



**OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Cherry Valley Road
Newark, Ohio
December 11, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Adelsberger, Neil Castilow, Diane Cox, AnnMarie Denning, Gregory Dormer, Rochelle Hall-Rollins, Karen Kerr, Lori Kershner, Lisa Krauss, Linda Kunick, Laura Leach, Heather McFarlin, James Plasencia, Paula Rabidoux, Jill Radler, Roxanne Richardson, Ilka Riddle, Michael Schroeder, Mark Seifarth, Robert Shuemak, Mark Smith, Joanna Spargo, Marci Straughter, Jeffrey Turner, Brandon White, Susan Willis, Victor Wilson

VIA PHONE: Kim Stults

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jane Byrnes, Doug Frank,

STAFF PRESENT: Fatica Ayers, Carla Cox, Kim Crishbaum, Paul Jarvis, Carolyn Knight, Ken Latham, Leslie Paull, Robin Shipp, Kay Treanor

SPECIAL ADVISOR: Renee Wood

GUESTS: Mindy Vance, Michael Kirkman, Melody Brauning, Donna Lowe, Brenda Stevens, Deb Tackett, Sharon Shuemak, Janet McGee, Brad White, Dawn Brunkalla, Robinet Smith

Call to order and introductions: Chairman Mark Seifarth called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m. and introductions were made.

Approval of Council Minutes: Chairman Seifarth asked Council members to look in their folders for three sets of minutes that will require their approval. He stated that he would have each set of minutes voted on separately, July 10, 2015, September 11, 2015 and November 5, 2015. Robert Shuemaker **moved** to approve July 10, 2015 Minutes, Neil Castilow seconded, **motion** passed. Jeffrey Turner **moved** to approve September 11, 2015 Minutes, Robert Shuemaker seconded, **motion** passed. Diane Cox **moved** to approve November 5, 2015 Minutes, James Plasencia seconded, **motion** passed. All minutes were approved with no objections.

Chairman's Message

Chairman Seifarth stated that he chose to move his message to the beginning to get a few housekeeping issues covered early. He stated that he was reminded to tell Council members that they have to complete their Ethics Training before the end of the year. He added that Carla Cox informed him that the last training that can be completed online is December 17, 2015. Chairman Seifarth stated that if you have completed the training to please send your confirmation to Carla. Carla added that she would send out the link to Council members so they can register for the last training.

Chairman Seifarth stated that different members have approached him regarding having different disability issues on the Council website and Facebook. Chairman Seifarth reminded Council members about writing something about themselves to be highlighted on the website once the new website is up. He noted an article that Michael Schroeder wrote that was in the ReachOut Newsletter. Kim Crishbaum informed Council that the newsletter is currently on the website.

Chairman Seifarth then spoke briefly about Council members getting out doing things and mentioned a couple highlights of the Ohio County Board Association's Winter Conference. He stated that Vice Chair Shuemaker was on a panel for Hamilton CB discussing advocacy statewide. Chairman Seifarth added that he and Sue Willis also introduced the keynote speaker, Tony Coelho, former member of Congress with a disability, and sponsor working with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Sue Willis added that the audience was so receptive of them and was thankful for Bridget Gargan, and others with OACB that made it possible for them to make the connection. Chairman Seifarth stated that this is why it is so important to get involved and share your experiences because there is so much we can learn from each other.

Lastly, Chairman Seifarth took time to recognize those members that were going off of Council. Robert Shuemaker, whose term ended served as Vice Chair of Council and Chair of the AT/Communication Committee, Lisa Krauss whose term has ended and Michael Schroeder who has retired from state service and served on Council for 27 years. Michael was the Chair of Outreach and the Nominating Subcommittee. Chairman Seifarth distributed certificates of appreciation and allowed time for each member to have brief words of expressions. He also thanked Council for allowing him time during his message to celebrate these members.

Committee Reports: Chairman Seifarth stated that he wants all Committee Chairs to give a brief two minute summary to discuss their submissions for the next 5 year plan for 2017-2021. He will then ask everyone if there are any questions/objections. Then, with the assistance of Fatica Ayers, the 5-Year State Plan will be voted on as a whole at the end. The Plan will then be sent out for public comment for 45 days and all comments will come back to us. Those comments and anything from Council will be added to the plan for final voting in July 2016.

Michael Schroeder reminded Chairman Seifarth of an announcement he wanted to make before the committee reports. Chairman Seifarth turned the meeting over to Michael. Michael informed Council of an upcoming conference in June that will involve the Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) and the Department of Mental Health and Addictive Services to have the Third Annual Statewide Forum on Trauma. Michael asked Council members if there was anyone, particularly self-advocates, who have experienced trauma and would like to share their experience in front of people. He stated that if anyone is interested, they can see him. Any time after the meeting, send an email or call and he will submit your name to the committee and they will contact you later with further instructions.

Chairman Seifarth asked Michael if he had dates for the conference and Michael stated that he did not have them, but will forward the information to staff when he got back to the office. Chairman Seifarth informed Council that the dates will be posted to our website. He stated that Tina Evans with DODD will be the contact person if anyone is interested.

Chairman Seifarth proceeded with committee reports.

Leadership – Jeff Turner reported for the committee:

- Jeff Turner asked that Leslie Paull, Council Staff, report on the project for the 5-Year State Plan. Leslie stated that Leadership Development only had one project, Empowering Self-Advocates, for a total funding amount of \$103,000. Individual grant amounts cannot exceed \$50,000, and the projects should increase skill development of self-advocates and provide opportunities for them to be effective leaders.

Chairman Seifarth reminded Council that we will only answer questions or discuss concerns of each project and vote at the end. He then asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the Leadership Development grants. No response was made, and then he proceeded to the next committee report.

Outreach – Michael Schroeder reported for the committee:

- Michael informed Council of the three minor changes with the Outreach grants. Expanding the Amish Community Project and Sustaining the Triple Jeopardy Statewide Network have both been changed to non-allocation funding instead of competitive because these grants cannot be replicated. The Bridging the Gap-Reachout E-Diversity Newsletter grant will be competitive.

Chairman Seifarth asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the Outreach grants. No response was made and he proceeded to the next committee report.

Children's and Health – Neil Castilow reported for the committee:

- Neil Castilow summarized the three competitive grants as outlined in the 2017-2021 Summary of Projects. Healthy Lifestyles for People with Disabilities \$103,000, which is to identify and support participation in inclusive activities that promote healthy habits for people with disabilities of all ages. Family Support in Early Intervention \$100,000, which will assist state and local EI leaders with the development of a comprehensive system of family support as part of evidence based early intervention (EBEI) services. Better Child Care for the Student with DD \$50,000, which will support young students

with DD to receive quality child care through demonstrated best practices and procedures. All projects were voted on by the Children/Health Committee and voted on unanimously.

Chairman Seifarth asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the Children/Health grants. No response was made and he proceeded to the next committee report.

Employment – Sue Willis reported for the committee:

- Sue Willis asked that Leslie Paull report for the Employment Committee regarding the grants and that she would finish up with a State Plan Amendment. Leslie stated the Employment Committee has three grants, two of which are continuation. Realizing Employment First for Youth: Evidence Based Practice, OCALI, grantee started in July 2013. The first six months was planning with stakeholders and this year sites were developed along with training and increasing their use of best practices. Next year more development of sites will take place which will hopefully improve outcomes of youth as they transition out of school. Predictors of Adult Success and Employment Demonstrations/Jobcom is in its first year and it is developing a model of service delivery to assist individuals with moving out of sheltered workshop settings into the community. One new grant called Employer Engagement is basically geared towards engaging employers in hiring more people with disabilities.

Chairman Seifarth asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the Employment grants before he turns it back to Sue. No response was made. Sue informed Chairman Seifarth that she had a plan amendment and asked if it can be voted on now or did he want her to wait until the end. Chairman Seifarth asked to do it at the end. He then proceeded to the next committee report.

Community Living – Kim Stults reported for the committee:

- Kim Stults stated that she assigned a person from the committee to discuss each of their five grants. AnnMarie Denning provided the summary for Strengthening the Voices of Direct Support Professionals grant for \$25,000. Jo Spargo provided the summary for Maximizing Resources and Changing Public Policy for Housing for Adults with Disabilities, a competitive grant for \$100,000. Rochelle Hall-Rollins provided the summary for Hashtag Support for Aging Caregivers#, a competitive grant for \$50,000. Heather McFarlin provided the summary for Sustaining & Expanding Accessible and Affordable Transportation for People with Disabilities Anytime, a continuation grant for \$109,000. Marci Straughter provided the summary for Partnership for Housing for People with Disabilities, a non-competitive grant for \$50,000.
- Fatica Ayers, Council Staff, mentioned that Community Living also had an action item.

Chairman Seifarth informed Council that he was going to skip Executive Committee, move forward with Public Policy and AT/Communication, have Council vote on the entire 2017-2021 State Plan, then back to the Employment and Community Living Action Items and then Nominating Committee and Executive Committee. There were no questions or concerns regarding Community Living grants then he proceeded to the next committee report.

Public Policy – Diane Cox reported for the committee:

- Diane Cox explained that Public Policy has three different projects that are basically the same three grants they have had for the past couple of plan years; however, they all work in conjunction with each other. There are a few tweaks to the language. The Data and Policy Research Grant collects the data, the DD LEAD Grant does the training and messaging of the data collected, and the DD Awareness & Advocacy Day Grant allows individuals to take the message to their legislators. All three grants are competitive. The DD Awareness & Advocacy Day solidified the consolidation of two events and funding amount was reduced to \$38,000. The Data and Policy Research Grant remained the same at \$50,000, and DD LEAD (Legislative Education & Advocacy Development), formerly the SMART Grant, funding was reduced to \$40,000.
- Diane also indicated that Public Policy has an action item.

Chairman Seifarth stated that it would be taken care of at the end and then asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the Public Policy grants. No response was made and he proceeded to the next committee report.

AT/Communication – Robert Shuemak reported for the committee:

- Robert Shuemak asked that Kim Crishbaum, Council Staff report on the 5 Year State Plan projects. Kim stated that AT/Communication has two competitive grants, Assistive Technology, \$95,000 and Communication to Increase Public Awareness for People with DD, \$60,000. She briefly explained that AT is much broader than expected and that there are many issues that can be addressed. Therefore, we have not decided what projects to develop at this time; however, the AT grant language indicates there will be funding for several different projects that will not exceed the total allocated amount of \$95,000. Proposals are expected to address accessibility, use of technology, replication, sustainability, leveraging of dollars, cross-disability and cultural diversity. The Communication to Increase Public Awareness for People with DD grant is similar to what we had in the past, but with more involvement with the Electronic Design Specialist. Kim asked if there were any questions, and no response was made.

Chairman Seifarth stated that this concludes all committee reports for the 2017-2021 State Plan. He indicated that one roll call vote for the entire plan will be taken. Once the plan is approved, it will go out for public input for 45 days. Council members are asked to review the plan and provide comments as well. Chairman Seifarth then asked for a motion to approve the final 2017-2021 State Plan as presented by all Council committees. Brandon White **moved** to approve, Michael Schroeder seconded, Staff, Paul Jarvis conducted a **roll call vote** as mandated by the Ohio Sunshine Law. **Motion** passed.

Chairman Seifarth then returned to the action item from the Employment Committee.

Sue Willis, Chair, proceeded with a plan amendment action item. She stated that the Employment Committee would like to amend their 2016 Plan Language to add the Employment Component Added to the Next Chapter Book Club in Ohio grant for \$25,000 for one year. The committee wants to include some employment awareness within the content of the book club. It is a trial project for a year; a way to add the employment component to what the book clubs do.

During discussion, Diane Cox ask for additional information describing how employment and the book club are tied together. Sue explained that as books are being read, depending upon the story, there can be some type of reference to employment within that story and the employment piece can be addressed as an awareness they may not thought about before. Ilka Riddle asked how the \$25,000 would provide a component to something that is already being performed. Leslie Paull explained that the \$25,000 would cover the cost of expansion of approximately 20 additional clubs and hiring a project director who will ensure the employment activities are included within the book clubs as well as assist with the quality of the book clubs. Greg Dorner added that the book clubs have a startup fee of approximately \$1,500 and the \$25,000 would assist with their development. In regards to the employment piece, it is not about job placements, but about exposure through information. Ilka requested that some type of report be provided by the grantee so Council can see the progress of this grant. Leslie noted that this grant, as is the case with all grants, will provide written reports on a regular basis. Chairman Seifarth stated that this came from committee; therefore, the motion requires no second. Paul conducted a **roll call vote** as mandated by the Ohio Sunshine Law. **Motion** passed.

Chairman Seifarth turned the meeting over to the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee – Carolyn Knight reported for the committee:

Discretionary Fund Requests

- Carolyn Knight stated that Executive Committee is bringing a request that exceeds \$5,000 to bring to Council for approval. The request is for \$5,570 from Welcome House in Cleveland, OH. They are interested in the Supported Decision Making concept which would replace the guardianship model that does not allow a person with a disability to transfer of rights so they can be on an equal basis with others. The one year request is to be used as a planning phase for launching this new concept, primarily for traveling to the National Resource Center in North Carolina and attending training developed by them as well as to purchase materials others have developed on this concept. After this phase, a framework for a statewide launch of the project is anticipated to be established. Chairman Seifarth stated that this came from committee; therefore, the motion requires no second. Paul conducted a **roll call vote** as mandated by the Ohio Sunshine Law. **Motion** passed.

Chairman Seifarth then returned to the action item from the Public Policy Committee.

Diane Cox, Chair proceeded with the request to send five (5) additional people to the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington D.C. The Chair of Council, Committee Chair and Committee Staff person automatically attends this seminar. Therefore, the committee discussed and unanimously decided to send, Linda Kunick, Jill Radler, Joanna Spargo, Karen Kerr and Victor Wilson. Chairman Seifarth stated that this came from committee; therefore, the motion requires no second. Paul conducted a **roll call vote** as mandated by the Ohio Sunshine Law. **Motion** passed.

Diane Cox also announced that the Public Policy Committee had a fantastic presentation from the State Treasurer's Office on updates on the ABLE Act. They are in the process of a 'soft rollout 'to begin in 2016. She stated they are looking for people who are interested in enrolling. If so, please let Paul know and he will give you the contact information for Robin Williams.

Chairman Seifarth then returned to the action item from the Community Living Committee.

Fatica Ayers, Staff, explained that the Ohio Shared Living is a residential service option available for the IO Waiver and currently billed under Medicaid as Adult Foster Care. Because of its negative connection with foster care its services are underutilized. The OACBDD, OPRA and other entities have come together to provide a stronger strategic message to recruit more families to open their homes to this residential service option. Therefore, Community Living is requesting approval of a 2016 plan amendment for the Shared Living Marketing Project for \$20,000 for the production of a video to recruit families for this program. Chairman Seifarth stated that this came from committee; therefore, the motion requires no second. Paul conducted a **roll call vote** as mandated by the Ohio Sunshine Law. **Motion** passed.

Chairman Seifarth turned the meeting over to the Nominating Committee.

Nominating – Michael Schroeder reported for the committee:

Michael Schroeder, Chair, explained that Council does not select the Chair of Council. The Nominating Committee submits recommendations to the Governor and he makes the final decision. However, Council does select the Vice Chair and Secretary. He stated that we have two names for the Vice Chair and Secretary positions. He explained that he will have to ask for nomination from the floor three times, and if you have a nomination, that is your time to state your recommendation.

Kimberly Stults and Neil Castilow are nominees for the Vice Chair position. Michael asked Council if there were any nominations from the floor three times. No nominations were received and nominations were closed. Paul conducted a **roll call vote** as mandated by the Ohio Sunshine Law. **Motion** passed. Neil Castilow received 11 votes and Kimberly Stults received 13 votes. Kimberly Stults will begin the Vice Chair appointment beginning in January 2016.

Michael stated that Heather McFarlin and Marci Straughter are nominees for the Secretary position. Michael asked Council if there were any nominations from the floor three times. No nominations were received and nominations were closed. Paul conducted a **roll call vote** as mandated by the Ohio Sunshine Law. **Motion** passed. Heather McFarlin received 7 votes and Marcella Straughter received 15 votes. Marcella Straughter will begin the Secretary appointment beginning in January 2016.

Michael stated that concluded the Nominating Committee report. Chairman Seifarth turned the meeting over to Michael Kirkman, the Executive Director of Disability Rights Ohio, one of Council's three federally funded partners in Ohio.

Disability Rights Ohio – Michael Kirkman, Executive Director of Disability Rights Ohio, provided a presentation of issues in their offices. He provided information on the agency's intake process and distributed information on the 42 U.S.C. 15001 findings, purposes and policy.

After the presentation, Chairman Seifarth ask that the presentation be sent to Council members. Carla Cox stated she had it and would send it out. Chairman Seifarth, then turned the meeting over to Kim Crishbaum for her presentation regarding the DD Council website.

Council Web Updates – Kim provided a brief presentation on the template for the new website that should go live after the first of the year. She took the group through many of the home page

links and demonstrated the ease in going through the different landing pages. Kim asked that once it goes live, to please provide feedback because there is always room for updates.

Chairman Seifarth then turned the meeting over to Carolyn Knight for final remarks.

Carolyn spoke briefly about Michael Schroeder, who was going off of Council due to retirement. He had been on Council for 27 years and she presented him with an engraved plaque. Michael then gave final remarks noting his sincere pleasure at serving on Council.

Chairman Seifarth asked for a motion to adjourn. Michael Schroeder **moved** to adjourn, James Plasencia seconded, **motion** carried.

Adjourned at: 3:01p.m.

Mark E. Seifarth, Chair

Kimberly Stults, Secretary