

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

Members Present:

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

Other Council Members/Guests Present:

Geoff Collver (DRO)	Elisee Ndenga (My Health Watcher)
Eric Rathburn (AT Ohio)	Sue Hetrick (OOTF)
Aisha Trumbull	Margaret Demko
Mark Ericson (My Health Watcher)	Emily Demko

Staff:

Paul Jarvis	Gary Groom
Carolyn Knight	

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Cox called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Introductions were offered.

Minutes:

A quorum being present, Chairwoman Cox called for approval of the minutes. Michael Schroeder made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted. Kim Stultz seconded the motion. There was no discussion of the minutes as drafted. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Helen Dunlap abstained.

Legislative Update:

Chairwoman Cox moved to the first item on the agenda. She asked Paul Jarvis to provide the committee with a legislative update. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with a written report on current legislative activities and said he would not read directly from the report. The report included updates on House Bill 286 (DD Council Video

Conferencing), House Bill 333 (ADA Prior Notification Bill), a bill draft related to including photo identification on temporary hang tags for accessible parking, and the Mid-Biennium Review Bill.

Sue Hetrick, speaking on behalf of the Ohio Olmstead Task Force, asked the Council to consider taking a position in opposition to House Bill 333. Hetrick and Jarvis outlined the original bill and the substitute bill. Mark Seifarth, Renee Wood, Diane Cox, Bill Adelsberger, Kristie Hutchison, Kim Stultz, Neil Castilow, Jane Byrnes, Michael Schroeder and Carolyn Knight asked questions related to the bill.

Jane Byrnes made a motion for Council to take a position in opposition to the bill regardless of any changes that have been or will be made to the bill. Helen Dunlap seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Greg Dormer, Laura Leach, Roxanne Richardson and Kristie Hutchison-Ramsey abstained.

25:30

Legislative Advocacy Day Coordinator Grant:

Chairwoman Cox asked the committee to look at the data that was prepared regarding the DD Awareness & Advocacy Day. She stated she was impressed with the increase in participation in legislative visits.

Kim Stultz asked a question related legislative participation at the program held in the Statehouse Atrium. Diane Cox asked whether this was the first year social media was used to promote the event. Paul Jarvis explained that demographic data was collected for the first time this year and as a result, Council can begin to work on identifying un/underserved groups or populations related to the event.

Chairwoman Cox commended the grantee for their work on improving participation from Appalachian areas of Ohio. Carolyn Knight stated the outreach work of the grantee was completed by Carmen Shelton. Chairwoman Cox indicated she would send a letter commending Carmen on her hard work and success in improving Appalachian participation.

35:25

State Plan Amendment:

Chairwoman Cox moved to the next item on the agenda. She asked Paul Jarvis to explain the proposed state plan amendment for the Data and Policy Research Grant. Paul Jarvis indicated the plan amendment would provide additional funds to the grantee to serve in a consultative role to the Workforce Integration Task Force. The task force is being created by the Mid-Biennium Review and is charged with collecting and analyzing data related to economic and income disparities for individuals who are deaf and blind. Jarvis said he

and Carolyn Knight have met with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency Executive Director Kevin Miller to discuss how Council may be of assistance.

Carolyn Knight added to the discussion by saying several groups have asked to be included as part of the scope of the project. Due to the time available to complete a study, the Council should maintain the original focus, but use this as an opportunity to participate and learn from the model and data collection they will utilize for future projects. Michael Schroeder commented he thought this would be a good opportunity for the Council.

Chairwoman Cox asked what amount of funding should be used for this purpose because the state plan amendment was left blank in the areas of funding amounts. Carolyn Knight indicated \$10,000 would be an appropriate amount for the grantee to serve in an advisory capacity to the task force.

Michael Schroeder made a motion to approve the state plan amendment with the addition of \$10,000 of Council funds. Mark Seifarth seconded the motion. Mark Seifarth asked if \$10,000 was enough or whether the amount should be increased. Carolyn Knight clarified if more was needed, another plan amendment could be offered. Kim Stultz sought clarification on why the state plan amendment contained three separate amounts. Paul Jarvis responded the first amount was Council funds, the second amount was the corresponding match the grantee is obligated to provide and the third amount is the combination of both. Bill Adelsberger asked the Council staff to pay close attention to the project given past information provided by the grant.

Without further discussion, a voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Greg Dormer abstained.

My Health Watcher:

Chairwoman Cox invited Mark Ericson and Elisee Ndenga from MyHealthWatcher.org to present on behalf of their organization. Mr. Ericson and Mr. Ndenga gave an overview of the website they have created to provide individuals with disabilities full access to their own records for a small fee. The presentation outlined the challenges associated with moving from different providers and the lack of information that often follows with the individual. Their approach has been to focus on the individual rather than on the system. The presenters stated they were seeking assistance to get the product approved as a Medicaid reimbursable expense.

Roxanne Richardson noted the varying waivers available generally do not permit an administrative expense such as MyHealthWatcher to be reimbursed, but did state the SELF (Self Empowered Life Funding) Waiver did have flexibility in how waiver funds could be used and may be a good starting point. She also sought clarification about who would be able to upload documents to the program and how those records would be edited.

Ilka Riddle, Michael Schroeder, Renee Wood, Bill Adelsberger, Kim Stultz, and Diane Cox asked questions of the presenters related to the security of the information, participation of individuals and providers and confidence in the system. Chairwoman Cox asked the committee if there was any action desired related to the presentation. No action was taken.

1:15:00

Supports Intensity Scale:

Brent Baer, Sally Berger and Chandel Camp-Charles gave a presentation on the results of the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) Project funded by the DD Council. Chandel Camp-Charles gave background on the project and Brent Baer indicated the project did not result in a lot of new information, but did, however, provide validation for issues that were suspected but not confirmed. Baer said items such as time spent with family and friends were a key indicator of lower costs and existence of major unusual incidents in the past were indicators of higher costs. Baer also said the project did reveal that high needs individuals are being served in the community through a Home and Community Based Service Waiver. Camp-Charles indicated the Department of Developmental Disabilities does not intend to switch to the SIS Instrument.

Michael Schroeder asked if the project was able to draw any distinctions for individuals who were given the assessment who also resided in mental health hospitals. Sally Berger responded the population of individuals who agreed to participate was too small to provide sufficient data.

Bill Adelsberger asked if the project found a correlation between needs being met and cost and whether there was a difference between the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Profile and the SIS. Brent Baer responded there was a finding of correlation. Carolyn Knight added the SIS was expected to be a better tool for person-centered planning and there were some examples of how the tool was different.

Adjournment:

With no further business before the committee, Chairwoman Cox called for a motion to adjourn. Michael Schroeder made a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion carried. The committee adjourned at 10:37 a.m.