



People First[®] of California, Inc.

Board of Directors

August 22nd, 23rd, 2008

Courtyard by Marriott – 4422 Y Street, Sacramento

M I N U T E S

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (region)

Wayne Folkes (1)
April Perrault (2)
Troy Rathburn (Alt-2)
Cindy Lee Richards (3)
Cathy Daggett (4)
Christina Lasson (5) (Secretary)
Kristina Franzone (6)
Brad Putz (Alt-6)
Jody Barker (9) (Sergeant @ Arms)
Kecia Weller(10) (Vice President)
Hallie Long (11)
Ralph Skoner (12) (Treasurer)
Trena Wade (13)
Scott Winfield (President)
Deanna Brandon (Member @ Large)

OTHERS PRESENT

Joe Meadours (Executive Director)
Robin Rhoades (Deputy Executive)
Carlos Palacios (Clerical Support)
Wanda Henderson (Helper-1)
Cindi Freshour (Helper-2)
Pattie Simpkins (Visitor 2)
Barbara Salazar (Facilitator – 3)
Patricia Omowale (Helper – 4)
Jolene Bradford (Helper-6)
Doug Livesay (Helper-9)
Ed Plon (Supported Life Institute)
Ron Mainini (Supported Life Inst.)

Friday, August 22, 2008

Scott Winfield
Kecia Weller



The meeting began with Scott explaining the plans for Nicky's Memorial. Scott called for a moment of silence, which allowed everyone the opportunity to say farewell in their own way. Kecia read the memorial card. The Board members gathered outside to say prayers, read poems and make statements about Nicky and then balloons were released at the same time. It was a beautiful memorial to a wonderful Advocate who will be missed very much.

Scott Winfield



[Meeting called to Order @ 1:22 p.m.](#)

Introductions:

The meeting started by everyone introducing themselves.

Anthem:

The anthem was sung

Approve Minutes from April 2008:

Approval of Minutes from April Board Meeting.
Ralph made a motion to accept the minutes.
9 yeas 1 – abstain

Ralph Skoner
Joe Meadours



Ralph and Joe gave the Treasurer's Report and a copy of the budget to the Board.

The Board discussed creating an award in Nicky's honor to the PFCA Conference to be presented to a PFCA chapter.

A suggestion was also made to setup a scholarship to the PFCA Conference. Joe and Ralph will come up with a budget to determine how much we can set aside for the award or scholarship.



Kecia Weller

Election to Board

Regional Rep:

Region # 1 - Wayne Folkes

Wayne Folkes introduced himself and was interviewed by the Board. Wayne was approved and will represent Region #1 on the Board.

By-Law Changes

Kecia instructed the Board members to read the current **By-laws**, regarding Article 4, Section 2.

The Board approved the following changes.

Recommendation:

Section 1 - The Executive Committee: Which included President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms. In order to run for an Executive Committee position you must be on the PFCA Board of Directors (not an alternate) for at least one year.

Recommendation:

The new Executive Committee Board to take over immediately at the end of the Statewide Convention. The new officers will be installed at the Conference.

Joe Meadours



Executive Director Reports:

In May

We moved into our own office, I am looking at having an Open House during a Board Meeting. The Board decided to have this open house during their April 3 day Board Retreat meeting and inviting some people.

Joe went to the Region 2 People First Conference. He was the keynote speaker at lunch and his subject was How Important it is that we “Stand Together”

Joe has been working very close with Sonoma Developmental Center because PFCA had a contract to help start support groups. Our contract with SDC terminated the end of June.

Joe talked with Edward Perez from Lanterman Regional Center to continue with PFCA training their self-advocates.

In June

Joe and Michael Cooke delivered over 600 letters to the Governor’s Office on Monday following the Conference.

Joe is a part of the Lanterman Coalition Team which meets monthly.

Joe went to San Diego to meet with The Arc of San Diego and People First of San Diego to see if they wanted to do the Star Magazine. They declined.

Joe then met with Southside Art Center in Sacramento who stated they were interested in publishing the Star Magazine. We are looking to start up the Star Magazine in the Fall or early Winter. Joe was the keynote speaker at San Diego People First and he spoke about “What People First is Doing.”

Joe and Robin attended Nicky’s memorial and presented a plaque to her family thanking Nicky for her hard work as a self-advocate.

	<p><u>In July</u></p> <p>Joe attended the ARCA Annual Benefit Dinner. This was a great opportunity for Joe to meet people and thank them for their continued support in the People First movement.</p> <p>Joe attended a class at University of Delaware on Leadership and how we can make our Boards stronger.</p> <p>Joe is planning a meeting in September to interview the three candidates we have to fill the Outreach Coordinator in Southern California.</p> <p>The Executive Director receives calls and emails from people wanting to start a local People First Chapter where they live.</p> <p>State Council Report:</p> <p>Our grant from the State Council was approved for next year in the amount of \$250,000. The Executive Director will work 35 hours a week and the Outreach Coordinator will be working 25 hours a week.</p> <p>He also distributed a calendar of events.</p> <p>Joe mentioned writing letters to the following companies and persons, protesting the movie, "Tropic Thunder", because of their excessive use of the "R" word. We should direct our letters to DreamWorks, Paramount/Vantage and Ben Stiller.</p>
<p>Scott Winfield Christina Lasson</p>	<p>2008 Convention</p> <p>Ron Mainini of Supported Life Institute gave the following report.</p> <p>1,402 people attended 2008 PFCA Convention; of this figure 700 were from the Sacramento area.</p>

The board read the evaluations, and looked over the budget for the Convention. A motion was made to form a Conference Planning Team for 2009 with Hallie Long, Krisi Franzone, Ralph Skoner as committee members and Kecia Weller as Chair. Motion passes.

Saturday – August 23, 2008

Working Breakfast

Regional Reports

Regional 1 - Wayne Folkes –

April 25th - UVAH, a workshop had their Spring Fling. Many PF of Ukiah attended.

May 17th – PF had a picnic at the park with a water fight to finish it up

June – we loaded five vans with convention goers; all had a really good time.

June 25th – Nicky passed away. Services for Nicky were on July 2nd, For our July activity, we had a BBQ picnic at the park. We celebrated three birthdays and had a water gun fight.

Region 2 - April Perrault –

Region 2 has a new alternate, Troy Rathburn. One of our chapters had a People First BBQ inviting all groups in the area. Another group had a spaghetti feed as a fundraiser for local fire victims. Some of our chapters are getting new members, while others are having elections. Many of our groups have had fundraisers for their own groups.

We discussed how our conference went in May. It went great! Chris Burke was a hit. We also sold out of all our T-shirts. We started discussing our next conference in 2010.

Region 3 - Cindy Lee Richards

We had our meeting on the 20th of this month and we also had a car wash on the 9th of this month. We made \$83.00

We are going to have another car wash on the 30th of this month from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We held a Membership Drive & Picnic on August 4th. Daniel Meadows from PAI spoke at August 4th meeting on Abuse and Our Rights – Voting.

Future Plans – Halloween Dance

As an officer of PF of Placerville, we are concerned about attendance due to lack of transportation and people paying dues.

Region 4 – Cathy Daggett –

People First of Vallejo has been studying and preparing for emergency disaster. We learned about earthquake readiness, flood preparation, fire safety and evacuation procedures.

We also went to North Bay Regional Center for a conference which taught us more about safety and what to pack in our emergency bag and where to keep our bag in the event of disaster. We practiced some of the procedures such as what to do in the event of an earthquake, fire or flood.

Due to changes made at Pace Georgia, our PF meeting will be held only on the first Friday of each month.

Randy Kitch will continue to be in attendance.

Region 5 – Christina Lasson

PF of Contra Costa had a picnic at Concord Park near the Bart station. They held their meeting first, and then played games before the picnic. Christina will try to get some of the pictures of the Contra Costa picnic to show everyone at the next board meeting.

The Bay Area People First is having a meeting on Saturday, September 13th, this chapter will meet to talk

about nominations for a new officers, the State budget, Supported Life Institute's Convention, and their outing at the A's game on September 20th. Other chapters in the area were asked to bring a friend to the game.

Mid Peninsula meets on the 3rd Monday of each month.

San Francisco is meeting the last Friday of the month on August 22nd.

Region 6 – Krisi Franzone

Area 6 had their consumer advisory meeting Modesto at the Howard Johnson training Center in Modesto for the first time ever. We had 150 people from Stockton and Modesto show up. We did a presentation "What Self-Advocacy 6" is all about and shared the kind of work we do. It was a very great turn out and we are hoping to have our meeting there at least once a year.

Region 9 – Jody Barker

People First of Santa Barbara reports that they are currently fundraising to increase their treasury. Recently they held a rummage sale at the Downtown Santa Barbara Recreation Center and made a profit of \$200.

People First of San Luis Obispo (PFSLO) recently held a summer dance fundraiser, the Summer Swing, as part of their Robert Bove Community Service Project. Four times a year we hold dance-fundraisers and donate the profits to a local non-profit agency. This time profits were donated to Special Olympics. We will be holding our next community service dance-fundraiser on December 5th.

Our group is also planning a Film Festival featuring one film per month that explores disability-related issues. The People First Film Festival will be open to the public and free of charge. Our goal is to raise public

awareness about people with disabilities. PFSLO will review and vote on each film to be shown. We have set up a committee to plan the event. PFSLO recently sent over 69 letters to our legislators and Governor Schwarzenegger protesting cuts to IHSS and the proposed freeze on SSI and SSP cost-of-living increases.

We continue to hold root beer float sales and hot lunch sales to increase our treasury.

Region 10 – Kecia Weller

The Self-Advocacy Board of L.A. County has been putting its energy into planning its 10th Conference, celebrating 20 years of Self-Advocacy in Los Angeles. The conference is called “My Thoughts, My Voice, and My Life” and will be held September 27-28, 2008 at the Sheraton Gateway Los Angeles Airport Hotel. Anyone interested in attending should call (818) 543-4631. Registration and payment are due September 8, 2008. Highlights of the weekend will include: Opening Keynote by Mark Hutchinson from DDS, representing Governor Schwarzenegger; a photo and music presentation showing the history of self-advocacy in Los Angeles; remarks from our past presidents; 8 workshops led by self-advocates; an Exhibit Fair; dinner keynote Joe Meadours, Executive Director of PFCA; self-advocacy awards; and a rocking’ dance and karaoke into the night.

People First of Santa Monica (PFSM) went out to a residential nursing home to start volunteering for the residents there. It was discovered because of liability issues, PFSM couldn’t volunteer at the nursing home. However, PFSM members are going to start volunteering and giving back to our community by picking up trash on the local beaches, sponsored by Heal the Bay.

People First of Culver City (PFCC) is a new chapter in the Westside Regional Center’s service area. They

elected all of their officers in their first meeting and there are around 15 People First self-advocates in this chapter. PFCC meets at the Raintree Denny's restaurant in Culver City on the 1st Tuesday of each month.

Other News Items:

1. A new Self-Advocacy group has started at Goodwill Industries in L.A.
2. Social Vocational Services recently held its Dolphin Awards breakfast to honor deserving self-advocates and employees of their agency.
3. Several southern California self-advocates enjoyed a great time at the PFCA State Convention in Sacramento in June.
4. AB 2424 was killed in a legislative committee and self-advocates in southern California were sad to hear the news.

Region 11 – Hallie Long –

In June, a PAI advocate did a "Social Security Benefits and Work Rules" training for People First of Orange County members. Linda Thompson from San Diego People First also came in June to make a presentation on Boardmanship and passed out a book on it. In July, Maria Marquez, PAI advocate, will come to our PFOC meeting to make a presentation on voting.

Two new PFOC members had the opportunity to attend the PFCA Statewide Convention in June and they reported that they loved it, had a great time, and they want to go back next year.

Michael Bailey, a PFOC member also attended the Convention said he is interested in becoming my alternate for the board. PFOC is growing in membership. We now have 19 active members and about 60 people on the mailing list.

I received a grant to help expand my business, so as of July 1st, I have restarted my own business through a micro-enterprise venture with Goodwill of Orange County and I plan to go to major corporations as well as People First groups and conferences.

Region 12 – Ralph Skoner

On June 2nd, 2008, People First of Corona (PFC) held their monthly meeting at the library. It was a very nice meeting and everything went along fine.

July 7th, 2008, PFC held their monthly meeting at the library. They wanted to know when SDS would start so they could become involved.

On August 6th, 2008, PFC held their monthly meeting at the library. They talked about the conference (SLI) that Matt is going to in October. They talked about how to get in touch with their legislators to get this budget passed. They also talked about moving their meetings somewhere else instead of the library. Will this happen, I'll let you know.

Region 13 – Trena Wade

San Diego People First hosted their annual conference on June 21, 22, 2008. The theme was "Celebrate the Power of a Dream". Cory Johnson from Canada was our keynote speaker and was very inspirational. Please check out the SDPF website or conference photos and information. www.sandiegopeoplefirst.com

SDPF also held our third annual speech contest, hosted by San Diego People First and Arc Gavel Club. Toastmasters International provided the judges and awards to the participants. This year's topic was "Celebrate the Power of My Dreams" with fifty-five people in attendance.

SDPF has two members that sit on the Violence Prevention task force and the group recently received a grant to create and present a series of trainings for self-advocates. Another exciting part of the grant is that four self-advocates will be hired to create and lead the training. The Violence Prevention Task Force and also a detective from the San Diego Police Department will assist the advocates. SDPF officers continue to attend

Scott Winfield

Polo Shirts/Dress Code

Scott: Is requesting that Board Members dress in business attire on the first day of a Board Meeting. The Board was shown different style polo shirts and the costs. After much discussion it was decided to purchase shirts. PFCA will purchase one shirt for the Board members and Staff. Any additional shirts will be at the member's own cost.

Jody Barker made a motion to vote for whether or not we want the polo shirts. Kecia Weller seconded.
10 yes/2 abstain

Discussion regarding shirts and what the board approved:

1. Cost for polo shirts for all board members and staff was approved for \$400 plus.
2. Two colors or one? One color
3. Blue shirt, with the logo embroidered on it.
4. Support Staff are not part of the board and do not receive a shirt
5. Employees represent People First of California and they do get a shirt.
6. PFCA will purchase enough shirts so that new Board Members will get shirts when they are appointed to the Board.
7. Board or office staff may buy extra shirts if they pay for it themselves.
8. If you leave the board, you get to keep your shirt.
9. Everyone is expected to wear their shirts at Presentations, conferences, Board Meetings (Friday only)
10. When you are off the Board, do you give your shirt back? Tabled

Scott Winfield	<p>The Arc of California Board Rep and Educational Training Committee Rep.</p> <p>Scott began the meeting by asking for nominations or volunteers. The results of the final vote are as follows:</p> <p>The new representative to the Arc of California Board will be Trena Wade.</p> <p>The new representative to the Educational Training Committee will be Trena Wade.</p>
Scott Winfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building better Chapters • Team Work • Work with local organizations and elected officials <p>Item Tabled for next meeting</p>
	<p>Parking Lot – Items</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nurse Award - Krisi 2. Nicky Award – Christina 3. Dues 4. Board Meetings – Can we start the Board meeting on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. instead of 8:00 a.m.? 5. Do we want on the roster the Board members birthday, so that we can acknowledge it?
	<p>Next Meeting: October 24th, 25th, 2008 Courtyard by Marriott 4422 Y Street, Sacramento</p>