

AFCC Texas Chapter Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Montgomery County Courthouse, Grand Jury Room
207 West Phillips, Conroe, Texas
May 1, 2009 at 12:30 p.m.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order – 12:40 p.m.

In attendance:

- President: Louise Lee McEvoy
- Immediate Past President: Martha Musselman
- President Elect : David Eaker
- Treasurer: Patricia Barrett
- Secretary: Mardi Winder-Adams
- Directors at Large:
 - i. Anita Stuckey
 - ii. Mary Fogel
 - iii. Trevor Townes
 - iv. Judge Kathleen Hamilton
 - v. Janet Heppard
 - vi. Stephanie Hall
 - vii. Teleconference – Jack Bannin
- Members Absent: Alissa Sherry

II. Old Business

- A. Minutes from 01/23/09 Board Meeting – Mardi Winder-Adams
- B. 2008 Annual Chapter Report – Martha Musselman
 - Has been posted on the website
 - Parent organization was very happy with the report
 - Attachments also on the website

III. New Business

- A. Resignation of Board Member
 - Alissa Sherry has resigned from the board due to work related issues. Louise Lee McEvoy accepted her resignation.
- B. 2009 Budget – Louise Lee (voting item)
 - Louise Lee McEvoy provided copies of budget from 2005
 - Louise Lee McEvoy will be conservative with budget proposal because of economy and trends
 - Review of budget items including conference
 - Motion to approve budget by Trevor Townes seconded by Patricia Barrett – Unanimously Approved
- C. Committee Reports
 - 1. Finance/Audit - Patricia Barrett and Trevor Townes

- Conference broke even in 2008
- Increased net worth of the Texas AFCC by about \$5000
- 5000.00 CD purchased with increased income
- Discussion of sign in sheets and conference certificates for some mental health professionals from the conference
- 990N tax online completed and filed
- Martha Musselman recommended that copies of all filed documents either online or in other forms be submitted to the current president to assist in filing the annual year end report.
- Reviewed breakdown of the AFCC conference expenses and costs

2. Conference Planning Coordinating Committee -
Louise Lee

- Treebeards booked for foods, college to provide breakfasts and breaks
- Louise Lee McEvoy has been in discussion with hotels, Hilton and Marriott and 45 rooms have been blocked off in 3 different hotels
- Programming being developed by Anita Stuckey and Louise Lee McEvoy to focus on never married families
- Speaker possibilities discussed – legal and societal issues and pressures and lack of support through the system, Speakers from programs including Fatherhood Initiative, Association of Children and Families, Judge Cohen, David Simpson, National Council of Family Law Judges, Judicial representatives
- Louise Lee McEvoy discussed conference structure in conjunction with state AG's office
- Call for Presenters to be sent out
- Conference Oct 23, 24th, 2009

3. Membership/Education - Louise Lee and David Eaker

- 138 members in total
- Louise Lee McEvoy has been contacting people regarding non- renewal

4. Publications - Jack Bannin

- Jack Bannin is requesting information to put into the newsletter
- Looking for blurb on new legislation – bill number and capsule of information with regards to Parenting Coordination and other relevant topics – David Eaker will complete and submit to Jack Bannin

- Anita Stuckey to provide an article on unmarried families to be coupled with the save the date information
 - Article from a mental health profession and one from an attorney – especially with visitation issues regarding never married parents is requested
 - Deadline for article submissions mid May so newsletter can go out end of May
 - Annual report posted online
5. AFCC Chapter Council - Louise Lee McEvoy provided report to the board
- a) Regional Training
- Parent organization wanting to provide regional training perhaps at the Law School in February 2010
- b) Scholarship Donation
- PO asking chapters to donate money so they can give out conference registrations to AFCC national conference participants
 - Possibility of Texas AFCC giving own membership scholarship
 - Could get list from AFCC parent group to find out who is attending, then select a recipient from that list
 - Raffle off at Texas AFCC conference for next years AFCC parent conference
 - Creation of Texas Scholarship option
 - Discussion that it would be better to use the funds in Texas rather than contributing to the parent conference
- c) Silent Auction Item - Conference
- Alamo flag flying certificate and basket
6. Nominations – Martha Musselman/David Eaker
- 130 members, 12 on the board
 - 3 members leaving the board this year (board size in the future)
 - David Eaker discussed that members need to be involved in non-board activities and committees
 - Mary Fogel discussed that lunch and learns were difficult to organize and facilitate due to time and location issues

- Anita Stuckey discussed to possibility of offering discounted memberships to county organizations and groups
- David Eaker discussed that discounting state chapter dues may not help much with regards to increasing membership
- Judge Hamilton recommended providing possible speakers at the Advanced Family Law in future years
- Martha Musselman addressed the issue that the perception of AFCC Texas chapter and the mission of AFCC may be misunderstood with established legal professionals
- Janet Heppard discussed that school based membership organizations may be helping in getting students interested in joining the organization

7. Legislative Watch – David Eaker

- Discussion on the new Parenting Coordination legislation. As an AFCC organization there is no opinion expressed or developed by the Texas Chapter of the AFCC, the organization is neutral and does not lobby or promote one side or the other. Individuals acting on their own and not as part of the Texas Chapter of the AFCC can voice their own opinions.
- Louise Lee McEvoy has drafted letter regarding policies on political activity that states that the Texas Chapter of the AFCC does not support politicians or specific legislation
- Change of bill for custody was not passed
- Board discussed the bill to reorganize courts – presiding judge would still allocate but structure would change
- Child’s Choice legislation would have the affidavit option removed
- Visitation for Military Parents and legislation was discussed

8. Parenting Coordination Taskforce – Louise Lee McEvoy

- Taskforce to be dissolved as it has completed gathering information

D Liability Insurance – Stephanie Hall

- No report

E. Protocol for Deactivated Members – Louise Lee McEvoy

- Louise Lee McEvoy will continue to contact all deactivated members at this time to avoid duplicate emails

F. Goals for 2009

- Louise Lee McEvoy – increasing applications
- Pdf on website for general members and board members to try to get at least one new member into the organization
- Louise Lee McEvoy to send link to all board and general members

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G. Open Floor for Discussion

H. Next Board Meetings

- Aug 21 at 12:30 in San Antonio
- 2118 North Main Avenue
- San Antonio, Texas Ste. 101

- Last meeting Oct 22 at 4:00 pm at South Texas School of Law Boardroom

IV. Adjourn 3:02 pm.