

Public Policy Committee Minutes
Cherry Valley Lodge
Newark, Ohio
May 5, 2017
9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Members Present:

X	Diane Cox, Chair		
X	Jo Spargo, Vice Chair		
	Jye Breckenridge		Jill Radler
	Neil Castilow		Ilka Riddle
X	Ann Marie Denning	X	Mark Seifarth
X	Kristin Helling		Mark Smith
	Emilia Jackson	X	Kim Stults
X	Vicki Jenkins	X	Jeff Turner
X	Karen Kerr	X	Mindy Vance
X	Lori Kershner	X	Dara Walburn
	Laura Leach		Brandon White
	Heather McFarlin	X	Sue Willis
X	James Plasencia	X	Victor Wilson
X	Paula Rabidoux		

(V Indicates Participation via Video Conference)

Other Council Members/Guests Present:

Rochelle Hall-Rollins	Gordon O'Neill
Linda Kunick	Deb Tackett
Marci Straughter	Julie Armbruster
Essie Pederson	Beth Graham
Eric Rathburn	

Staff:

Paul Jarvis
Carolyn Knight

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Spargo called the committee to order at 9:21 a.m. Introductions were offered.

Minutes:

Chairwoman Spargo called for approval of the minutes. James Plasencia moved the minutes be approved as drafted. Jeffrey Turner seconded the motion. Without objection, the motion passed. Mindy Vance, Sue Willis, Lori Kershner, Dara Walburn and Kim Stults abstained.

Old Business:

Chairwoman Spargo moved to the first item on the agenda, General Assembly Briefing Sessions. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with an update on the planned session for May. He stated the focus of the session will be to educate staff about the different DD waivers. He said Margaret Demko, former member of Council, had agreed to present on the SELF Waiver, and that he was still trying to get speakers to talk about the Level 1 Waiver and the Individual Options Waiver. Carolyn Knight, Rochelle Hall-Rollins, Marci Straughter, Kim Stults, and Dara Walburn provided discussion on potential speakers.

Chairwoman Spargo moved to the next item on the agenda, DD Awareness and Advocacy Day. Spargo said she was sick that day and could not attend. Sue Willis said she could not attend either, but that she watched it online and it was wonderful. Rochelle Hall-Rollins, Carolyn Knight, Mark Seifarth, Diane Cox, Marci Straughter and Paula Rabidoux provided discussion on the event. Knight emphasized that she would like to make sure speakers at the event are paid for their time. Straughter discussed the annual event held in central Ohio by the Ohio Self Determination Association. Jarvis stated the grantee plans to have a wrap-up meeting in late May or early June. He said the grantee, OPRA, intends to begin the planning process sometime in July and that members on the planning committee should be individuals with developmental disabilities. If there is a Council member interested, please contact him. Paula Rabidoux asked if Nominating Committee could use the registration list for reaching out to potential Council Member Applications.

Chairwoman Spargo moved to the next item on the agenda, Data and Policy Research Grants. Jarvis gave the committee an overview of potential research topics. Jarvis said that a Notice of Funds Available would be issued with each of the different topics that have developed by the different committees, but that applications will be received for a specific topic. Jarvis said that if any member of the committee wanted changes, they needed to get those changes to him quickly because he needed to start working on the Notice of Funds Available. He also stated that the Data and Policy Research Grant, along with the other two projects in Public Policy: DD Awareness and Advocacy Day and the General Assembly Briefing Sessions would not be changed or amended as part of the State Plan Update.

Chairwoman Spargo moved to the next item on the agenda, Legislative Update. Paul Jarvis outlined the changes that have occurred since the state budget (House Bill 49) and reviewed the changes using a powerpoint. Sue Willis sought clarification on the cost difference for adults on a ventilator and a child on a ventilator. Jarvis indicated it was roughly \$300. Kim Stults and Jo Spargo commented on this approached. Dara Walburn, Paula Rabidoux, Diane Cox, Mark Seifarth, and Kim Stults discussed the topic.

Chairwoman Spargo moved to the next item on the agenda, House Bill 115. Paul Jarvis outlined the bill, explaining it permitted individuals with a communication disability to voluntarily register their name with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The bill would have

the effect of alerting law enforcement that an individual who has been stopped may have a communication disability. Vicki Jenkins, Kim Stults, Rochelle Hall-Rollins, Jo Spargo, Diane Cox, and Michael Schroeder discussed the bill. Diane Cox made a motion to support House Bill 115. Dara Walburn seconded the motion. With no further discussion, a voice vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

Chairwoman Spargo moved to the next item on the agenda, Senate Bill 144. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with a handout that described the changes proposed by the bill. The bill would consolidate three different boards into a single, 15-member State Rehabilitation Commission. Sue Willis clarified that a new board would be created, as described under federal law, from a new assortment of organizations and people. Mark Seifarth and Sue Willis made additional comments about the proposal. Victor Wilson made a motion to support Senate Bill 144. Jeffrey Turner seconded the motion. With no further discussion, a voice vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

Chairwoman Spargo asked if there was any other legislation that the committee needed to look at. Jarvis said he provided the committee with a spreadsheet that included bills he has been following and that he will continue to provide that to the committee.

Chairwoman Spargo moved to the next item of the agenda, Direct Support Workforce Recruitment. Paul Jarvis provided a background of the project, stating that the Ohio Provider Resource Association came to Council and sought funding to create materials to educate potential job seekers about the opportunities to work as a direct support professionals. Jarvis said that discussions around how to distribute the materials revealed a challenge related to who would utilize the materials. As an alternative, he recommended that Council, along with other entities like the Department of Developmental Disabilities and the County Board Association provide funding to pay for the air time and other traditional media space as a broad educational campaign. He provided the committee with a state plan amendment to increase the project by \$75,000 for that purpose and indicated the funds were available because the SMART grant, which ended, returned unspent funds to the committee. Jarvis also outlined that Council and OPRA will be coordinating an editorial board meeting approach. Jarvis also played a first run of the commercial and indicated that work was still being done on it. Carolyn Knight, Michael Schroeder, Jo Spargo, and Marci Straughter provided additional discussion about the need for Direct Support Professionals.

Dara Walburn made a motion to approve the proposed plan amendment to add \$75,000 to the Direct Support Workforce Recruitment project. Marci Straughter seconded the motion. No further discussion was offered. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

Chairwoman Spargo moved to the next item on the agenda, a review of the Disability Policy Seminar. Linda Kunick shared with the committee her experience of visiting the White House. Diane Cox added that she has attended the conference several times and noted the tone has gotten more political and that it seems that some of the agenda is used

to rile people with disabilities up, who may not have all of the appropriate information to make an informed decision about an advocacy issue. Lori Kershner added that the meetings with congressional offices are very important, but due to the number of people attending, it was difficult to go into depth on topics because your time is limited. Mark Seifarth also said that the conference could do a better job of providing diverse viewpoints on the agenda. He also said the people running the conference placed too much emphasis on attending a press conference and that he preferred time be spent visiting offices. Responding to a question from Kim Stults about whether it was valuable to continue to attend, Karen Kerr stated that the smaller breakout sessions were very valuable, but the larger group sessions included the personal opinions of the speakers and was a little more disruptive. All of the members who attended the conference agreed that it was still valuable to attend.

Chairwoman Spargo moved to the next item on the agenda, announcements. Mark Seifarth asked for an explanation of an LSC (Legislative Service Commission) draft that was included in the committee's handouts. Paul Jarvis explained the draft was provided by Representative John Boccieri and the bill would allow county board schools to access funds held by the Ohio School Facilities Commission to renovate or purchase new facilities. Jarvis said he and other members of the committee reviewed the proposed bill and provided feedback to Representative Boccieri's office.

Adjournment:

With no further business before the committee, Dara Walburn made a motion to adjourn. Victor Wilson seconded the motion. Without objection, the committee adjourned at 10:45 a.m.