

Greater Moncton Association For Community Living  
Board of Directors Meeting  
GMACL Board Room, St. Bernard's Church Rectory  
January 26, 2010

PRESENT: Terry MacTavish-Hawkes, Connie Melanson-Savoy, Kate Cober, Lucas Cober, Lois-Anne MacGregor, Angela Hare, Stephane Amirault, Normand Robichaud

REGRETS: Chris Moore, Pat Crawford, Cheryl LeBlanc, Pascale LeBrasseur, Mike Ogden, Ken Stevens

GUESTS: Joe Landry

1. Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm.
2. **Approval of the agenda:** Norman requested the Flex Report be moved up earlier in the agenda as he has a conference call to attend. Motion for approval by Lucas Cober, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Angela Hare, M/C.
3. **Joe Landry:** Brief intro for Joe who has served with GMACL for 15 years, 14 of those years as Treasurer. Joe is a Lifetime Member of GMACL. Joe came to thank GMACL for the gifts during his recent illness and treatment.. Joe commented on the article in the T&T (link on website available for viewing) about his volunteering with GMACL and says he looks forward to continuing his volunteer work when he is feeling a little better. Joes mentioned the church will be putting in an elevator by mid August.
4. **Approval of the minutes:** Terry mentions the minutes are available in PDF format on the website. Motion for approval of the December 16, 2009 minutes by Lucas Cober, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Angela Hare, M/C.
5. **Flex Report:** Norman submitted a report last week to DEPTL where he talked about planning, social skills, money and housing issues, referral to other agencies and employment. Approximately 6 people have secured full-time employment, 4 are working with the janitorial company. Norman is still working on the issues with the janitorial company that were discussed at the last meeting. Workman's Comp and liability still need to be clarified. Connie is working on a proposal for a supportive employment co-op that would eventually be a separate entity from this board, majority ownership eventually by self-advocates. It should address issues for both parents and self-advocates. Copy of the proposal will be available through Connie. Connie invites any concerns by members to be sent to her by email so the issues can be addressed at the next meeting with the janitorial company. Connie advised that The Flex program which employs Normand is through a contract GMACL has with DEPTL.
6. **Director's Report:** Connie reports that a lot of families are currently in crisis and she is struggling to keep up. Terry mentions that when we are fundraising we need to

promote the fact that a significant % of our support is spent on individuals within the school system. District 1, 2 and 11 are covered by GMACL. Connie finds arranging meetings with the school system very challenging. Support is provided across a broad range of spectrums. Terry feels these needs should be made clear to the public in an effort to increase awareness and funding. Connie is advising families who are not being successful in having their concerns addressed to call Human Rights and Child Advocate Ombudsman when issues arise.

Terry would like to utilize the website as a forum for families to share concerns and stories. Connie reported GMACL is currently supporting 2 human rights cases involving employment issues. Connie advised she is looking at GMACL developing/coordinating workshops/information sessions to help parents learn to advocate more effectively.

**Day of Caring:** volunteer project that starts and finishes in one day slated for June 11, 2010.

7. **Financial Report:** We were about \$2300.00 short last month. \$17 000.00 was transferred from fundraising. The \$4000.00 from the government for the SEED program has been received we are still waiting for the \$10 000.00 advance from DEPTL for Norman's salary, that was invoiced in December. Federal student summer program gives 75% up front, SEED reimburses after the program ends. There is a balance of \$16 475.93 as well as the \$20 00.00 from the bequest in a separate account (this money will not be used until a specific target has been decided on).

Charitable status has been done for this year. Paperwork has been done by the accountant and there are a few questions to be addressed. The report shows our year end in a deficit position of approximately \$16 000.00. The accountant has made some specific recommendations with regards to an automated accounting system. Terry is concerned about making sure all the financial data is transferred to the Simply Accounting software and would like clarification about where all the financial files are, and he advised there should be a Simply Accounting program in the office so the info can be onsite. He further advised that procedures need to be set up regarding files and compilation of information. It was discussed that someone be brought in to assist with the set up of a user-friendly system and bring the finish up to date.

#### 8. **Committee Updates:**

A) Trees For A Brighter Future event: We are still awaiting the matching funds from the Scotia Bank. \$29 968.00 is the figure sent to the bank. There were approximately \$7000.00 in expenses. \$1000.00 is still outstanding. Counting matching funds the figure is \$30 241.32 which works out to the event raising \$15 241.32

B) Fun Challenge: We are still confirming sponsors for this event. Brochures have been sent to Lounsbury's for final approval and are being sent to the printers. A volunteer is needed to get the donation applications (to businesses) completed online. Lucas

volunteers to complete them.

C) Move to Include: The Running Room is hosting a 5 and 10 KM running event on March 21, 2010 to benefit GMACL. Registration is \$25/person, a \$10 t-shirt is given to each participant. Registration can be done on line at the Running Room website or in the store.

9. **Other reports and New Business:** None.

10. **Adjournment:** Lucas made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 pm.