

Public Policy Committee Minutes
Sheraton on Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio
March 9, 2018
9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Members Present:

X	Dara Walburn, Chair		
X	Bobbi Burke	X	James Plasencia
X	Diane Cox	X	Paula Rabidoux
X	Shannon Komisarek		Jill Radler
X	Emilia Jackson	X	Ilka Riddle
X	Jean Jakovic	X	Mark Smith
X	Vicki Jenkins	X	Jo Spargo
X	Karen Kerr	X	Mindy Vance
X	Lori Kershner	X	Brandon White
X	Laura Leach	X	Sue Willis
X	Heather McFarlin	X	Victor Wilson
X	Blaine O’Leary		

(V Indicates Participation via Video Conference / P Indicates Participation via Phone)

Other Council Members/Guests Present:

Brenda Brandon (V)	Eric Rathburn
Michael Richards (V)	Devika Rao
Michael Denlinger (P)	Deb Tackett
Mark Seifarth	Michael Schroeder
Rochelle Hall-Rollins	Betsy O’Leary
Linda Kunick	Christine Brown
Essie Pederson	Jackie Regulo
Beth Graham	Jeremy Morris

Staff:

Paul Jarvis	Kim Crishbaum
Carolyn Knight	Fatica Ayers
Ken Latham	Gary Groom
Carla Cox	
Robin Shipp	

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Walburn called the committee to order at 9:16 a.m. Introductions were offered.

Minutes:

Chairwoman Walburn called for approval of the minutes. Victor Wilson moved the minutes be approved as drafted. Mindy Vance seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Ilka Riddle and Mark Smith abstained.

Old Business:

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, General Assembly Briefing Sessions. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with an update on the most recent session, stating that 50 legislative staff attended and that interest in the lunchtime briefings continues to grow. Linda Kunick and Diane Cox also talked about their experience with the briefings. Jarvis provided the committee with an evaluation summary and outlined the plans for 2018, which will include a session on the waiting list and a session or two on accessible housing. Chairwoman Walburn commended Linda Kunick for her participation and leadership as an advocate.

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, the DD Awareness and Advocacy Day. Members of the committee discussed their experiences from the day. Marci Straughter stated that she was able to meet with her legislator. Christine Brown added the crowd seemed to enjoy the day. Lori Kershner stated the live-feed of the event was a tremendous thing to do and her family member watched it. Ilka Riddle also stated the live-feed of the event was a great resource for the LEND trainees who did not attend. She stated the LEND trainees that did attend were impressed by self-advocates in Ohio.

Members and attendees also pointed to areas of improvement for the event. Mark Seifarth commented that the program should have included a minimal overview of the Fact Sheet on Direct Support Professionals. Diane Cox and Eric Rathburn discussed drop off in social media coordination this year, compared to last year. Paul Jarvis stated the grantee had received 45 evaluations on the day of the event, but that an electronic evaluation was also being sent to all attendees through the e-mail address provided at registration.

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, Data and Policy Research Grants. Carolyn Knight gave an overview of an issue that has arisen with one of the grantees, Blue Fire, Inc. She stated that the committee has been provided with all communications between Paul Jarvis and Mark Friedman related to the research project. She outlined Friedman's requests and stated it was not her intention to agree to any of them. Jo Spargo also discussed the issue, indicating that she was contacted by Dr. Friedman almost immediately after he spoke with Carolyn about his concerns. Diane Cox, Lori Kershner, Michael Schroeder, Rochelle Hall-Rollins, Bobbi Burke, Linda Kunick, Marci Straughter, Fatica Ayers, Mark Seifarth, Essie Pederson, and Mindy Vance all discussed the issues raised in the e-mails from Paul Jarvis and Mark Friedman.

After all members had spoken, Victor Wilson made a motion to terminate the grant project, effective immediately. Lori Kershner seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Ilka Riddle abstained.

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, legislative update. Paul Jarvis pointed out that time was short due to the previous discussion and that a presentation was forthcoming from guests. He indicated the committee had been receiving weekly updates, but that he also was asked to bring back a position to Council on House Bill 271. The bill was amended in committee to make the process of alerting a business of potential ADA violations voluntary instead of mandatory before a lawsuit could be filed in state court. Mark Seifarth stated the change was something he commented on during his testimony, indicating that the change would make the legislation less onerous. Ilka Riddle and Diane Cox also commented on the legislation.

Following the brief discussion, Diane Cox made a motion that Council change its position from opposed to neutral. Victor Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Ilka Riddle abstained.

New Business:

Dara Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, a presentation on Senate Bill 98. Paul Jarvis introduced Matt Whitehead from Governmental Policy Group and shared that he was previously the legislative liaison for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. Matt introduced David Maywhor and Dr. Ed Sterling. All three outlined the proposal included in Senate Bill 98, which would create a new dental therapist license in Ohio. David Maywhor stated the bill was, in effect, the same as creating a nurse practitioner in the field of dentistry. Both gentleman discussed the significant need for dental practices to start seeing Medicaid-eligible patients and that other states' experience with dental therapists have opened up this client base. Dr. Sterling added that the bill had been narrowed to only allow dental therapists in counties that are underserved. He also clarified that dental therapists would still practice under the supervision of a dentist. Ilka Riddle, Mark Smith and Rochelle Hall-Rollins all commented about the possibility and likelihood that more individuals would pursue this line of work.

Victor Wilson made a motion for Council to support passage of Senate Bill 95. Lori Kershner seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

Adjournment:

With no further business before the committee, Victor Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Jim Plasencia seconded the motion. Without objection, the committee adjourned at 10:50 a.m.