

MINUTES OF THE EDI BOARD MEETING
9/24/09 (September)

Board Attendees: Blane, Don, Winston, Peter, Stephen

Other Attendees: Gina and Leslie (EDI Co-Executive Directors), Charles Gary (former EDI Board member), Jonah Markowitz (former EDI Board member and Board applicant), Nick Feldman (Board applicant, on phone)

The meeting came to order at 6:48 P.M.

Public Comment:

Charles Gary introduced himself as a former Board member. He said he had come to touch bases, say hello, and to thank the Board for their continuing efforts. He said he had been keeping abreast of what was going on with Ed Roberts and had been working to align groups and the City of Berkeley to get EDI into the Ed Roberts Campus. He said he would like to be kept updated about what EDI is doing regarding moving to the Ed Roberts campus.

Gina said that she was working with the Peoples' Park Anniversary Committee to set up a health care forum during the celebrations. Charles said it should draw in support for health care in the war economy.

Jonah expressed appreciation for EDI's participation in the Solano Stroll. He would like to see more involvement with the Ed Roberts organizations. He said that there were changes at CIL; that Gerald had retired and Jan was temporarily out of commission.

Approval of August 27, 2009 Minutes:

Winston moved, Don seconded, and the minutes from August 27, 2009 were passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda:

An item was added to discuss Leslie's future with EDI. Items 8-14 were scratched for lack of current action.

Don moved, Winston seconded, and the agenda was unanimously passed as amended.

President's Report:

Blane said that the Board had been working hard on restructuring. He said that Blane and he had addressed the Commission on Disability about their

misunderstanding of the disaster plan. They now understand that EDI is only obligated and funded by the City of Berkeley to maintain a disaster registry yet is interested in developing a detailed plan. Stephen said that Simi Litvaki asked to meet with him next Thursday to go over the current state of disaster planning. He said the Commission on Disability does not like EDI being removed from the process. Blane said the Commission was pleased with the clarification of EDI's responsibilities and interest. Peter said that a few months ago the City gave the Commission the idea that EDI was responsible for a disaster plan, and that Stephen and Blane had cleaned up the issue. Peter said that the City's disaster plan does not address people with disabilities. Blane said that just having a registry doesn't do anything. Don said that there was nothing stopping EDI from working on a disaster plan using its own funds.

Executive Directors' Report:

In August, there were 337 attendant calls, 37 emergency transportation calls, 42 demand-response transportation calls, and 16 wheelchair adjustments.

One female attendant was hired this month.

There was a very good CARD preparedness training for the staff.

A CARD preparedness training for the Berkeley Disability Community is planned to be held at the North Berkeley Senior Center on October 14th from 3-5 P.M. The EDs sent out a mass mailing about the workshop including a flyer and the Disaster Registry questionnaire. Questionnaires will also be available at the event. The Board members were invited to attend.

The EDs met with Berkeley's Fire Chief and other personnel at the Fire Department and discussed the registry. They will be following up with the Fire Chief about specific neighborhood needs and scheduling drills.

Last Monday Gina and Lindsay went to a Cal OSHA training regarding unsafe buildings and Cal OSHA investigations.

The EDs have been working on providing the City with the necessary documents for this fiscal year. Nancy, the bookkeeper has been working very hard helping with these documents as well as the end of FY 09 reports. Nancy is trying to have the financial report done this month.

The EDs met with Kriss Worthington, who has been giving the EDs guidance on a number of things. Kriss and Gene both suggest that all communication between EDI and the City be done through the EDs, and if there is a meeting then Board members can be present but the EDs need to attend. Gina has been appointed the point of contact with the City. Stephen said that he was part of that meeting. Stephen said that Gene was asking EDI to provide additional

information in several areas. Stephen said that the City would be doing an audit and suggested that EDI should do the same, for a roughly estimated cost of \$5000-20,000.

Kriss suggested that the Board needed to make a motion in the minutes to purchase a new van; that the City wanted to know that the whole organization wanted it. He said it would be difficult to get the City to approve a new van in the last fiscal year of EDI's contract and the City would want to know what would happen to the van at that point. Kriss suggested that EDI pursue other funding sources such as ACTIA. The Board determined not to pursue other funding for the acquisition of a new van for the time being.

Kriss suggested that EDI put its desire to create a Disaster Preparedness Plan into the upcoming RFP.

Kriss suggested that EDI review its contract to evaluate how it is fulfilling the criteria and to make improvements in areas where EDI is not performing as expected. Gina and Lindsay have been working on that. The Board discussed its initial reactions to this consideration. Mentioned were more repair personnel were need, that EDI should keep records of referrals it makes, that there be more ongoing evaluation, and to solicit feedback about EDI, including staff performance, more often from the community.

EDI needs to develop a matching fund from its Measure B receipts. In the current budget, EDI had put \$2100 into the fund, and Gene said that this was unacceptable and that the fund needed to be at least \$3000. The EDs said they needed the approval of the Board to put another \$900 into the fund. Steve moved, Winston seconded, and it was unanimously passed by the Board to put another \$900 into the fund.

The EDs noted that Kriss had recommended the EDI have a financial audit. The EDs asked if the Board would approve submitting a proposal to the City for additional funds to conduct an audit. The Board decided that EDI should let the City complete their audit first. It was noted that EDI's consultants might know of auditors EDI could use when it was ready for its own audit.

Netivot Shalom will be holding a benefit for EDI, with storyteller Joel ben Izzy performing, on December 13th from 3-5 P.M. Leslie is organizing this event.

Leslie has been taking off Fridays in September, and will be resigning as Co-Executive Director in the next few days.

Don commented that the traffic seemed low. Blane said that IHSS cuts were coming through and that would open up additional traffic to cover all the domestic chores that IHSS was canceling. Gina said that EDI was doing outreach to bring in additional clients.

Status of New Van:

Although substantially discussed earlier, Steve commented that if EDI's van suddenly died that EDI could probably get a new van with the City's help. Gina said that Kriss had noted that there was a lot of money in the Measure B fund.

Board Elections:

Nick Feldman said that he had put his application in that morning. Since the Board members did not have sufficient time to review the application, Nick was told that his application would be voted on in October.

Jonah Markowitz needed to bring in an application.

Don moved, Steve seconded, and it was unanimously approved that all current Board members would be reelected for another year.

Secretarys' Report:

Don commented that he had been considering running for Treasurer at the Election of Officers in October. Steve said that he was planning on running for that position, and Don said that he would be happy to continue as Co-Secretary under those circumstances.

At 9:05, Don moved, Steve seconded, and the Board moved into Executive Session, inviting the Co-Directors, to discuss restructuring plans and Leslie's future with EDI. Among other things, it was concluded that for the time being Leslie would serve as Outreach Director and would continue to facilitate the planned benefit at Netivot Shalom. The Board thanked Leslie for her service as EDI Co-Director.