

JCICS Board Meeting
April 13, 2007
In Person

Attendees: R. Gibson, J. Sciortino, S. Pitkowsky, H. Stultz, L. Vollman, L. Wetterberg, T. DiFilipo, J. Rolsky, D. Murphy-Schuemann, R. Pearlman, S. Wu, A. Schlicht, J. Ruben, K. Wallace

Absent: J. Peterson

Call to Order & Agenda: R. Gibson at 6:13 AM EST

Caucus Reports: BOD

Guatemala

Three new chairs were elected, Bruce Mossberg, Chris Huber & Margaret Orr. Over 100 people attended. Frank discussion was held regarding pending legislation for Guatemala to become Hague compliant, DOS's perspective and whether or not agencies should be accepting new families into their program.

India

Amy from Commonwealth was elected as chair. Discussion was held regarding the trickle of placements and the continual problems with CARA. The CARA conference will be held October 8, 2007.

Ukraine

Mix of old and new members attended. Natasha from Nightlight was elected as chair. The majority of conversation circulated around the chaotic situation that has resulted from the loss of in-country leadership that has effectively put Ukraine adoptions on hold indefinitely.

Ethics

Topics included five or six different things regarding ethical considerations agencies struggle with. It was suggested that the list serv be used for further open conversation to discuss current practice and how that compares to current standards. Shane Crim was elected as chair.

The board discussed the generated task to review standards of practice to ensure they are Hague compliant. It was suggested that it may be better to look at an overarching statement of JCICS' ethical requirements. It was suggested that more discussion could be encouraged if the committee was renamed Best Practice Committee or something similar.

Financial Report: L. Vollman

Income was lower this March than last March because the office was more firm regarding application deadlines, bringing in the bulk of that revenue in February. Income is looking good, but hotel bill has not yet been paid. The sweep system has been instituted but not yet reflected as the office is waiting to receive direct updates from Bank of America. The miscellaneous four dollar liability will be removed by the auditor.

The new auditor made several recommendations that have led to revised office procedures. One change is that the treasurer can review but not enter transactions into Quick Books. A few additional changes may include classes within the budget to divide monies by services and an additional accountant to use on an as needed basis for things like end-of-year journal entries that staff are not able to do.

MOTION: To authorize staff to hire an accountant on an as needed basis.
L. Wetterberg MOVED/ S. Pitkowsky SECONDED **PASSED Unanimously**

Discussion was held regarding a proposed investment policy to govern the existing cash that JCICS has for the long term.

Secretary's Report: H. Stultz

Action items were reviewed.

MOTION: To approve the minutes from March 14, 2007.
D. Murphy-Scheuman MOVED/ R. Pearlman SECONDED **PASSED Unanimously**

MOTION: The BOD of JCICS reaffirms that any statements by JCICS directors or JCICS members that makes any connection between being pregnant and being able to carry on a job be judged as inappropriate and opposed to the core values of JCICS. We necessarily reaffirm that pregnancy shall not be used as a judgment or evaluation of a person's job effectiveness.
J. Rolsky MOVED/ R. Pearlman SECONDED **PASSED Unanimously**

COA: R. Klarberg

Richard was introduced and expressed appreciation to JCICS for its mission, governance and strategic partnership with COA towards serving children around the world.

309 initial applications have been received. Approximately 230 formal applications have now been submitted. 40 site visits have been scheduled and COA is trying to move forward as aggressively as possible. An additional person has been hired, bringing the total to four full-time point persons. The budget was intentionally low and based on 200 projected applications to allow for a higher level of service for the long term.

Next Board Meeting: August 27-29, 2007

MOTION: To close the 2006-2007 minutes and adjourn the meeting at 7:49 AM EST.

R. Pearlman MOVED/ D. Murphy-Scheumann SECONDED

PASSED Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Stultz, Secy

Action Items:

1. T. DiFilipo – email investment policy to the board for a vote.
2. BOD – acknowledge receipt, give comment and vote on proposed investment policy.

Open Action Items from January 24, 2007:

1. Staff – investigate feedback on Morris & McDaniel and report back to the board.

Open Action Items from January 23, 2007:

1. J. Rolsky, J. Sciortino & Staff – solicit members to work on SOP Committee and submit enhancements for board vote.

Open Action Items from September 19, 2006:

1. Staff and/or Education Committee – investigate post-adopt resources by state.