

Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, Inc
2011- 2nd Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201
MINUTES - Board of Directors Meeting – July 21, 2011

The Board of Directors of Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa & Western Illinois met at the Marriott Convention Center in Coralville, IA at 4:30 pm.

Present: Lisa Wendel, Mary Lagerblade, Lee Mowers, Dave Emerick, Tracy Schwind, Jill Dashner, Peg Hudson, Mary Ann Brown, Sally Dickey, Carolyn Hauptert, Donnelle Fuerste, Michel Stone, Denise Bulat, Ann Menke, Teresa Colgan, Dave Vandeventer, Candace Arp and Theresa Dunkin..

Staff: Diane Nelson, Kathy Pinger, Kim Hull, Nikki Habben, Doug Nelson and Allison Johnson.

Absent: Bill Leaver, Sue Evans, Karla Steele, Gloria Frost, Colleen Iverson, Erin Jackson, Kim Armstrong, Shawn Ryan, Ann Hutchinson and Deb Oliver.

Welcome & Introductions: Mary Lagerblade welcomed everyone at 4:45. and declared a quorum.

Consent Agenda: The business meeting was called to order at 4:45. A motion was made by Michel Stone to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2011 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mary Ann Brown and the motion passed.

Secretary's Report: Carolyn Hauptert made a motion to accept the resignations of two board members: Pat Keir and Gloria Frost. The motion was seconded by Donnelle Fuerste and the motion passed.

Minute for the Mission: Lisa Wendel shared with the board her thoughts on how Girl Scouting has been a positive influence on her. She spoke about her involvement with *Free Children* and fund raising to help build a school in Kenya. She was able to meet with the director of the program and see the results of her efforts and realized that just a few (4) girls COULD make a difference. She will be attending college in Bowling Green, Ohio this fall, majoring in Broadcasting.

Finance Committee Report: Lee Mowers presented the May, 2011 and June 2011 financials.

*(see attachments) Lee presented the motion from the Finance Committee to approve the [financials](#) as reported. Mary Ann Brown offered the second and the motion passed.

Lee Mowers also went over 2012 proposed operating budget. (see attachments) The finance committee motioned that the [Proposed Operating Budget](#) be accepted. Teresa Colgan provided the second and the motion passed.

Volunteer Services Report: Kim Hull, Volunteer Leadership Development, presented additional information related to the proposal to [eliminate the Child Abuse and Neglect](#) tracking system in our [volunteer screening process](#). This topic was discussed at the June, 2011 meeting and additional research was done by the Executive Committee and staff. Kim referred to other safety precautions in our process and a discussion with our insurance carrier confirmed that it is not required but we must ask the question on our application. *Do you have founded or reported incidents of child abuse or neglect on the Child Abuse and Neglect Registry of any state?* Also, GSUSA does not require a Child Abuse and Neglect Report be run for our volunteer applications: What would the steps be if the Authorization for Release of Child Abuse Information was taken out of the background screening process and applications were done online?

- All steps would be the same, with the exception of:
 - At recruitment nights/events, the potential volunteer leaders will be given a link to our website (or they will provide their email information where we will send them a link) with a step-by-step process to walk them through our application, a link to Intellicorp where they will directly fill out their personal information to conduct the criminal background check (including their Social Security number), and pay their \$12 registration fee.

- o After the potential leader submits the application, the Intake Coordinator will check the results from Intellicorp and run their address through the state Sex Offender Registry.
- o All other steps/contacts remain the same.
- o As you can see, the process is streamlined with a turnaround time of 1-3 days versus 2-6 weeks. There is less chance of losing good, qualified leaders due to a slow turnaround time, and the safety of the girls is not compromised through continued training and contacts.

If we eliminate checking the child abuse registry, what other steps will be taken to ensure the safety of girls?

- The safety of girls is our first priority.
- The nationwide criminal background check and address check against the sex offender registry will still continue.
- New leaders are contacted on a regular basis from Regional Membership Managers, other staff and leaders/service team members in their area.
- Leader Mentors are trained to have regular contact with new leaders and to attend troop meetings periodically.
- There are always 2 leaders present with the girls.
- Parents are recruited to take a part in the troop and they regularly attend troop meetings/events. With parents at troop meetings, leaders are observed on a regular basis.

After a brief discussion, a proposal was presented to modify our current volunteer screening process to delete the formal Child Abuse and Neglect Report but ask a specific question: *"Do you have founded or reported incidents of child abuse or neglect on the Child Abuse and Neglect Registry of any state?"* The motion was made by Mary Ann Brown and seconded by Dave Emerick and the motion passed.

Performance Excellence Report: Teresa Colgan presented a brief overview of the 3rd quarter Scorecard Summary.

*(see attachments) Our council has continued to work toward the expansion of GSLE on-line trainings, which is becoming more important with economics of travel costs and our volunteers flexible schedules. The Green and White Celebrations, held at 40 schools, were a success in bringing information to our parents and in raising additional funding for the council. The Fund Development Department has also been working on developing a list of top 30 businesses in each of our core communities; developing new partnerships and collaborations. Many steps have been taken to reach our council's strategic goals in: Girl Scout Leadership Experience; Volunteer Management; Communication & Marketing; Funding/Financial Management; Outcomes/Data Collection; and Partnership/Strategic Collaboration.

Board Development: Michel Stone provided the names of those whose terms will be completed at the following annual meeting: Teresa Colgan, Ann Hutchinson, Kim Armstrong, Donnelle Fuerste, Theresa Dunkin and Shawn Ryan, along with our three girl board members: Colleen Iverson, Lisa Wendel and Erin Jackson. The council will also need to replace those who have resigned; Gloria Frost and Pat Keir. The Board Development Committee will begin the process of contacting, interviewing and presenting nominees.

Mary Lagerblade introduced a motion to change the annual meeting date from November to April. This date change would align us more effectively with GSUSA during the Triennium year. Because of our fall meeting date, our National Delegate slate was voted on a full year before the convention. GSUSA was not prepared to give us the number of delegates we were allowed at that early date. We could have avoided the

second vote (done by email) by having a spring annual meeting and still had plenty of time to prepare our delegates.

The change would allow for the inclusion of Volunteer Recognitions at the Annual Meeting. We often hear volunteers are concerned about the number of miles driven to attend multiple meetings/events. This would combine two major council events reducing the number of miles driven as well as council costs. By combining the Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognitions, we may increase attendance for the Annual Meeting.

A motion was made to change the date of our annual meeting to April of each year. The motion was seconded by Sally Dickey and the motion passed.

Michel then asked each of our current board members if they would be willing to extend their current term until April, 2012. She also introduced new board meeting dates based on the annual meeting being held in April going forward.

<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
January 19	January 17	January 16
March 22	March 21	March 20
May 17	May 16	May 15
July 19	July 18	July 17
October 18	October 17	October 16
April 28: Annual Meeting	April: Annual Meeting	April: Annual Meeting

Property Discussion: Denise Bulat reported out on the recommendations presented by the Property Committee at their last meeting on June 9, 2011. Candace Arp, Karla Steele, Shawn Ryan, Dave Vandeventor, Theresa Dunkin and Lee Mowers, board members, along with Denise Bulat were part of the Property Committee or Subcommittees. The recommendations are as follows

Recommendation #1: The Property Committee will continue to focus on asset stewardship on behalf of the council. This committee will conduct a review of the outcome, data, and program information relevant to property from 2011. From this review, the property committee will determine which properties will continue to be utilized and for what purpose in 2012. This determination may range from no change with a property, expanding or limiting program offerings at a property and/or putting a property on rest. In 2013, the property committee will make final determinations regarding council properties which may include, no changes, expanding or limiting program offerings, putting property on rest or asset divesture. The property committee will present these recommendations to the GSEIWI Board of Directors for final approval.

Recommendation #2: Safety is the first priority for the council properties. The council will continue to have facilities that rate high in maintenance and safety. To address safety during inclement weather, a storm shelter needs to be built at the Camp Conestoga property. The other council camp properties have storm shelters which fulfill the safety needs for the respective property.

Recommendation #3: In 2011-2012, the council will continue to adjust the number of horses to be in line with previous equestrian program attendance and lease horses instead of own. If additional riding capacity is needed, the council can secure access through collaboration with area equestrian facilities instead of increasing the size of the council herd. Equestrian programs should not be provided at Summer Troop Camp.

Recommendation #4: The Rock Island facility is inadequate space for administrative services and program functions. The relocation of administrative services to a more conducive office environment with adequate

square footage is essential and action should be taken in 2012 to alleviate this situation. . There will not be any major investments to acquire this type of space.

An alternative usage of the existing Rock Island building, such as for an urban program center, will be incorporated as part of the 2013 recommendations from the property committee

Recommendation #5: Offer space for programs and trainings in Leadership Centers where such utilization could occur. All facilities will be considered for this usage; however, there will not be any major investments to acquire this type of space in every area.

Denise explained the term “at rest” to mean that a property would be closed and left unused for a period of time.

This does not indicate that the property is for sale or will be sold.

Other discussion followed not directly related to property assets but operational matters for the council to consider in implementation.

Establish an all-council program operating committee, which will include gathering and utilizing both girl and adult input. This committee would identify priorities in programs and outcomes based of what girls and adults want while being focused on what we can be best at and what girls and adults will do. The committee would look at outcomes, program, and facility and determine how the council matches up. The committee would be strategic about targets for growth, identify best practices for programs to replicate in other camps, identify the cost of operating camp in each season, and building attendance to achieve target goals.

- The council could expand local day camp opportunities as a way to encourage young girls to explore the camping experience and provide exposure to the council camp properties. Programs, even without an outdoor focus, could use camps to increase exposure to the council properties.
- With the direction of the Finance Committee, continue the tier pricing model for summer camp opportunities. In future years, consider the gradual collapse of the levels of the tiered pricing to more closely reflect the actual cost of summer resident camp.

Town Hall meetings are already planned throughout the council and the recommendations will be presented for discussion. The board will vote on the recommendations at their October 20, 2011 meeting.

Presidents Report: Mary Lagerblade introduced a motion to change the annual meeting date from November to April earlier in the meeting along with the board development. Both Denise and Mary thanked everyone who had been a part of the property committees.

CEO Report: Diane Nelson shared a personal experience she had recently while taking 9 girls to Troop Camp. She read a letter that she had sent to the parents telling them the girls had shown their courage, confidence and character while at camp. She also shared a response she received from one of their mothers telling of her appreciation for all Girl Scouting has done to help develop her daughter. Diane reminder each board member these opportunities are why we do what we do.

Adjournment: Mary asked for a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ann Menke made the motion and it was seconded by Dave Emerick. The meeting adjourned at 6:30

Respectfully submitted:

Kathy Pinger, Executive Assistant

Enclosures:

Financials
Property Recommendations
Volunteer Service proposals

6-2-11 minutes
Board terms

Performance Excellence
Board dates 2011-2014

Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, Inc
2011- 2nd Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201