

**Northern Community Mediation
Board Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2005, 4:00 PM**

Members Present: Cathy Atchison, John Rohe, Fred Mulhauser, Bill Lovett, Jill Ryan
Guest: Vel Kammermann, Mason & Kammermann, P.C.

Annual Audit Report

Vel Kammermann presented the audit. The audit is clean, she feels the organization's accounting procedures continue to improve, and feels the organization is in a good position.

John Rohe moved to dispense with the quorum rule for the meeting, second by Fred Mulhauser. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report

No minutes were available from the last meeting. Meeting minutes have not been provided by the secretary since January. Jill Ryan acted as recorder for this meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Report given by Jane Millar.

New equipment purchases include a laser fax machine to replace the old unit that was no longer functional and a portable air conditioner to cool work space in the office. Income and expenses under Training (Great Lakes) are for training programs conducted by Kathy Lame for Great Lakes Energy and should balance themselves out.

John Rohe moved to accept the treasurer's report, second by Fred Mulhauser. Motion carried.

President's Report-no report

Executive Director's Report

- Case reports were not available but will be e-mailed to board members on July 15, 2005. As of today, the center has taken in 232 cases.
- Through a Revenue Sharing Grant, copies of two books, *Parents Are Forever*, and *Divorced But Still My Parents*, have been purchased to assist with divorce issues. Copies are available at the office for review.
- Through a Charlevoix Foundation grant, a new VORP brochure has been created that outlines the program. Copies are available at the office.
- A Professional Development seminar will be offered by Anne Bachle Fifer on October 14 for our mediators and attorneys doing mediation. Our mediators may attend at no charge. Attorney mediators will be charged \$150.00 for the day long training including lunch. Similar courses offered down state currently cost \$250-300.
- We will hold a board retreat in conjunction with our regular board meeting in November.

- The center will be participating in the Human Services Coordination Body – Informational Summit.

Committee Reports

Jill Ryan and Bill Lovett reported on their trip to Lansing for the CDRP Directors' Meeting in May. The focus of the meeting was capacity building for centers. Possible ideas include how to diversify programs to become more of a community fixture and examples of innovative programs.

Board Member Action Item

Board members are asked to bring ideas to the September board meeting about what they are interested in covering at the November board retreat. Possible ideas that surfaced from the above discussion include:

- How are we serving the community beyond the courts, is it enough?
- Do we want to diversify programs and therefore funding sources?
- Possible areas for growth.
- Need for clear numbers of costs and capacity of programs.

Old Business-none

New Business-none

Next meeting September 8, 4:00 PM, NCM offices.

Motion to adjourn by Fred Mulhauser, second by John Rohe. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Ryan, Vice President