

**Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council
Employment Committee Minutes**

Cherry Valley Lodge

July 10, 2014

Council Members	Present
Bill Adelsberger, Vice Chair	
Gregory Dormer	
Douglas Frank	
Lisa Krauss	X
Linda Kunick	X
Heather McFarlan	X
Michael Schroeder	X
Mark Seifarth , Chair	X
Robert Shuemak	X
Kimberly Stults	X
Jefferey Turner	X
Sue Willis	X

JoAnn Spargo, Council Member
Mark Greenblatt, Council Member
Melody Braudinger
Fatica Ayers, Staffperson
Carolyn Knight, Executive Director

Absent: Leslie Paull, staffperson, Mary Spahia- Carducci

Mission Statement

To improve and expand opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to obtain and maintain employment in the community to the best of their ability.

I. Meeting Called to Order

- A. Mark Seifarth called meeting to order at 2:43p.m.

- B. Mark asked for everyone to introduce themselves.
 - 1. He also reminded members who wish to be on Employment should contact Leslie Paull or him to be placed on the Employment Roster and on the website.
 - 2. Sue Willis name was added to the Roster.

II. Selection of Grant Review Panels

A. Mark provided for the Employment Committee initial recommendations for Grant Review Panels coming from himself and Leslie. After some discussion, the committee approved the following changes and additions to the Grant Review Panels:

1. Legislative Internships
 - a. Sue Willis- Council Member
 - b. Bill Adelsberger- Council Member
 - c. Kim Stults- Council member/Alternate
 - d. Jeff from DRO- Outside Peer Reviewer
 - e. Zach from DODD- Outside Peer Reviewer
 - f. RSC's Legislative Person- Outside Peer Reviewer
 - g. Sue Hetrick- Outside Peer Reviewer/Alternate
 - h. Michelle from DODD- Outside Peer Reviewer/Alternate

2. Employment Demonstrations
 - a. Heather McFarlan- Council Member
 - b. Lisa Krauss- Council Member
 - c. Kim Stults- Council Member/Alternate
 - d. Chris Filler from OCALI- Outside Peer Reviewer
 - e. Tom Hess from Licking County Board- Outside Peer Reviewer
 - f. Steve Oster, Supt. Of Knox & Coshocton-Outside Peer Reviewers
 - g. Terry Derry from OPRA- Outside Peer Reviewer/Alternate
 - h. Mary Vail from Goodwill - Outside Peer Reviewer/Alternate
 - i. Business Leadership Network Rep- Outside Peer Reviewer/Alternate

B. Mark stated the following as it relates to Legislative Internship Project:

1. Legislative Internships Project- staff will make the Notice of Funds Available states more clearly how the funds can be spent. The funding should be spent creatively for things such as: to pay for transportation, PCA, housing stipend, accessible housing or gas. The end result should be someone with a permanent position/job.

2. The language should read up to 10 people with disabilities.

3. Staff will send a copy of the Federal Law that speaks about" Activities of Daily Living" to committee members.

III. **Update on the Work Force Innovation Opportunity Act**

A. Mark provided the following update on the above Act:

1. 11 years to reauthorize – originally due to be reauthorized in 2003 -- passed Senate 95 to 3 on June 25.
2. 415- 6 passed House July 9, 2014
3. Vocational Rehabilitation stayed in Department of Education
Independent Living section under Education moved to Dept. of Health and Human Services.
4. IL advocated to be moved from Education and placed in the Department of Health& Human Services as a separate agency
5. The Act has added a 5th independent Living core service called transition.
6. For Example, it can be used for school to work or school to higher education.
7. Expectation to be enacted soon as it must go to President for signature with regulation process beginning maybe in summer or fall.
8. Must write the rules and regulations to put all of this in place that can be longer time and we must monitor this process.
9. National Council on Disability--now 15 members appointed by the President--will transition to a 9 Member Council- 5 appointed by President and 1 each appointed by the majority and minority in the House & Senate for the other 4.
10. This creates more Congressional buy in.
11. Now have 9 members to represent the entire country to advise the President and the Congress on issues affecting persons with disabilities

VI. Suggestions for Data and Policy Research Grant

A. Fatica provided a brief statement as to the request and she shared two documents that have come from the work provided by the Data and Policy research Grant.

B. Mark opened the floor for suggestions from members and below are the suggestions that were given:

1. There should be a survey among employers asking them are they comfortable with hiring people with disabilities? If they are not comfortable, what can we do to increase their comfort level or provide support to them in order to hire qualified people with disabilities?

2. How many people with disabilities can read or what level can they read? What is the readability level of people with disabilities or the literacy? Is the information they are receiving useable or do they understand what they read? Maybe they can receive their information in the form of a social story or u-tube clip.
3. How do we continue to focus on people with the severest type of disability in the employment arena?

V. Presentation from Business Leadership Network- Chris Moranda

A. Mark turned the meeting over to Ms. Moranda who was on the phone to share the work that she is involved in. Below are highlights of her presentation:

1. She works for Disability Services for Ohio Health and the Ohio Business Leadership Network.
2. The US BLN is a non-partisan Business Network nationally. They are working to leverage people with disabilities by getting them competitive employment.
3. The education piece for employers is a critical piece of the work they do.
4. They currently have 10- 40 employers they are working with. Examples of those companies they are working with include but is not limited to:
 - a. Walmart
 - b. Walgreen
 - c. Trinity Health
 - d. Time Warner
 - e. Proctor & Gamble
 - f. Manpower
 - g. Fifth 3rd Bank
 - h. Electric Power Co
 - i. Lowes
 - j. Home Depot

5. BLN received funding from an anonymous source to provide funding to assist them to work on promoting people with disabilities in getting competitive employment. There is a learning piece to this project in which they have formed a coalition of university personnel and transition teachers.
6. They have a website which is: [WWW.Ohio BLN.org](http://WWW.OhioBLN.org)
7. Their goal is 1 year and 100 jobs.
8. They hosted a Job Fair and asked Transition teachers to bring students close to graduation.
9. Students came from all high schools from around the state.
10. UPS and TJ Max and Marshall (home goods) were there with applications.
11. People can go on line and apply with BLN.
12. OOD is working to get people hire and BLN working with folks with learning and attention issues population to get them hire.
13. November project ends.
14. Look on website and see the number of companies on it.

VI. Old/New Business

- A. There was no Old/New Business.

VII. Adjournment

- A. Mark asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jeff Turner made the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.