



**OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Cherry Valley Lodge
Newark, Ohio
July 10, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Adelsberger, Diane Cox , AnnMarie Denning, Gregory Dormer, Doug Frank, Karen Kerr, Lori Kershner, Lisa Krauss, Linda Kunick, Laura Leach, Heather McFarlin, James Plasencia, Jill Radler, Roxanne Richardson, Rochelle Hall-Rollins, Mike Schroeder, Mark Seifarth, Robert Shuemak, Mark Smith, Joanna Spargo, Marci Straughter, Kim Stults, Jeff Turner, Brandon White, Susan Willis

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kellie Brown, Jane Byrnes, Neil Castilow, Paula Rabidoux, Ilka Riddle, Victor Wilson

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

SPECIAL ADVISOR: Renee Wood

GUESTS: John Romer, Diane Mairose, Eric Rathburn, Geoffrey Collver, Donna Lowe, Brenda Stevens, Deb Tackett, Sharon Shuemak, Brandy Koffel, Aggie Denning, Wylie Roberts, Janet McGee, Linda Lutz, Brad White, Jeff Davis, Zach Haughawout

Call to order, introductions, and approval of Council Minutes: Chairman Mark Seifarth called the meeting to order at 12:36 p.m. and introductions were made. Two sets of minutes needed to be approved, March 12, 2015 and May 8, 2015.

Diane Cox moved to approve the March 12, 2015 minutes, James Plasencia seconded, **motion** carried. Kim Stults and Lori Kershner abstained. Jeff Turner moved to approve the May 8, 2015 minutes, Heather McFarlin seconded, **motion** carried. Diane Cox and Greg Dormer abstained.

Committee Reports: Chairman Mark Seifarth asked committee chairs that even if they did not have action items, would they at least give a two minute report on what occurred during their meetings. He then thanked everyone for their hard work and attendance in the committee meetings.

Children's and Health – Bill Adelsberger reported for the committee:

- Bill Adelsberger, reporting for Chair Neil Castilow, said the committee heard a presentation focused on early intervention and providing supports for the family. Discussion on that topic plus other possible planning ideas followed.

Community Living – Kim Stults reported for the committee:

- The TECS/Tall Institute requested an extension through March 2016. A **motion** was made and passed. Linda Kunick abstained.
- The meeting also concentrated on housing issues. Presentations were made by Bob Laux, Jacalyn Slemmer and Ernie Fischer.

Outreach – Mike Schroeder reported for the committee:

- A presentation by grantee Cassandra Archie on the Triple Jeopardy's Health – Empowerment – Technology (HET) grant continues to be a ground breaking research project with Ohio State and Central State Universities. This grant cross several council grants such as health, assistive technology, and outreach. The HET project uses people with disabilities to build a research web site that will assist people with disabilities to eliminate the barrier of access through assistive technology.

Assistive Technology – Robert Shuemak reported for the committee:

- The Assistive Technology Conference grantee (OSILC) has asked for a time extension to their grant to December 31, 2015, instead of June 30, 2015. The grantee would like to follow-up with individuals and organizations that were participants in the Tech II conference in March and expressed interest in working with Council to improve the delivery of assistive technology services in Ohio. Sue Willis moved to approve the plan amendment to extend the grant to December 31, 2015, Michael Schroeder seconded, **motion** carried.

Executive Committee – Carolyn Knight reported for the committee:

- Collaboration Station requested a budget revision for a duration extension through August 31, 2015, to include a graduation ceremony in August. No additional funds are being requested; original duration was April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015. Because this is the second extension request for this grant, they are requesting approval from Council. The focus of this project was to increase fatherhood engagement among dads with DD with children and dads who have children with DD. Diane Cox moved to approve the second extension request. Robert Shuemak seconded, **motion** carried.

Employment – Sue Willis reported for the committee:

- Employment Chairperson, Sue Willis stated their committee had a full house. It opened with two presentations. The last half of the meeting was spent discussing what we might include in our next 5 –Year Plan and how we can bring some employers into the mix.

Public Policy – Diane Cox reported for the committee:

- The SMART grantee conducted a presentation.
- Staff, Paul Jarvis, emailed Public Policy Committee members information about the 5-Year Plan, listing our progress, which is important for everyone to see. Public Policy Chairperson Diane Cox asked Paul to send to all Council. Paul is also going to send out information regarding cuts from the feds that may cause cuts with one of our grants. In addition, Paul will send out talking points and phone numbers so members can advocate for DD Council funding.
- The Visitability Study Report is available. Members can get copies from Paul.
- Also discussion occurred about next year’s data and policy research study – but the committee decided to focus on transportation and gathering data.

Leadership – Jeff Turner reported for the committee:

- Leadership Chair, Jeff Turner stated that Carolyn Knight presented on Advocacy United, an advocacy group made up of people with developmental disabilities, who played an important role in Ohio’s State Budget process. It was a good meeting.

2016 State Plan Update – Staff Carla Cox presented the final version of the 2016 State Plan Update for Council approval. She explained that originally the Assistive Technology/Communication Committee included a project entitled: Ohio’s Assistive Technology Virtual Resource Center in the 2016 update; however, the Committee voted to remove the project and consider it for next Five-Year State Plan instead. Therefore, we are requesting that the 2016 State Plan Update be approved without the Assistive Technology/Communication project. Mike Schroeder moved to approve the adoption of the amended 2016 State Plan Update, Jeff Turner seconded, **motion** carried. Linda Kunick abstained.

2016 Council Meeting Dates – A brief discussion occurred regarding the long stretch between meetings after the December meeting. Although there is a Legislative Advocacy Day in March, the next meeting is not held until May; therefore, the March meetings were added back into the schedule. A question was raised regarding Wednesday night meetings. Chairman Seifarth clarified that Wednesday meetings will only be held for new member orientation. After the discussion concluded, Robert Shuemak moved to approve the 2016 meeting dates of March 3-4, May 5-6, July 14-15, September 15-16 and December 8-9, 2016. Jeff Turner seconded, **motion** carried.

DODD FY 2016-2017 Budget Report – Staff Paul Jarvis introduced Zach Haughawout, Deputy Director, DODD and Jeff Davis, OPRA who presented the DODD 2016-2017 Budget. They provided very valuable details regarding the budget as a whole and the behind the scenes efforts made by Council members through testimonies and contacts with their legislators. Chairman Seifarth stated that times are a changing and that this budget is a monumental change! Carolyn Knight attributed the success of this budget to the collaboration with all the groups in the DD

community, but especially advocacy groups such as Advocacy United, ARC and the Coalition for Community Living.

Announcements:

John Romer shared that Director Martin will be speaking on July 28, 2015, in Warren County about budget updates at Crossroad Church in Mason. Everyone is welcome.

Marci Straughter informed everyone that there will be Project STIR trainings coming up in August, September and October.

Chairman Seifarth also informed Council that he would like to work on Council doing a quarterly webcast.

Chairman's Message:

Chairman Seifarth, spoke briefly about Senate Bill 130 - Disability History and Awareness Month - October - Sponsored by Senator Lou Gentile.

SB 130 Passed Senate Education Committee; It must still passed the full Ohio Senate and then passed the Ohio House as well. If this bill is passed and becomes law, the month of October would be designated as "Disability History and Awareness Month." During this month, schools would be encouraged to provide instruction and events focused on disability history, people with disabilities, and the disability rights movement. If this bill becomes law, it would be a great opportunity for DD Council and its Members to take a leading role and speak in local schools and help tell their stories and educate and inform students.

Sue Willis provided testimony to the Senate Education Committee regarding Senate Bill 130.

Also, Diane Cox has provided testimony on House Bill 155, the ABLE Act. The hard work of Council Members providing testimony and of course Paul's support and assistance is much appreciated. Chairman Seifarth then requested a motion to adjourn.

Kim Stults moved to adjourn, James Plasencia seconded, **motion** carried.

Adjourned at: 2:25 p.m.

Mark Seifarth, Chair

Kim Stults, Secretary