

**MARKLUND**  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Thursday, October December 1, 7:00 P.M.**  
**Ann Haskins Center**  
**Bloomingtondale, IL**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Duane Fitch called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Jim Armbruster, Jeff Blanchette, Howard Brandeisky, Carie Carney, Maria Dombrowski, Gerry Estes, Mike Herlihy, Ed Izzi, Brian Little, Frank Murnane, John Wick, Jack Zimmerman

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

Brian Little

**NOT PRESENT**

Bill Dolen, Carol Donahue, Dan Foley, Dave Pierro, Jeff Risch, George Webster

**STAFF**

Kudus Badmus, Paula Bodzioch, Gil Fonger, Heather Graves, Kelly Kramer

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Gil F. introduced the two (2) new Board members present at the meeting: Gerry E. and Howard B. The Board and staff present then introduced themselves and Duane F. bid the new members welcome.

**MISSION MOMENT**

Paula B. presented an update on the Marklund Day School, including a map of the 33 districts MDS currently serves. Jim A. asked how many districts MDS served prior to Paula B. becoming Director of Education (approx. 20). Enrollment in Life Skills increased from 12 students in December 2015 to 31 students in December 2016. Between Multi-Needs and Life Skills, five (5) new classrooms were added in the last year. In order to meet student need, staffing between the two programs has increased by 22 teachers and paraprofessionals in the last year. Gil F. shared the plans for the two (2) new classrooms at MWC.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Duane F. asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 27, 2016 Board Meeting. Jeff B. motioned, Carie C. seconded, and the minutes were approved without exception.

**ANNUAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND BOARD SELF EVALUATION**

Duane F. asked the Board to take a few moments to complete the Annual Board Self-Evaluation and Conflict of Interest Statement. Kelly K. collected upon completion.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mike H. reviewed the highlights of the Finance Committee Meeting, sharing with the Board that the State of Illinois currently owes Marklund \$2.7M for services rendered. YTD Revenue currently stands at \$5.7M (\$200K better than budget). REST is currently better than budget by \$58K. Mike H. shared with the Board that the Finance Committee reviewed the draft Investment Policy. He said, "there are two dangerous discussion topics: politics and investment strategy...fortunately for you all we were able to get the tables and

chairs back in order before you arrived.” The Committee will continue the policy discussion at the January meeting.

### **MERGER UPDATE**

Gil F. shared that Marklund has made a number of technology improvements at MWC - including the purchase of 25 computers – as a result of funds received through the Fyler Trust. Howard B. asked how the MWC staff is adjusting. Gil F. responded that initial concerns regarding the new classrooms have subsided somewhat, and overall staff is adjusting well. Gerry E. noted that employees at MWC are accustomed to wearing multiple hats, but they are beginning to see the benefit of letting go of some former responsibilities in order to better focus resources and talents. He feels the transition has gone well and the staff is tired, but positive. Gil F. added that new HIPAA regulations are also adding to staff stress levels. The merger gives us all more resources to keep up with the regulation changes.

### **MISSION / VISION / VALUES UPDATE**

Gil F. shared information on the development of Marklund’s new vision – *A happy, safe, purpose-filled life for every individual with intellectual and developmental disabilities* - through the collective efforts of the Vision Team, focus groups, and John Delany (who provided his services pro bono). Duane F. asked if the approval of the Mission Statement / Vision requires Board Action. Gil F. responded no. Duane F. feels the Vision very much captures who Marklund is and what we want to accomplish.

### **DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

Heather G. shared that Development ended Oct. better than budget by \$58K. The 5K run raised over \$59K in net revenue. The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Motorcycle Pledge Run for MWC will take place in May 2017.

### **PRESIDENT / CEO REPORT**

Gil F. shared that a paperwork issue was largely responsible for a low IDPH survey score, leading to an average of 92.3% for the most recent Client Care Index. He feels the issue has been addressed and expects to be closer to target of 93.5% after the next survey. Congratulatory letters were sent to all legislators, with newly-elected Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi’s office asking for a tour of MPC. Staffing has improved significantly over last year due to the addition of DSPs. In January of 2016, there were 28 openings at MHC, versus six (6) openings in December of this year. Every indication is that the integration of DSPs into the staff has been seamless and positive. Gil F. then called the Board’s attention to the “Suffering in Secret” article published by the Chicago Tribune, which was one of a series of three (3) articles it published on group home investigations. As Marklund looks into branching out into group homes, we will set a new, higher standard of care. Gil F. also shared that Marketing is working on a rebranding effort, including the development of a new logo.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Duane F. shared that the December 2017 Board Meeting will be canceled. The Board is still well within the minimum number of meetings required per year. Gil F. shared that the Board Manual will soon be located on a password-protected section of Marklund’s website. The target date for the completion of this portal is January of 2017.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Duane F. asked for a motion to adjourn. Mike H. motioned, John W. seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.