

**Public Policy Committee Minutes**  
**Cherry Valley Lodge**  
**Newark, Ohio**  
**September 11, 2015**  
**9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.**

**Members Present:**

X	Diane Cox, Chair		
	Jo Spargo, Vice Chair		
X	Bill Adelsberger	X	Jill Radler
X	Jane Byrnes	X	Roxanne Richardson
X	Neil Castilow	P	Ilka Riddle
X	Ann Marie Denning	X	Michael Schroeder
X	Greg Dormer	X	Mark Seifarth
X	Karen Kerr		Mark Smith
	Lori Kershner	X	Kim Stults
X	Lisa Krauss	X	Jeff Turner
X	Laura Leach	X	Brandon White
X	Heather McFarlin	X	Sue Willis
X	James Plasencia	P	Victor Wilson
X	Paula Rabidoux		

**Other Council Members/Guests Present:**

Rochelle Hall-Rawlins	Deb Tackett
Rachel Tumin	Dawn Brunkalla
Sandy Williamson	

**Staff:**

Paul Jarvis	Robin Shipp
Carolyn Knight	

**Call to Order:**

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

**Minutes:**

Chairwoman Cox called for approval of the minutes. Jeff Turner moved the minutes be approved as drafted. James Plasencia seconded the motion. No discussion was offered. Without objection the minutes were adopted as drafted.

**Legislative Advocacy Day Grant:**

Chairwoman Cox moved to the first item on the agenda, a review of the Legislative Advocacy Day Grant.

Roxanne Richardson shared with the committee her experience on the review panel, and was surprised at how detailed the review process was. She said the panel engaged in a great discussion about the proposal, but did place conditions on the grant.

Paul Jarvis added that the response to conditions was due by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2015. The grant was awarded to the Ohio Provider Resource Association, who for the first time is partnering with the Nisonger Center. Jarvis said the Council received two applications, both applications were independently scored by each member of the panel. Jarvis outlined some of the conditions that were placed on the grant, which included ensuring diversity in the residential setting of participants.

Carolyn Knight lauded the decision by the grant review panel because it shows how far the Council has come in developing a positive working relationship with the Ohio Provider Resource Association.

**State Plan Language:**

Chairwoman Cox moved to the next item on the agenda, State Plan Language. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with draft language for the next 5-Year Plan. He reviewed each of the three plan pieces and explained that some of the funding was changed based on current projects and their use of funds. Some of the projects were also renamed.

The Legislative Advocacy Day Coordinator Grant was renamed to the DD Awareness and Advocacy Day grant to continue the partnership that was created over the current 5-Year Plan. The project's funding is being proposed at \$38,000 per year instead of \$50,000. No changes are recommended for the Data and Policy Research Grant. The last plan piece replaces the SMART Grant with a smaller grant focusing on advocacy training and less so on marketing and communications.

Sue Willis commented that while the communications piece of the Legislative Education and Advocacy Development (LEAD) grant would not be included, Council would continue its own efforts on communications. Mark Seifarth asked if anyone wanted to hold off on passing the language until December, but general consensus was to move forward with the language today. Neil Castilow asked a question about the funding changes in the LEAD grant. Jarvis answered the funding was reduced to account for changes in the focus away from communications.

Chairwoman Cox asked for a motion to approve the state plan language for DD Awareness and Advocacy Day. James Plasencia moved to approve the plan language. Bill Adelsberger seconded the motion. No further discussion was offered. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

Chairwoman Cox asked for a motion to approve the state plan language for the Data and Policy Research Grant. Brandon White moved to approve the plan language. Victor Wilson seconded the motion. No further discussion was offered. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

Chairwoman Cox asked for a motion to approve the state plan language for the Legislative Education and Advocacy Development (LEAD) Grant. Jeff Turner moved to approve the language. James Plasencia seconded the motion. No further discussion was offered. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

**Data and Policy Research:**

Chairwoman Cox moved to the next item on the agenda, the Data and Policy Research Grant. She introduced Rachel Tumin from the Government Resource Center. Rachel has replaced Barry Jamieson, who retired at the end of the previous month. The committee was provided with a draft transportation research proposal and Rachel reviewed the proposal with the committee.

Based on the discussions the Government Resource Center, the Ohio Department of Transportation and the DD Council have already had, the GRC is estimating that it can study only two counties' transportation systems with the \$50,000 budgeted for 2016. Rachel said the GRC estimated that it would cost roughly \$190,000 to conduct a study that included twelve counties.

Kim Stults, Michael Schroeder, Paula Rabidoux, Sue Willis, Mark Seifarth, Rochelle Hall-Rawlins, Ilka Riddle, Carolyn Knight and Paul Jarvis discussed options available to the committee. Questions were raised about the cost of the current proposal, how to include graduate students, whether the project would work with Kathy Foley and other stakeholders. As a result of the discussion and the many uncertainties associated with the project, the committee discussed options to delay the continuation application until the project could meet with additional stakeholders and provide more precise research plan that incorporated more than two counties.

Sue Willis made a motion to delay the continuation application deadline until after the December Public Policy meeting so that the grantee could meet with additional stakeholders selected by Council to determine a proper research project. Lisa Krauss seconded the motion. No further discussion was offered. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

Chairwoman Cox asked that before we moved past the discussion on transportation, she would like the Council to invite a representative from the Ohio Department of Transportation to attend Public Policy Committee meetings in the future. Carolyn Knight said she would like to include a representative in meetings beyond Public Policy. Michael Schroeder suggested that the Executive Committee already had a pending motion that would be considered at full Council to address the issue.

**New Issues:**

Chairwoman Cox said she added this item to the agenda in the hopes to spur discussion about new public policy issues that members of the Council wished to focus on. She added that recent news stories about children with autism who wander away from home and mentioned there are some public policy proposals that are floating around to address the issue. Carolyn Knight and Kim Stults also commented on proposals to track children.

Cox also raised the issue of Visitability, citing a recent article that stated realtors have very little in the way of training. Carolyn Knight commented that Council does have a training model for realtors. Seifarth added that realtors are the individuals who are responsible for indicating whether a living space is accessible, so raising the issue is very important.

Cox also asked the committee to consider how Ohio's ranking in The Case for Inclusion report has improved over the past 7 to 8 years.

Paul Jarvis announced that he has been participating in the Children's Oral Health Action Team and would continue to provide the committee with updates. He also will be participating in legislative trainings with Voices for Ohio's Children over the next few months. Lastly, he announced that the Independent Provider issue should be coming up in the fall.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business before the committee, James Plasencia made a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the committee adjourned at 10:48 a.m.