



**OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
CHERRY VALLEY LODGE  
COLUMBUS, OHIO**

**July 11, 2014**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Neil Castilow, Greg Dormer, Jessica Foster, Doug Frank, Mark Greenblatt, Karen Kerr, Lisa Krauss, Linda Kunick, Laura Leach, Heather McFarlin, Paula Rabidoux, Kristie Hutchison Ramsey, Roxanne Richardson, Ilka Riddle, Emily Schmidlin, Mike Schroeder, Mark Seifarth, Robert Shuemak, Jo Spargo, Marci Straughter, Jeff Turner, Susan Willis, Renee Wood

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bill Adelsberger, Jane Byrnes, Mary Carducci, Diane Cox, Helen Dunlap, Mark Smith, Kim Stults

**STAFF PRESENT:** Fatica Ayers, Gary Groom, Paul Jarvis, Kay Treanor, Carla Cox, Carolyn Knight, Kim McConnell, Kenneth Latham, Tammy Waller

**SPECIAL ADVISOR:** Tom Hess

**GUESTS:** Melody Brauninger, Brandy Koffel, Jeanne Schmidlin, Brenda Stevens, Sharon Shuemak, Jessica Levy, Steve Adams, Tiffany Harlan, Kristen Helling, Kathy Allen

**Call to order, introductions, and approval of Council Minutes:** Chairperson Renee Wood called the meeting to order at 12:31. Welcome and introductions were made.

A motion was made and passed to approve the May 2014 Business Meeting minutes. Paula Rabidoux and Mark Greenblatt abstained.

**Committee Reports:**

Children's and Health – Neil Castilow reported for the committee; no action items

Community Living – Emily Schmidlin reported for the committee; no action items

Outreach – Mike Schroeder reported for the committee; no action items

Assistive Technology – Robert Shuemak reported for the committee; no action items

Employment – Mark Seifarth reported for the committee; no action items

Leadership – Jeffrey Turner reported for the committee; no action items

Public Policy – Mark Seifarth reported for the committee:

- A motion was made and passed to have Council support the 6 by 15 campaign started by U.S. Senator Tom Harkin from Iowa.

Executive Committee – Carolyn Knight reported for the committee:

- A motion was made and passed to provide \$5,000 to the 2014 Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) to be held in August. The money will be used to provide funding for room and board for four days for 20 non-Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities students. Greg Dormer abstained.
- A motion was made and passed to provide \$2,000 for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Direct Support Professionals Recognition Event to be held September 10, 2014.
- A motion was made and passed to provide \$5,310.37 to the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center's statewide employment conference to be held September 15-16, 2014. The funding will cover lodging, meals and transportation costs for 6-8 people with developmental disabilities and their families attending the conference. Ilka Riddle abstained.
- A motion was made and passed to provide \$5,200 to fund a facilitator for the State Plan process and to carry out all tasks outlined in the proposal.
- A motion was made and passed to approve a state plan amendment in Public Awareness to provide \$7,000 to Carmen Shelton, a person with a disability, to travel to 25 counties around the state of Ohio to conduct a survey which will solicit input from people with disabilities regarding Council's new 5 year plan.

Nominating – Mike Schroeder reported for the committee:

- A motion was made and passed to approve the revised Basis for Weighted Scores for Applicants Matrix as completed by the Nominating Committee.
- The Nominating Committee has received two nominations for Chair thus far – Linda Kunick and Renee Wood. Staff Carla Cox reviewed the job duties of the Chair position. Any additional nominations must be submitted by the end of this month (July). Please get those nominations to Carla.
- Carla gave a report of all current vacancies and applications received thus far. The applicant interview meeting is scheduled for August 27. She encouraged Council members to actively solicit and recruit new Council members.

Kristen Helling from DODD gave an update on the department's Employment First Initiative. If you would like a copy of the PowerPoint presentation that was included in the update, please contact our office to request a copy.

Staff Fatica Ayers next gave an update on the State Plan process. Carla had previously sent out a draft of the State Plan to all Council members. Fatica reviewed the following changes to the State Plan:

- Language was added to the Systems Change and Advocacy portion that will allow Council to develop a policy for travel reimbursement.
- Mark Seifarth provided highlights on the two new Employment Committee initiatives; Legislative Intern Program and also other demonstration projects that will include expanding employment opportunities.
- The Community Living Committee added \$25,000 extra under Direct Support in order to support the DSP Council, DSP Summit and the development of Frontline Supervisor credential.

All other committees remained the same – no changes. Michael Schroeder made a motion to adopt the State Plan changes and Mark Seifarth seconded. The motion passed.

Renee Wood and Mark Seifarth gave a brief report on the signing of HB 286 in the Governor's office. Mark and Renee both said that an interesting and dynamic discussion took place with Governor Kasich while there.

A motion was made and passed to approve the 2015 Council meeting dates of May 7-8, July 9-10, September 10-11 and December 10-11.

### **Chairperson's Message:**

Renee states that when she was first appointed as Chair, she came with the idea of promoting equality for all people with developmental disabilities, not just inclusion. But you can't have equality until you have a seat at the table, so equality encompasses inclusion. As the Chair of DD Council, I have been out there promoting the goals and mission of Council. I have met with top staff from Medicaid and the Ohio Association of County Boards. The OACB Executive Director, Bridget Gargan, really listened to me and takes Council's ideas into account with what the Board is doing. Sometimes, Council is the only one at the table. I think, as Chair, I am accomplishing what I set out to do – we are not equal yet, but we are at least at the table. I have come to believe that equality will only come about by exposure. We have to be out there, seen, visible. Change is scary, but this is a time that we can take the bull by the horns and create what we want. In my opinion, the CMS rule is a wonderful opportunity. I know it is a scary time for parents right now, but we need to help our youth with disabilities live the American dream just like everyone else. We have to keep up the fight and continue driving in the right direction.

A **motion** was made and passed to adjourn.

Adjourned at: 2:39

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Renee Wood, Chair

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Emily Schmidlin, Secretary