



Veronica Morris, PhD

Elaine Malkin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PSDP Board of Directors Minutes
5/27/16, 12:30 p.m. PT/3:30 p.m. ET

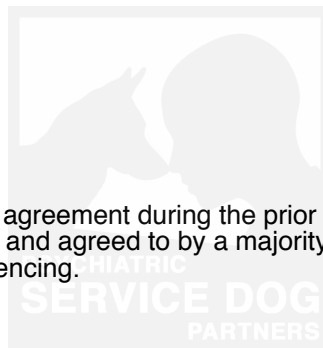
Attendees

Veronica, Elaine, Chanda, Brad, & Linden

Agenda

- Next regular meeting
- Board of Advisors
- ACAA regulation update
- State legislative advocacy
- South Carolina NAMI presentation
- ActiveDogs registry
- PSDP in the media
- Revision of emergency card
- Website
 - (Re)member Monday
 - SARA comment
- GuideStar
- Treasury Report

This regular meeting was called by verbal agreement during the prior meeting, or by intermediate written reasonable notification made in good faith and agreed to by a majority of board members through email or phone, and was held through videoconferencing.



- Next regular meeting
Friday, July 1st at 12:30 PT/3:30 ET.
- Board of Advisors
We are developing a Board of Advisors, and will likely have updates by around mid-June.
- ACAA regulation update
The Reg Neg process to update the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA) regulations is moving forward, and we are very pleased to report that Brad is a Co-Chair of the service animal working group, serving as the point-of-contact for service animal users in this six-month process!

This is an enormous opportunity for access improvements for the next generation. With continued support from our community, we'll keep working to represent service dog users' interests, building consensus around our proposal and honoring the reasonable concerns of all stakeholders.

Brad wrote a guide for regulators and stakeholders that explains the reasoning behind and justification for our ACAA proposal. This "design challenges and solutions" guide is available with a 5/1/16 addendum:

<http://www.psychdogpartners.org/board-of-directors/board-activities/advocacy/acaadesignchallengesolutions>

This guide has been serving as an excellent conversation-starter in the Reg Neg process, as other leaders are reading it and developing their views. We are working on refining our own views as we gain new information from other experts.

- State legislative advocacy

We're continuing to make progress on our micro-advocacy development, making it easy for everyone to help out! This is planned in part as step-by-step instructions for community members to set up email alerts when bills about service dogs come up in a state.

- South Carolina NAMI presentation

Brad and Veronica plan to present on psychiatric service dogs at the state NAMI conference in South Carolina in August.

- ActiveDogs registry

ActiveDogs.com has come out with a service dog registry. We wrote an open letter to them explaining how this harms our community and asked them to take it down.

<http://www.psychdogpartners.org/board-of-directors/board-activities/advocacy/service-dog-registry>

We haven't heard from them, and we're asking for community support in politely alerting them to the impact this will have on us and on their business (follow the link above). We sincerely hope they will work with us for a positive outcome.

- PSDP in the media

Sitting down in a half-hour interview filled with nuance and reason, PSDP's Dr. & Mr. Morris explained to a St. Louis reporter the complexities associated with the "fake service dog" phenomenon—such as the importance of avoiding knee-jerk lawmaking when something makes you angry. Their few-second clips in the 2 1/2 minute report coming out of this interview feature the times where each of them sound the most emotional!

On the upside, the reporter (KSDK's Kay Quinn) seemed to understand that encouraging a ban on the online sale of service dog gear was not the solution, leaving options open-ended in the mid-May release of this 2016 story.

<http://www.ksdk.com/news/local/the-growing-problem-of-fake-service-dogs/190514673>

We are still in the process of drafting a reply in "Dogs&Jobs" magazine to advise them about some inaccurate information in a recent issue, and generally about striving for accuracy in legal matters. We would not normally seek to correct every point of misinformation in the world regarding service dogs, but they specifically requested our input.

- Revision of emergency card

We are revising our emergency card to be additionally available as a fillable pdf. This is still in process as we review drafts.

We are also drafting a first-responder refrigerator notice, and will be doing so based on the 2016 convention's first responder discussion.

- Website

- (Re)member Monday

We've got a plan for our next regular social media engagement series: (Re)member Monday. Every Monday we'll post a picture of a community member, along with a blurb about a page on our site. That way, people get to see a picture of a team—which we all enjoy!—and we can spread the word about different resources on our site.

As soon as we're able to map this out, we'll get it going. Our little team wants to keep up with our followers, we just continue to be busy (effectively so!).

- SARA comment

Through June 6th, 2016, FAA has solicited comments on a new draft of their advisory circular, which contains recommendations to airports for the construction of SARAs (service animal relief areas). SARAs are mostly supposed to be provided within the secure area under the new guidance, which will be a great help to service animal users, pet owners, and TSA working dogs. Our comment is linked below:

<http://www.psychdogpartners.org/board-of-directors/board-activities/advocacy/sara-comment>

- GuideStar

GuideStar is the website devoted to transparency in nonprofits. When Gold-level was their highest, we garnered gold. Now we're early adopters of a new Platinum-level status—even better!

<http://www.guidestar.org/profile/47-3386023>

- Treasury Report

We discussed changes to and progress in the categories of: income, expenses, current funds, the budget, earmarked funds, and fundraising.

