

## Monthly Board Meeting

January 23, 2016

The monthly meeting was held at the Northeast Independent Living Program Center at 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence, MA 01843 and began at 7:12 PM.

Attending: Andrew DeCarlo, Marion Donahue, Adam Rajczyk, Daniel Rajczyk, Eva Rajczyk, Richard Rodriguez, and Thomas Wood

### MISSION STATEMENT

We reviewed the AW Mission Statement to remind us of what our mission is and to refresh everyone's memory regarding the changes we made at the last meeting.

### MINUTES

A motion was made by Andrew DeCarlo and seconded by Thomas Wood to accept the minutes of December 19, 2016 as presented to the Board by Eva Rajczyk. The Board unanimously voted to accept.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Previous Balance (as of 12/30 Georgetown Bank)	\$ 141.42
Previous Balance (as of 12/30 Pentucket Bank)	\$ 3,366.81
Deposit	\$ 500.00
Total	\$ 3,866.81
Disbursements	<u>-\$ 1,272.12</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,594.68</b>
<b>TOTAL (in both accounts)</b>	<b>\$ 2,736.10</b>

A motion was made by Eva Rajczyk and seconded by Andrew DeCarlo to accept the treasurer's report as presented to the Board by Adam Rajczyk and file it for audit. The Board unanimously voted to accept.

### REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Daniel Rajczyk reported that he met with Dr. Ashleigh Hillier, Ph.D., the director of the Center for Autism Research and Education (CARE) at the University of Lowell on January 11, 2017.
  - Dr. Hillier indicated that the Center would like to partner with AWorks and write us into one of their grants
  - They have just begun support groups for autistic youth (one exclusively for UMass Lowell students, the other for any student who has the need to be in such a group)
  - They are starting a community advisory board and invited Daniel Rajczyk to become part of it
  - She feels that Asperger Works is on the cutting edge of the employment problem and is quite excited about our program because they just started addressing the employment difficulties of students with autism
- (see <https://www.uml.edu/Research/autism/> for more information on the program)

## SUPPORT GROUP

Thomas Wood reported that there were only three attendees at the last the Watercooler Live! Meeting on Saturday, December 3, 2016: Douglas Perry, Daniel Rajczyk, and Thomas Wood.

He also reported that there is an active Asperger's support group in Laconia, NH and suggested that a partnership could possibly be created between our two organizations. He said that he will be working on this after the Holidays. There could be the possibility of doing some activities together (including social activities). Also the possibility of having a small ad hoc conference sometime in April during Autism Awareness Month. This conference would also include various groups representing all people with disabilities including ADAP chapters from MA and NH. Again, Mr. Wood will research the feasibility of such a conference.

## OTHER

- **Meet and Greet**
  - Daniel Rajczyk moved and Thomas Wood seconded that we change the venue and the date and time of our first Meet & Greet.
  - Daniel has been informed by others who have run Meet & Greets that Fridays are not good days and after works is not a good time for such a meeting and that Wednesdays lunchtime seem to work better.
  - Daniel was also advised that we should keep as much of our interactions with businesses within the City of Lawrence as possible.
  - The Lawrence Senior Center was suggested as a venue. If we were to have our Meet & Greet there, we would have to arrange the catering. Daniel will be in touch with the Center to find out if they could donate their hall.
- **CDBG Funding** – Application is due on February 2, 2017 with presentation (if application is approved) to be made on February 13, 2017.
- **AWorks Client** – Judy Hinkle, our job coach, reported to Daniel Rajczyk that she has successfully recruited our first client and will be meeting with him.
- **Workshops** – There was a discussion of having workshops for potential employers, banks, etc.
- **Dinner of Hope**
  - To be held at Maria's Galleria Banquet Room in Haverhill
  - Proposed date: October 7, 2017

Daniel Rajczyk made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Andrew DeCarlo and was unanimously approved by the Board. The meeting formally adjourned at 8:23 PM.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**CDBG Funding Application Due** – Friday, February 3, 2017 – City Hall, Lawrence, MA

**AWorks Support Group Meeting**–Saturday, February 4, 2017–NIPL, 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence (2:00 – 4:00 PM)

**Monthly Meeting** – Monday, February 20, 2017 – 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence (7:00 PM – 9:00 PM)

Minutes respectfully submitted to the Board by,

*Eva*

M. Eva Rajczyk  
Board Secretary