited from all interested parties.

Executive Directors' Report

In January, there were 495 attendant calls, 94 transportation calls, 56 demand-response transportation calls, and 12 repair calls.

EDI continues to look for qualified attendants, females in particular. A new practice has been started to send out new attendants on a training call before orientation. If it turns out that the new attendant doesn't want to continue, the office will not have to do an orientation.

Gina and Ayanna went to an Employment Law meeting in San Francisco yesterday [Wednesday, February 27.]

Gina gave a presentation that was well received at the Over Sixty center yesterday [Wednesday, February 27.]

The webmaster continues to update the new EDI website:
easydoesitservices.org

There are new securements in the van.

The office brought new printers and \$85 worth of adaptive equipment for Leslie.

The analysis of the EDs, Mark, Wilhelmina, and Aydan of the Marin Urgent Backup program is that EDI needs to keep better records and obtain more funds. Those involved are meeting with the Director of the Marin program and a couple of her Board members tomorrow [Friday, February 29].

The Golden Gate Regional Center in San Mateo County is inquiring about setting up an Urgent Backup program similar to Marin.

The office attempted to set up a follow-up meeting with Nick Feldman of Dare to Dream. The \$18 per hour Nick wants may be too much.

Next month, Gina will be giving a presentation on disaster preparedness to the Commission on Disability at the North Berkeley Senior Center.

Repairs

John said that Louie has the parts and experience but that he had no set plans to work with him and that he didn't think the plan would make money. John said that EDI used to have a budget for repair parts and it might be good for EDI to build up stock again.

Update on Outreach Plan

Karen had followed up the lead that led to Gina's presentation the previous day. She will schedule more presentations until the end of her participation with EDI in April.

Fundraising

Aydan said that had filled out a Whole Foods donation request, and noted to the Board that if accepted, Whole Foods would want their name posted on EDI's website.

Aydan said that she had received the See's Candy promo she had inquired about. It would involve seven cases of candy bars with 144 bars per case, or 1008 bars, for \$500, and EDI would keep half of the returns when they were sold. Jonah moved, Winston seconded, and it passed unanimously with three abstentions to go ahead with this fundraiser.

Cell Phone Bills

Leslie said there was nothing to report.

Public Authority Recruitment for Urgent Backup

The Board indicated that Leslie could call back regarding the inquiry from San Mateo and find out what they had in mind.

Status of Website

The new website is already functional and is linked to the old site, but there is a lot of work to do.

Company e-mail

There are now four new accounts for EDI.

Secretarys' Report

Don said that the missing notes from the December Board meeting had been found and that he would be compiling minutes for December.

Treasurer's Report

Mark said he had called Angelique to find out the status of EDI's request for \$27,000 from the reserve, but had not heard back.

Mark said that with the current call volume EDI should charge at least \$4500-\$4700 monthly for a minimal return to EDI.

It was agreed that the air should be cleared at the meeting with Marin scheduled for the next day.

At 8:50 P.M., Jonah moved, Don seconded and it passed unanimously to go into Executive Session, inviting those support personnel remaining at the meeting.

In Executive Session, the Board voted to go ahead with Vicky's proposal if there were no further complications. Also, the Board decided to loan Louie \$230, reflecting one month's storage costs.

At 9:30 P.M., the meeting was adjourned.