

**TRANSITION HOUSE ASSOCIATION
BOARD MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Location: Anderson House

PRESENT: Phil Matusiewicz, Karin Laronde, Sr. Norma Gallant, Sherry Page, Anne Nicholson, Patricia Roy, Bill Costain and Eileen Gaudet

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion: That the agenda be approved.

M/S: Sr. Norma Gallant / Patricia Roy

Carried.

2. Approval of February 20, 2008 Minutes

Motion: That the minutes of February 20, 2008 be approved.

M/S: Patricia Roy / Anne Nicholson

Carried.

Phil requested input in terms of how to circulate board minutes to all provincial regions (e.g. email or post on website). It was felt that posting the minutes on the website would be beneficial.

3. Bylaws

Bylaws were emailed to members prior to meeting. Bill inquired what changes were implemented in the latest version. Phil reported that the change reflected in the email to Rosemary on February 5th under 5.1.3 (membership). Consensus is that it be removed. Interested parties can obtain a criminal records background check at no cost if requested by a non-profit organization. Further clarification is needed with Rosemary regarding 11.1. Two new items reflected in the current set of Bylaws are General Borrowing Bylaw and General Banking Bylaw. Board will receive an updated document (highlighted) via email after Phil and Rosemary review once again. Patricia inquired whether the membership fee will continue and if so what will the amount be. It was noted that yes, the fee will continue with the fee being \$5.00 for new members. Current members will automatically be carried over as paid members once a new name for the organization has been decided on. The Bylaws cannot be final until membership approves.

Bill read aloud his notes from the March 10th joint meeting. Some individuals are still concerned in the West and East Prince areas. Patricia read a presentation on feminism that she made during this same joint meeting. Phil offered to speak to the two regional boards once again to hear their concerns and answer questions. There is a need to determine where the concerns are coming from; staff or board.

4. Nominations Process

Phil handed out proposed process for Board to review. It is imperative to ensure good province-wide representation for the provincial organization. Questions to ponder include: Is this too complicated of a process for THA? Is this something THA wants to adopt? Does the Board strike a committee today to work on this process? Discussion followed and it was decided yes a committee would be established consisting of Patricia, Bill and

Anne. Additional individuals may be considered to join this committee. The nomination process will need to be in place prior to the annual general meeting in June, 2008.

Motion: Establish a Nomination Committee consisting of Patricia, Bill and Anne.

M/S: Anne Nicholson / Sherry Page

Carried.

5. Letter re Name Change

Anne submitted a reduced list of names for consideration:

- PEI Family Violence Prevention (PEI-FVP)
- PEI Relationship Abuse Prevention (PEI-RAP)
- Beth Percival Family Violence Prevention Association of PEI (BPFVPA PEI)
- Violence is Preventable Association of PEI (VIP Association)
- PEI Transition and Support Services (PEI TASS)
- Doris Anderson Transition and Support Services of PEI (DATASS PEI)

Patricia noted that her region's contract with the Province specifies the words "Family Violence Prevention."

Criteria to be met when renaming the organization:

- The provincial scope of the organization
- The current work of the organization which includes the work of the outreach programs, the work of the shelter and prevention programs
- The name should be recognizable as it pertains to the issue of relationship abuse

A list of proposed name change ideas will be sent to the membership for consideration and input. Sr. Norma noted that we need to be mindful of the language used to promote the services we offer. The new name needs to be easy to read and understand in both official languages.

6. Negotiations

Phil report negotiations have begun. Group met a couple of times. Unknown what the Provincial Government budget is yet. There is recognition on part of the union that the collective agreement includes the outreach regions. Sherry is no longer at the negotiating table. Jan Devine and Gloria negotiating as staff representatives.

7. Merger Sign-Off

A date will need to be decided on for the sign-off. Is there anything else that we need to do to ensure everyone is comfortable with the merger? Each board member must agree to dissolve and move forward with the merger agreement and the creation of a new organization. Phil will ask Rosemary to create the final version so that it can be circulated to the board members prior to the next meeting. This is required in order for it to be signed off.

8. Confidentiality

Phil reported that some were concerned about confidentiality in terms of the HIFIS national database. He circulated two policies (THA's Employee Handbook and the other being Treatment of Clients). The question we need to ask: Is the issue of confidentiality being protected? The HIFIS information obtained from clients is sent electronically in encrypted data form. Clients also have a choice of being anonymous. The HIFIS data entry form is for tracking information purposes.

9. Other

- A. Eastern PEI Family Violence Prevention are preparing for a Mother’s Day Diamond Dinner and Draw taking place May 10, 2008 at the Montague Curling Club (7:00 pm). Prizes include a 14kt Canadian diamond *Trinity Ring* valued at \$3,000.00, a diamond *Circle of Life* pendant valued at \$600.00 and a ladies diamond *Bulova Watch* valued at \$400.00. Cost is \$50.00 per person for the dinner and draw or \$20.00 per person for the dinner only. All proceeds will go to SAVE.
- B. East Prince Family Violence Prevention, Inc. are preparing for its 6th Annual Mother’s Day Banquet & Woman of the Excellence Award scheduled for May 7, 2008 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Summerside (7:00 pm). Cost is \$30.00 per person.
- C. Anderson House was selected as the recipient of the *2008 PEI Catwalk Fashion and Video Show* (hosted by The Green Man – vintage and vinyl - , and Absolutely Fabulous) that took place on March 29th at the Kier Gallery. Karin attended this event on behalf of the organization. Fashion designers created masterpieces out of the oddest of materials. Also involved were Island video filmmakers from IMAC. Filmmakers received a challenge to create short video under the theme “Body as Canvas”. Both the fashion work and the videos were presented at the runway event. A silent auction took place too.
- D. The House Manager’s report was handed out to Board members for review.

10. Next Board Meeting – April 16, 2008 with the location to be determined. Note the time will be 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm.

11. Adjournment

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned at 5:00 pm.
M/S: Anne Nicholson / Bill Costain
Carried.

Board Chair

Date