

**Public Policy Committee Minutes**  
**Hyatt Regency, Columbus**  
**Columbus, Ohio**  
**May 2, 2014**  
**9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

**Members Present:**

	Diane Cox, Chair		
X	Mark Seifarth, Vice Chair		
	Bill Adelsberger		Heather MacFarland
	Jane Byrnes	X	Paula Rabidoux
X	Neil Castilow	X	Roxanne Richardson
X	Greg Dormer	X	Ilka Riddle
	Helen Dunlap	X	Michael Schroeder
X	Jessica Foster		Mark Smith
X	Mark Greenblatt		Mary Spahia-Carducci
	Kristie Hutchison –		Kim Stultz
	Ramsey	X	Sue Willis
X	Karen Kerr	X	Renee Wood
X	Laura Leach		

**Other Council Members/Guests Present:**

Joanna Spargo	Jessica Levy
Lisa Krauss	Tiffany Harlan
Doug Frank	Steve Adams
Cathy Allen	

**Staff:**

Paul Jarvis	Carolyn Knight
-------------	----------------

**Call to Order:**

Vice Chairman Seifarth called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. Introductions were offered.

**Minutes:**

A quorum being present, Vice Chairman Seifarth called for approval of the minutes. Michael Schroeder made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted. Neil Castilow seconded the motion. There was no discussion of the minutes as drafted. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Mark Greenblatt abstained.

**Legislative Update:**

Vice Chairman Seifarth asked Paul Jarvis to review the legislative update. Paul provided the committee with an update on House Bill 286, legislation that permits the Council to participate in meetings by video conference or teleconference. The bill was signed by the

governor and rules have been drafted. Sue Willis, Neil Castilow, Mark Greenblatt, Mark Seifarth and Carolyn Knight commented on the proposed rules. The committee requested that the mileage limit be reduced to 30 miles instead of 35 miles to conform to conference travel rules.

Paul Jarvis also outlined recent discussions regarding the Medicaid Asset Limit, saying there have been efforts to increase the limit to \$2,000 while the Department of Medicaid has publicly stated the asset limit might need to be increased more. Roxanne Richardson, Renee Wood, Neil Castilow, Carolyn Knight, Sue Willis, Mark Seifarth and Paul Jarvis commented on the effort. In addition to the discussion on the asset limit, there was a discussion on Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities. A working group has been established to discuss possible changes to the program. Neil Castilow and Paul Jarvis will be serving on the working group. Renee Wood asked if there was a person with a disability serving on the working group and Paul Jarvis responded that Shelley Papenfuse had been added to the group.

Vice Chairman Seifarth provided the committee with details about the recently passed Workforce Investment Opportunity Act. The federal legislation has now been passed by both the US House and US Senate and is on its way to being signed by the President. The bill ultimately will leave vocational rehabilitation services under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Education. The bill also contains a special section for Independent Living, housed within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living. In addition to the four core services, independent living will also include a new core service related to transition. Lastly, Seifarth said the bill emphasized that people with disabilities must be given opportunities for competitive, integrated employment before any discussion of segregated employment can be considered. Carolyn Knight, Michael Schroeder, Greg Dormer, Sue Willis and Renee Wood discussed implementation of the act and how long before federal rules would be adopted.

#### **Legislative Advocacy Day Coordinator:**

Vice Chairman Seifarth asked Paul Jarvis to give an update on the Legislative Advocacy Day Coordinator grant. Jarvis informed the committee that the executive director of the Ohio Special Initiative for Brothers and Sisters (Ohio SIBS), Linda Martens, had resigned. Ohio SIBS continues to hold the grant and are examining their options to continue the grant. Jarvis stated the Ohio Statehouse has been booked for March 3, 2015 and the same individuals who served on the planning committee last year would be participating again this year, with the addition of a representative from the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency.

Paul Jarvis also reported the first item to address is a theme for the event next year. He suggested the Council request a theme related to the 10 Percent Solution campaign that the SMART Grant is currently working on. He outlined the 10 Percent Solution.

#### **Data & Policy Research Grant:**

Vice Chairman Seifarth moved to the next item on the agenda. Paul Jarvis outlined the previous projects that have been completed by the Data and Policy Research grantee and indicated the committee would be charged with identifying a research topic for 2015. Other committees have been asked to come up with concepts and the Public Policy Committee can also present options for final consideration, which will be made in September.

Sue Willis, Renee Wood, Roxanne Richardson, Ilka Riddle, Michael Schroeder and Jessica Foster discussed several options to be considered. One options discussed was a study that provided additional information related to the participants of Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities. Expanding on that topic, the committee also discussed how married couples either benefit or do not benefit from the program.

A second topic to be included for further consideration related to the children with significant disabilities who lived in a hospital or a nursing facility full time. Members asked how many children were affected by this and what the barriers were to moving them into community settings.

**State Plan Language:**

Vice Chairman Seifarth asked the committee to review the state plan language that had been distributed for Public Policy projects in 2015. He stated he believed the language was the same as current language and a vote on the language was a technicality. Paul Jarvis confirmed the language was the same.

Mark Greenblatt made a motion to approve the state plan language pieces as submitted. Neil Castilow seconded the motion. No discussion was offered on the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

**Six by '15 Campaign:**

Vice Chairman Seifarth moved to the next item on the agenda, a discussion of the “Six by 15” campaign. He stated the campaign was seeking endorsements and the Public Policy Committee should consider the proposal for endorsement. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with a handout that included information related to each of the six goals that are proposed for completion by the end of 2015. Ilka Riddle, Mark Greenblatt, Jessica Foster and Mark Seifarth commented on several aspects of the goals.

Michael Schroeder made a motion for Council to endorse the Six by 15 Campaign. Ilka Riddle seconded the motion. No further discussion was offered. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

**Announcements:**

Roxanne Richardson announced that the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities had followed up with My Health Watcher, the organization that presented to Public Policy Committee in the previous meeting. She said they had looked at providing the service as part of the SELF Waiver and discussed options with them. Following

discussions with them, it became evident that My Health Watcher would not be covered under consumer directed goods and services under the SELF Waiver.

Paul Jarvis, Mark Seifarth and Carolyn Knight congratulated the Council and Council members Mark Greenblatt and Mark Seifarth and Council staff and the Department of Developmental Disabilities for their hard work and effort on getting House Bill 286 passed and signed into law.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business before the committee, Vice Chairman Seifarth called for a motion to adjourn. Mark Greenblatt made a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion carried. The committee adjourned at 10:39 a.m.