

CASA Board Meeting

November 20, 2014

Board Present:

Shane Bayless, Jim Funke, Judy Larson, Sharon Geib, Cathy Douglas, Scott Creasman, Dan Vertrees, Cheryl Sellers, Robyn West, Ann McAlpin,

Not Present:

Steve Earl, Sabina Rahman–Garcia

Others Present:

Gus and Ellen Nodwell, Cliff Hazel, James Hoot (taking notes)

Board minutes from last meeting were approved

Committee reports

Development

- Gala update
- Blue Ribbon Society discussion
 - More food
 - Hold in home or commercial venue?
 - Include large gala donors?
- We've received a 2yr 75K grant from Houston endowment
- Next development committee meeting will be next year

Legislative

- Attended state CASA conference
- Capital visit

Finance

- We have new auditors—Seefeld, Lawson, Moeller—and the audit will begin in early January

Action Items

Vote was taken and approved on second terms for Shane Bayless, Jim Funke and Sabina Rahman-Garcia

- Robyn West moved
- Don Vertrees seconded

Strategy Topic

Strategic planning will be in late February on a Friday afternoon. Aeon, TETRA are possible venues. The board discussed possible areas of attention for the strategic planning session.

Strategic Planning

- Prework – board committees will come prepared

- How to increase donations?
- How should money be spent if we increase funding?
- Do we expand the mission?
- What systemic change is needed to create a better outcome?
- We are prohibited from providing direct services by Texas and National CASA
- What does the staff need to better prepare children for independence?
- What does the staff need to better improve capabilities of advocates?
- Who else should attend the meeting?
- Facilitator – on loan from board member? (Judy has suggestion, Dave Blocker)
- Invite Judge Turner