



ALYF Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 21, 2015: Minutes recorded by Katie (MD)

Start: 2:01 p.m. (Eastern)

On Call:

Katie Carroll (MD), Dawn Evans (MO), Cassandra Lokker (WI), Chris Bailey (IN), Jennifer Randle (OK), Keith (PA), Sierra Royster (NC), Carly Fahey (FL alumni and facilitator), Whitney Harris (FL), Anthony (FL), Brian (NC), Joel Vander Molen (IA)

Introductions

Website update

Joel explained that the website domain expired. Was registered in 2008 and we are unable to log in to get the domain renewed. Looking into getting a new domain and new hosting. Joel is able to set up a new domain and hosting for \$18. Will be unable to use AYLF.net because it is registered with Go Daddy. In order to get it back it might cost \$1000+ plus take extended time to make it happen. Proposing new site name of NationalAYLF.org.

Unanimous vote for website name: www.NationalAYLF.org

Joel explained that there are many companies that can provide domains but there are issues occasionally with being able to access them. The one he is the most comfortable with would be \$16 annually - \$80 for 5 years.

There will be a \$6.50 monthly fee to host which we will pay annually (\$78).

When Joel sets up the new domain and host he will set up document with the log in information and instructions on how to access these if/when things change in AYLF committee It can continue to be used and updated. He will send this document to Dawn which will be saved with records to be shared with future officers. Joel has also provided all important details to a partner with his business so if something happens to him we will still be able to access all necessary information to keep our site running.

Question: estimate of Joel's time? 1 hour

Unanimous vote for Joel to move ahead with setting up domain and host for NationalAYLF.org

Account update:

No change in account.

Pre and Post Survey

Skipped discussion to wait for Seneca

Bylaws

Dawn summarized changes made in bylaws:

Mission Statement, Criteria for formal affiliation, involvement of relatives and teachers, goal of YLF alumni being involved in planning YLF. Website liaison position has changed, additional roles were added to include continuing to update the FB page and email distribution list.

It is the purpose of this Association to improve employment and independent living outcomes for youth with disabilities transitioning from high school by promoting leadership throughout the United States and its territories, the replication of the California Model Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities.

Vote: Are the current by laws acceptable as written: Approved.

Topic: Facilitator Training for Small Groups

Whitney of Florida discussed how Florida will be revamping their facilitator training based on what Facilitators have found is needed, or useful.

Areas of concentration: Leadership styles (quiz to help determine), facilitator tasks, group bonding, small group (Sessions are 30 minutes- how do you make the most of the time to check in, do tasks, etc)

Discussion:

WI: rebuilding facilitator training too. One month before YLF will have staff meet for the day to go through the entire week of YLF: state capitol day, small group, find out where they need help, allow them to get to know each other and bond that will help them in leading delegates. First year trying this. Most alumni have been really excited to volunteer and to make this extra commitment.

MO: delegated a small group coordinator who has facilitated YLF group for several years to be a small group guru. She will bounce around to each group to help out/provide support/guidance etc.

NC: have staff do different activities that will be done at YLF. Talk about how to debrief from some of these activities. Do skits and hands on activities. Also have a staff available to support group leaders.

Optional Check in for group leaders during dinner.

MO: Younger staff/mentors in training do a morning meet. Spirit Cheer, Review schedule with everyone

IN: Found that staff needed more than 5 hours for relationship building. Staff come in one day earlier for YLF. Have a meal, create an environment where staff can build relationship. Talk about what to do based on book. *How to talk so kids will listen/how to listen so kids will talk*. Practice some of the things that will happen during the forum so that they are prepared.

NC: Checklist of goals and discussion points for what should come out of small group discussions and activities. Sierra will send Staff program booklet around to states.

OK: Check ACA (American Camp Association) lots of resources that can help facilitating

Bob Diner

Additional comments:

*Note: Will not be meeting in June or July. Next meeting will be in August.

*Should we change the day of the meeting to allow other states to be involved? Dawn will send a survey out to explore other date options

*Can AYLF pay to host the call? Or share cost between states. Dawn will include this question in the survey

*Will address officers in August- Looking for nominations for Secretary, president.

*AYLF new member updates: Michigan is on track to start a YLF next summer. PA and NY are also working on starting a YLF. DE is working on getting theirs back.

*NC: possibility of ADA legacy bus being used to tour each YLF next year. Tom of ADA is really open to working on this. Maybe put some speakers on the bus who could speak at all the programs. Mike Beers (MT) is very motivated to help make this happen.

Call ended: 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

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