Board Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2024

Present: Chad Black, Cloud Conrad, John Copenhaver, Libby Dunahoo, Doug Hanson, Bruce Leyton, Gerry Roth, Ashley Trammel, Anslee Wilson, Bill Wittel

*Executive Director’s note: All approved minutes and official documents*

*can be found on a private page on our website:* [*http://beyonddementiacoalition.org/dashboard30503*](http://beyonddementiacoalition.org/dashboard30503)

Bill opened the meeting at 12:00 pm by welcoming everyone and highlighting our working theme of closing the preparedness gap.

MINUTES: Gerry Roth motioned to approve the January minutes, which was seconded by John Copenhaver and the Board voted unanimously to approve them as proposed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Doug Hanson’s treasury report (attached) was distributed. Bill note that $5280 had been donated in January/February via NGCF. John motioned to approve the treasury report, seconded by Anslee Wilson and approved by unanimous vote.

SECRETARY REPLACEMENT: We are seeking a board member volunteer to fill the Secretary role.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION: Picking up the preparedness them, we reviewed several initiatives in the prospecting and planning stages which support our strategic direction toward dementia education, community engagement, community partnerships, and fundraising. Highlights include:

* Chad is working with Georgia Emergency Management Association (GEMA) to get us scheduled for a dementia preparedness lunch and learn in District 10/Region 2.
* John is working to establish a partnership with FEMA SE (Region 4) and Rosalyn Carter Institute.
* Bill is working to understand how we can facilitate a Dementia Friendly Community designation for Hall County, similar to Dekalb and Fulton counties.
* Doug has been working to get a VDT commitment from Peach State Bank and he has us scheduled to present the VDT concept to Ron Quinn and several staff members this week…”They are ready to go.”
* Bill secured a meeting with Phillippa Lewis Moss from the Senior Life Center and several of us meet with her and her staff members about piloting a dementia-specific adult day concept, possibly as a Saturday program. We explored the dementia assessment process that Bill discovered in Sarasota, FL as a way to qualify participants as well as inform service/care delivery while at the Senior Life Center in Gainesville. We discussed the value that Chuck Bancroft’s staff assessment concept might bring in terms of identifying the appropriate care providers/candidates and closing any preparedness gaps that might exist in care provision aptitude/knowledge/skill. Doug pointed out that the Meals on Wheels program serves a sizeable amount of residents with dementia and that the dementia assessment and care provider assessment concept could add value in MOW delivery.
* Cloud suggests we build on the knowledge we gained from the UNG VDT on 1/30/24 (for 47 people including students) about student interest. She is working on a funding request for a 3-campus VDT primarily to attract gerontology, nursing, public health, psychology, and social work students and faculty but open to all on campus. The grant amount would be in the $5,000 – 7,500 range. This initiative is intended to expand the healthcare and dementia care career pipelines to close the preparedness gap we have identified.
* Bill has started to explore partnering with ACAP and UNG vocational graphic design/fine arts department to create a class project to design a dementia friendly signage or credentialing program in Hall. Cloud has prior experience with this type of professor/student/organization partner project in graphic design
* John Copenhaver and Bill are in conversation with Kiwanis Historic Roswell about a VDT and they have our proposal in hand.
* Cloud is in conversation with Dawson County Senior Services to deliver a program identical to the one she delivered yesterday at ACCA in Athens. The program proposal was accepted verbally and a contract is in the works for a 3-15-24 training event with half day VDT and half-day classroom-style learning.
* Cloud and Kim Franklin have developed a framework for a dementia symposium to be co-presented by Alzheimer’s Association and BDC as part of our formal strategic partnership with that organization. The event is planned for Fall of 2024 and we are currently identifying a location and date. The intended audience is general population and the programming is geared primarily toward dementia caregivers. There will be an adjunct program for dementia respite care through an adult day “pop-up” space. We envision 100 - 200 attendees including speakers, volunteers, and adult day program participants and carers. We will be forming a small planning committee to help us shape this event, following the identification of a venue and date.
* Gerry has been working with Seniors Enriched Living (SEL) in Roswell, and organization that has a similar offering to BULLI, but in a fee-based structure. SEL wants BDC to provide educational programming on dementia to its student body, as a pro bono service. They do not pay any of their instructors. We will compile a spring curriculum that heavily leverages the free material offered through the Alzheimer’s Association Community Educators. We will seek funding to develop our own educational programming for future semesters.
* Bill will pursue another BULLI course for caregivers, similar to the one he coordinated in 2022.
* Bruce Leyton’s Reading to Adults with Dementia program proposal has been approved by Wisdom Project 2023 (1 of 2 awarded out of 20 project proposals) and our test site will be Phoenix of Braselton. Bruce and Cloud will meet with Felicia Raughton to develop the program specifics for a spring pilot program.
* Bruce and Gerry have been working on a podcast concept that we can feature on our website. The initial episode – focused on the intersection of patience and trust, is in development now and we hope to launch this initiative in March or April, with a pre-defined content calendar (topics and intervals) for the remainder of 2024.
* Bruce is generously working on a personal gift to BDC to support our fundraising efforts. Bruce is exploring a coffee klatch concept for fundraising with centers of influence such as Carol Hanlon. He is also exploring funding of BDC services with Grace Episcopal outreach ministries as a conduit.

EDUCATION PROGRAM COMMITTEE: We are planning to establish an educational program committee to be led initially by Bill. With education being our primary thrust, we want to have the benefit of collaboration as we strategize how to deliver what is already available to us as well as plan for the long-term development of a productive, profitable, and sustainable educational platform. The initial meeting will be during our normal Board first **Tuesday meeting day, which will be March 5, at 11 am.** There is a lot of talent on our Board and much experience with various topics in dementia education and we hope our committee will be robust in terms of numbers and breadth of expertise represented. We may bring in outside members who are also stakeholders in the dementia field but initially we will be an internal group.

EVENTS UPDATE: Successful VDTs at UNG, thanks to Michael Lipsitt, MD, and at ACCA.

FUNDRAISING COMMUNICATIONS:

Cloud is expanding our internal price list and you will receive a revised version in the next few weeks.

Will Hicks suggested reaching out to Phil Wilheit, former member of the GA Board of Regents.

Doug suggested a program with CPAs and eldercare attorneys to refer clients looking for QCD/MDR solutions.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.