

Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking and Slavery (NAHT)

Board of Directors Conference Call Minutes

Monday, October 15, 2018, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Present: Jan Beran (Treasurer), Liz Cox (Vice-Chair), Angela Davis, Alyse Egan, Sr Shirley Fineran, Taylor Houston, Jennie Kerger, Katie Kyker, Shirlee Reding, Bernadette Rixner, Maggie Tinsman

Excused: George Belitsos, Stephen O'Meara, Mike Tupper

Absent: Teresa Davidson, Paul Fitzgerald, Joy Fopma, Alissa Stoehr, Suzanne Wright

Taking Minutes: Margaret Epplin

Call to Order and Roll Call (Cox)

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Cox. Roll call was taken.

Review today's Agenda. (all)

The Agenda was reviewed with no changes.

Executive Committee meeting report and approval of Consent Agenda

All items were removed from the Consent Agenda and approved on separate motions.

- Motion to approve the minutes of the September 17 meeting of the NAHT Board of Directors.

Houston made a motion, seconded by Tinsman to approve the September 17 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Hammond Family Foundation \$1,000 gift.

There was no Treasurer's report, thus no motion to approve.

- Motion to co-sponsor the Elizabeth Smart anti-trafficking lecture on October 5.

This event has already taken place, thus no motion to approve.

Report of the Research, Evaluation and Best Practice Standards Committee. (Houston and Reding).

This agenda item was moved to an earlier time to accommodate Houston's schedule.

Houston reported that the Research, Evaluation, and Best Practice Standards Committee held a conference call three weeks ago. This Committee was originally built around Houston's research. Houston's research is now complete, and Houston sought input from other Committee members on goals. The Committee suggested a mission statement so that the Committee has a clearer direction. Houston developed the following mission statement and is currently seeking input from the entire NAHT Board of Directors as well as the rest of the Committee:

The mission of the Research and Best Practices Committee of the Network Against Human Trafficking and Slavery (NAHT) is to research and identify best practices and resources available to those individuals, groups, and organizations providing victim services to human trafficking survivors in the state of Iowa. All information collected will be provided to the NAHT's Survivor Services Collaboration Committee in support of their goals. In addition, the Committee will also provide continual analysis of how anti-trafficking laws and policies are implemented throughout the state of Iowa in order to support the NAHT's Legislative Advocacy Committee's objectives. Members of the Research and Best Practices Committee will be appointed priority goals using the "3P" paradigm, set forth in both the Palermo Protocol and the United States' Trafficking Victims

and Protection Act, —prosecution, protection, and prevention—as a framework for achieving the Committee’s mission.

Tinsman asked that the mission statement be sent to the entire NAHT Board. The overall goal of the Research and Best Practices Committee is to provide research and support as requested by other NAHT subcommittees.

For example, one volunteer on this Committee works in law enforcement and is pushing for changes in law enforcement policies regarding human trafficking. The Committee will look at crime data to see if law enforcement human trafficking practices are effective. Houston plans to focus the efforts of the Research and Best Practices Committee on the passions of the volunteer Committee members.

Cox asked if the Committee has benchmarks to evaluate. Houston said the Committee will set benchmarks.

The Research, Evaluation, and Best Practices Committee is open to ideas. The new Committee purpose will be to be a resource for other NAHT committees.

Rixner requested more up-to-date and accurate statistics to be used in presentations. Fineran requested statistics to be used in a presentation on Wednesday. Houston pointed out accurate trafficking statistics continue to be an issue, but he does have some statistics, including risk factors, and he will send an email along with a bibliography to the entire NAHT Board. Houston noted that most of his data is on sex trafficking.

Fineran has requested that the State separate sex and labor trafficking when reporting on trafficking. Fineran also requested that Iowa separate trafficking cases into those that have been prosecuted and those that haven’t.

Houston reported that the grant that submitted by the DSM resettlement office was approved, and Houston will be working on this grant team for the next three years: The focus of the grant will be to identify risk factors for labor trafficking in Iowa and identify barriers to culturally marginalized people in Iowa.

Progress report from the Legislative Advocacy Committee. Request for position statements from gubernatorial candidates and legislators and plans for October 17 meeting of Committee (Davis and Tinsman)

Tinsman read the letter sent to Governor Reynolds asking for a position statement on anti-trafficking efforts. Belitsos wrote to Hubbell requesting a position statement on anti-trafficking efforts.

Fineran and Davis stated that a position statement should be requested from the four gubernatorial candidates and all candidates for the legislature.

Cox agreed to sign the letters as Vice Chair of the NAHT Board of Directors. Beran will send Cox Tesdall’s email address, and Cox will contact Tesdall for NAHT letterhead to use for the letters. Cox asked Fineran to write the letters and send to Cox for signature.

Cox asked how these position statements will be shared with voters. Tinsman said there has been no discussion about what to do with these after they have been received, outside of internal NAHT information.

Davis stated that the letters to the legislators should come from the Legislative Advocacy Committee, and the letters should have been sent earlier in this election cycle. Sending letters to legislators was tabled until the next election cycle.

Davis reported that a mission statement or this Committee with action steps has been completed. The next conference call meeting of this Committee will be held on Wednesday, October 17 at 1 p.m. Tinsman and Davis are working on the agenda. All NAHT Board members will receive the agenda and are invited to call in. Committee members who participated last year, along with any interested parties are also being invited to call in.

Cox noted that the legislative priorities which were voted on at the last NAHT Board meeting are outstanding.

Davis and Tinsman reported that the Legislative Advocacy Committee divided the 2019 NAHT Legislative Priorities into 3 categories: (1) 2018 priorities, (2) future priorities, and (3) advocacy. Future priorities include anti-human trafficking policies for home schooling and registering and monitoring massage businesses.

Advocacy include working with the Iowa Supreme Court to attach trafficking to the Rape Shield law and drafting an anti-trafficking campaign.

Davis and Tinsman are developing a framework of delegating tasks to specific Committee members to move the legislative priorities forward. Cox will provide Davis background information so that Davis can continue Cox's past efforts to move the legislative priorities forward. Cox provide access to Kum and Go for putting up posters.

NAHT successfully advocated for a Mandatory Reporter Work Group to update Mandatory Reporter trainings and hopes that trafficking will be included in future Mandatory Reporter trainings. Cox attends the Work Group meetings and noted representation from many groups, including public health (hospitals), law enforcement, corrections, every state department except transportation and economic development, and Senators Segebart (R-Senate District 6) and Quirnbach (D-Senate District 23). Marti Anderson (D-House District 36) from the Iowa House side received the meeting info too late.

Cox reported that there is a suggestion to change the renewal of Mandatory Reporter training from every 5 years to every 3 years. Cox asked in the Work Group if the proposal to change renewal intervals from 5 to 3 years would be a hardship to their people, including education, and everyone said there would be no problem. Education said the 5 years isn't necessarily best practice but is when teacher certification happens.

Cox reported a Work Group recommendation to have two separate trainings, one 2-hour training for Mandatory Reporters working with adult dependent adults and one 2-hour training for those working with minor dependent children. Cox questions if hospitals will balk at the additional 2-hour required mandatory reporter training.

Cox reported that the new trainings will be electronic and will require user interaction meaning that people completing the training can't do other things while they are taking the training. The digital training will be updated every year (currently, Mandatory Reporter trainings are as old as 2006). Blank Hospital spoke out against electronic mandatory reporter trainings and electronic testing.

Cox said DHS is preparing the final document and would like a vote at the next Work Group meeting. Cox said when bill comes forward, NAHT will need to find legislators to push the bill. Tinsman offered help from Legislative Advocacy Committee.

Tinsman noted that the final report on suggested Mandatory Reporter changes is due to the legislature on December 15. Tinsman and Davis asked for an update at the next NAHT meeting.

Report of the Survivor Services Collaboration Committee Meeting on October 9 (Fopma, and Davidson)

Fineran was unable to attend the meeting on October 9 so there was no report.

Reports from Hotel/Motel training projects in Central Iowa, Western Iowa, Eastern Iowa and Cedar Rapids, Waterloo and Iowa City. (Reding, Davidson, O'Meara, Rixner)

Reding reported that Central Iowa will hold a training on October 25. So far, the Central Iowa group has trained 360 people at 49 hotels.

Rixner reported that about 50 people attended Western Iowa's first training including Gretchen Waech-Brown who got a feel for what is taught in the trainings. A few attendees left because they were not comfortable signing. The Junior League has taken over the project for the next year.

Fineran said she had been contacted by the Siouxland Bolder hotel chain to train their staff. Fineran has too many obligations to present the trainings but will coordinate others doing the training. Reding and Fineran will talk about trainers.

Updates on efforts to adopt city massage ordinances in Johnston (passed), Marshalltown (introduced but on hold), Altoona (passed), Clive (passed), West Des Moines (passed), Urbandale (passed), Pleasant Hill

(passed), Sioux City (on hold), Cedar Rapids (pending), Marion (passed), Newton (passed), Iowa City (passed), Coralville (passed), Ames City Council hearing scheduled for January 2019, other cities? (all).

Reding has prepared a summary sheet of requirements of various massage ordinances, which range from difficult to lenient and has sent the list to Des Moines and Ankeny so everyone can see how varied the massage ordinances are. Des Moines and Ankeny are looking at the list and plan to approach the Metro Council so that a massage ordinance can be established for the entire metropolitan area. There is not a lot of opposition, except from massage providers who feel that they are being singled out when others don't have to have licenses.

Reding noted that often a city massage ordinance is not enforced after passage as it is too costly and time consuming for city law enforcement to monitor. Fineran said Sioux City is not looking at a massage ordinance because police aren't going to enforce it. There is an old hurt in Sioux City that in the past legitimate massage therapists were only able to practice in the red-light district.

Reding said passage of massage ordinances is more successful if massage therapists serve on the subcommittee. Massage therapists provide their opinions and sometimes call law enforcement to shut down illegitimate massage parlors. They give the committee more information on how the massage system operates. Sometimes a massage therapist, originally opposed to a massage ordinance, ends up supporting the ordinance after participating in the passage process.

Reding would prefer a central state massage ordinance to take the burden of passage of massage ordinances off cities. In addition, a therapist who practices in several cities would not need a license in each city. Rixner noted that the legislature returned passage of massage ordinances to cities two years ago and the legislature is not ready to take back the establishment of massage ordinances.

Rixner asked if the Legislative Advocacy Committee had statewide massage parlor legislation as a priority in the past. Tinsman said it is a future priority.

Other.

Beran reported that the Presbyterian Women awarded Wings of Refuge a \$120,000 grant to establish a home for trafficked women. In Iowa Falls, where Wings of Refuge is located, the young women are conspicuous because everyone in Iowa Falls knows everyone else, so Wings of Refuge is in negotiations for a home for trafficked women in Ames which would allow more anonymity.

4:00 Adjournment.

Tinsman **made a motion** to adjourn the meeting. Kerger **seconded**. Motion carried.

Next Executive Committee meeting is Monday, November 5, 2:30 to 4 conference call

Next Board of Directors meeting is Monday, November 19, 2:30-4:00 (conference call)