



**OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL
COLUMBUS, OHIO
May 2, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sue Willis, Diane Cox, Emily Schmidlin, Renee Wood, Ilka Riddle, Laura Leach, Roxanne Richardson, Helen Dunlap, Michael Schroeder, Greg Dormer, Linda Kunick, Robert Shuemak, Mark Seifarth, Neil Castilow, Lisa Krauss, Jeffrey Turner, Heather McFarlin, Bill Adelsberger, Kristie Ramsey, Douglas Frank, Kimberly Stults, Joanna Spargo, Karen Kerr

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jane Byrnes, Mark Smith, Jessica Foster, Mary Spahia-Carducci, Mark Greenblatt, Marcella Straughter

STAFF PRESENT: Fatica Ayers, Gary Groom, Paul Jarvis, Leslie Paull, Robin Shipp, Carla Cox, Kay Treanor, Carolyn Knight, Kim McConnell, Kenneth Latham

GUESTS: Sharon Shuemak, Eric Rathburn, Brenda Stevens, Ilisha Trimble, Cynthia Morrison, Ellen Jones, Melody Brauning, Jeannie Schmidlin, Steve Adams, John Martin, Kate Haller, Bridget Gargan

Call to order, introductions, and approval of Council Minutes: Chairperson Renee Wood called the meeting to order at 12:37 p.m. She first welcomed the new Council members and proceeded with requesting introductions.

Committee Reports:

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

- A **motion** was made and approved to amend the 2014 State Plan for the Ohio Statewide System of Early Intervention (EI) Services to increase project funds by \$8,000 for a statewide EI Evidence Based Practices 2-day training conference in November 2014.

Community Living – Emily Schmidlin reported for the committee:

- A **motion** was made and approved to amend the 2014 State Plan for the Accessible and Affordable Transportation for People with Disabilities Anytime grant to allocate \$31,300 to purchase an accessible minivan.

Outreach – no action items

Assistive Technology – Robert Shuemak reported for the committee and stated that the Assistive Technology (AT) Committee did not have a quorum to complete business at the last meeting.

Carolyn Knight informed members that this is a fairly new committee for which we recently hired a staff person in November and committee membership has not yet been determined. Committee membership must be identified to conduct overall business; therefore, if you would like to be on the Assistive Technology Committee please email Kim McConnell of your interest.

- A **motion** was made and passed to approve the funding of \$75,000 for at 2-day Assistive Technology conference on December 1-2, 2014. Sue Willis abstained.

Carolyn Knight asked that we revisit the Assistive Technology Committee report to include, for collaboration purposes, the AT conference grantee be awarded to the Ohio SILC.

- A **motion** was made and passed to award the AT conference grant to Ohio SILC in order to promote greater collaboration with the ILC membership.

Employment – Mark Seifarth reported for the committee:

- A **motion** was made and passed to approve 2014 State Plan amendment to increase the implementation of community employment by adding Realizing Employment First for Youth: Evidence Based Practices and Predictors of Adult Success to the 2014 State Plan and fund it for \$35,000. Greg Dormer abstained.

Leadership – Jeffrey Turner reported for the committee:

Jeffrey asked that Leslie Paull, staff, explain the action items. Leslie stated that the committee is requesting a state plan amendment to increase the Support Opportunities in Providing Leadership Training (OSDA) grant by \$14,500 for Project STIR training (\$12,000 for the additional trainings and \$2,500 for stipends and transportation costs) and trainer's expenses. Leslie indicated that this was passed by committee, but they forgot to include another cost of \$4,000 that would make the request \$18,500 instead of the \$14,500.

Carolyn explained that on June 11, 2014, Director Martin's Strategic Planning Leadership group meeting would be about listening to families with people with disabilities. Council, OSDA, SIBS and APSI would be involved in June planning the meeting in July. The two speakers will present a training entitled: "Listening to Families." Their expenses would need to be paid and this amendment seemed to be a better fit to request the funding to cover such expenses.

During discussion, Bill Adelsberger asked for clarification of the \$4,000. Carolyn answered; it would be for the travel expense of the 2 speakers that are coming in for the Strategic Planning Leadership in July. She stated that all Council members should try to attend this training. Sue Willis asked, would there be a fee, and Carolyn answered, no.

- A **motion** was made and passed to increase the OSDA grant by \$18,500 for additional Project STIR trainings trainer expenses and two speakers' expenses for the Listening to Families Strategic Planning Leadership meeting in July.

Public Policy – Diane Cox reported for the committee:

- A **motion** was made and passed that Council oppose HB 333. Laura Leach, Roxanne Richardson, Michael Schroeder and Greg Dormer abstained.
- A **motion** was made and passed to amend the 2014 State Plan to increase the Data and Policy Research grant by \$10,000, from \$50,000 to \$60,000 for 2014 project year. These funds would be used by OOD to collect employment and income disparities information for the deaf and blind community as requested by the Governor's Office. Greg Dormer abstained.

During discussion, Sue Willis asked, “do we know what our grantee is doing or who they are working with?” Paul Jarvis explained that the MBR language has not been finalized yet, but the taskforce that was created is led by the OOD and ODJFS agencies. The reality is there are uncertainties as to direction at this time; however, Public Policy wanted to request the funding and receive approval at the May meeting. As the work moves forward, the grantee can function as a consultant in an advisory role for the development of a report that is due January 1, 2015.

Nominating – No report – Helen Dunlap stated to the Nominating Committee that will be meeting in August and asked that members get their dates to Carla of availability.

John Martin, Director of DODD, presented “Where is Ohio Headed?” He informed Council of the DODD's strategic planning leadership process and how it was connected with the new CMS regulations. A group of stakeholders of about 24 individuals were put together representing advocates, e.g., parents, professionals, county boards. Two of those individuals are here in the room, Carolyn Knight and Neil Castilow. The strategic planning leadership meetings consist of all day seminars that provide insight from different states employment methods for people with disabilities, conflict of interest issues and family supports. Director Martin spoke briefly about the new CMS rule that will affect all the Ohio waivers in January 2014. DODD has to complete a plan for CMS outlining how DODD waivers will be transitioned to the new CMS rules and become compliant within the next five years. The plan must be completed by March 2015.

Carolyn Knight added that Council will have a document from DODD regarding the transition efforts in December, and this will assist Council with our Strategic Planning process in December as well. Chairperson Renee Wood briefly summarized the CMS rule to those that may not be aware of what it is about. She states they are looking now at people with disabilities as having fulfilled lives the same as those individuals that do not have a disability.

Missouri DD Council Visit to Ohio – Michael Schroeder and Ken Latham presented on the Missouri DD Council Outreach visit. Michael informed Council that Ken did an outstanding job of outlining the concepts of Outreach, organizing and setting up all the meetings with the key persons, Director Martin, department heads and grantees. Michael also indicated that Fatica provided a thorough historical overview of Outreach. He then turned the presentation over to Ken to proceed. Ken noted that with the Missouri visitors, Director Martin was very informative and shared pertinent information.

Ken summarized that Missouri DD Council is at a point where we were in 2003, because they have no Outreach efforts at all. Ken prepared them with many Outreach concepts to take back to their Council by providing them with a blueprint. The Missouri Council will contact Director Martin inquiring about the Co-ops and other information from him.

Carolyn Knight added that the Missouri Council was very surprised at how much we accomplished with such small sums of money. Michael also added that our Outreach grants have received national recognition. He informed Council of how the SomiliCan grantee, Jibril Hirsi, was standing on the podium with President George Bush and how this alone should be able to assist the Missouri staff with their Council when making their presentation about Outreach. Michael also mentioned that the Missouri Council staff is not permitted to serve as advocates and that their thinking process is where we were 13 years ago.

Carolyn then gave kudos to Ken and his accomplishments with Outreach and noted he is very well suited for it. She also recognized the Council staff as a whole and stated that each committee has great grants that are nationally known like the Children's grant and others. This staff is a great group of people who do a fantastic job and it isn't said often enough. She added that Council also has an excellent relationship with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and that we could not run Council as smoothly without their support. Carolyn added that Ken and Cassandra Archie, one of our grantees, will be traveling to Missouri in the future to assist them as well.

Washington DC Policy Seminar – Chairperson Renee Wood began by stating that she, Paul Jarvis, Diane Cox, Neil Castilow, Mark Seifarth and Mark Greenblatt attended the Washington DC Public Policy Seminar. She asked that those that attended to briefly summarize their experience.

Diane Cox began by saying this was her second visit and she felt it made all the difference to have been there before because it was easier to adapt to the process. She felt more comfortable about speaking to the legislators. She explained that she talked about the ABLE Act, which creates 529 savings accounts that can be used for expenses related to disabilities without affecting Medicaid eligibility. Last year she was able to talk to her representative, Bob Gibbs and explain her views, and now he is a co-sponsor of this legislation. Diane felt that she can take credit for it because it was one of her first positive activities as an advocate. She stated that the meetings this year had at least 3 people representing our population and she felt good about this. She also spoke about the waiting list booklet that was taken to Washington and encouraged Council members to give copies to their legislators. She added that she had the opportunity to ask for the DD Council money back to pre-sequester levels. She felt the experience was better for her this time being her second time.

Neil Castilow expressed how this was his first visit for him and he shared some of the same opinions Diane expressed about her first time. However, he found the experience very enjoyable; we were very well received and everyone seemed to have a listening ear.

Mark Seifarth stated that this was his second time going to this conference. He only had to go to four meetings and found they did some really great bi-partisan stuff. He added there was really good discussion on employment issues and how he too had to ask for pre-sequester levels for the DD Act so we can get something even if it is not the amount requested. He mentioned that his congress member, Joyce Beatty, who he did not get to see in Washington, holds town meetings here in Ohio. One of the things she is going to do is to introduce a resolution regarding supporting people with learning disabilities that she had heard from one of her town home meetings. He found out about this while in Washington. Overall the conference was excellent and there was about half the room of new people present.

Neil Castilow stated that he personally wanted to thank Paul Jarvis for doing a great job of organizing and communicating everything concerning the conference. Mark added that Paul had a handout for every member of Congress, the major issues for the Council member's committee and who was from that district as well as packets to provide maps, so no one got lost, great preparatory work.

Chairperson Wood spoke briefly of her experience. She stated that she usually has to meet the aides and not the legislator, but this time she was able to meet with Congresswoman Marci Kaptur and tell her story. Congresswoman Kaptur asked her to write it up and said that she would take her story to Congress about Medicaid and how Renee's husband could not get a waiver. Mark Seifarth added that Congresswoman Kaptur knows Mark Greenblatt personally and saw us and stopped to talk to the two of them for about 10 minutes.

Discretionary Fund – Carolyn Knight, ED, reported:

- Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals – a **motion** was made and passed for \$3,000 to cover tuition and expenses for an individual further her education and development so she can assume leadership of OADSP in the future.
- National Federation of the Blind of Ohio – a **motion** was made and passed for \$1,400 to provide volunteer staff for blind children and blind children supplies such as white canes, braille books, braille writing instruments and other teaching aides for the blind.

During discussion, Bill Adelsberger stated that when there is a second request for a lump sum of money, that a statement or something is provided to clarify where the first sum of money went. Neil Castilow asked if this was for only people in Franklin County. Carolyn answered, no; they cover people from all over the state.

- Double ARC – A request was made for \$4,434 to support ongoing communication and leadership of the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) support group for parents and adults with FASD which meet monthly – A **motion** was made and passed to go back to the organization for additional information.
- Norwich Consulting Services – A request was made for \$7,000 to support the publication of a book entitled: The Workshop Revolution: Introducing the Creative

Abundance Model – A **motion** was made and passed to go back to the author to get more information about the approach to determine if it is evidenced-based.

During discussion, Ilka Riddle inquired if the material from the book was evidenced based. Bill Adelsberger stated that it may be good information, but it is the state that would make the changes. Diane Cox also asked why there were no matching funds provided.

Five-Year Plan – Staff, Fatica Ayers reported:

Fatica first brought to the attention of the new members the evaluation process booklet that was included in their packets and the Code of Conduct forms. She requested that they become familiar with these documents. She then proceeded to highlight the five year state plan process and details of the Survey monkey that was created by staff, Kim McConnell, on our website. To date, 177 people have responded. The problem with that is, according to Kim, 3% responses are from people with disabilities, 62% are from professionals and the remainder is from family members and caregivers. Fatica asked Council members to ask for a copy of the survey from Kim and please go to local groups and send it out to get more feedback. We would like to receive a good amount of feedback. She then briefly discussed the state plan handout of the step by step process which was included in their folder called: “In a Nutshell.”

Chairperson Wood announced that she would like to have a Bylaws and Policies meeting to discuss the policy of what is needed when something urgent comes up in between meetings. She asked if there have been any changes to who sits on this committee. Paul stated that he would get the list to Chairperson Wood. She asked that if anyone that would be interested in being on the Bylaws Committee to please send that information to Paul Jarvis.

Council Schedule Change – Chairperson Wood reported:

Chairperson Wood asked Council members how they felt about the Committee Meeting time change this time. After a brief discussion, consensus was met to keep the schedule as it stands with the Committee time changes.

Carolyn Knight asked about the five month lapse time. Chairperson Wood stated that different members asked that since many attend the Legislative Advocacy Day in March, they can maybe stay over that night to have a business meeting the next day or discussion. She asked how the members felt about that. Diane Cox asked would it be effective to have a business meeting without having the committee meetings. Diane then asked how many people attend the Legislative Advocacy Day. Council members felt that they would like an additional meeting during this period and several possibilities were discussed. Carolyn Knight asked to let staff review the possibilities and bring back some proposals to Council.

Announcements:

Carolyn Knight announced that Linda Kunick was retiring form a job where she has been working for 40 years and presented her with flowers. Linda was congratulated and given kudos for her overall success.

Chairperson's Message: No message was given.

However, Chairperson Wood stated that she forgot to get the approval of the December minutes.

- A **motion** was made and passed to approve the December 2013 Business Meeting Minutes.

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

Adjourned at: 2:38 p.m.

Renee Wood, Chair

Emily Schmidlin, Secretary