

Public Policy Committee Minutes
Embassy Suites Hotel
Dublin, Ohio
May 3, 2019
9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Members Present:

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|---|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| X | Dara Walburn, Chair | | |
| X | Lori Kershner, Vice Chair | | |
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| X | Michael Denlinger | X | Jill Radler |
| X | Pamela Green | X | Rhonda Rich |
| X | Matt Harrison | X | Michael Richards |
| X | Emilia Jackson | X | Ilka Riddle |
| X | Jean Jakovlic | | Mark Smith |
| X | Vicki Jenkins | X | Jo Spargo |
| X | Karen Kerr | X | Mindy Vance |
| X | Shannon Komisarek | X | Brandon White |
| | Bobbi Krabill | | Sue Willis |
| | Laura Leach | X | Victor Wilson |
| X | Blaine O’Leary | | |
| X | James Plasencia | | Diane Cox (SA) |
| X | Paula Rabidoux | | |

Other Council Members/Guests Present

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|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Marci Straughter | Beth Graham |
| Rochelle Hall-Rollins | Mark Seifarth |
| Rachel Rice | Lucy Gettman |
| Brenda Brandon | Connie Mehlman |
| Christine Brown | Elijah Brevo |
| Eric Rathburn | Ellen Hudson |
| Casper Shahan | Jeremiah Wagner |
| Debbie Kunick | Billie McAlear |
| Linda Kunick | |

Staff:

Paul Jarvis
Carolyn Knight

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Walburn called the committee to order at 9:17 a.m. Introductions were offered.

Minutes:

Chairwoman Walburn called for approval of the minutes. Michael Denlinger moved the minutes be approved as drafted. Matt Harrison seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Vicky Jenkins, Lori Kershner, Ilka Riddle, Jill Radler and Sue Willis abstained.

Old Business:

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the first item on the agenda, legislative update. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with an update on pending House and Senate Bills that he has been tracking, including House Bill 60, House Bill 114, Senate Bill 9, Senate Bill 25, Senate Bill 29 and Senate Bill 36.

Jeremiah Wagner, Legislative Liaison for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities provided the committee with an update on the state budget for the department. Wagner highlighted budget provisions that would provide a wage increase for Direct Support Professionals that includes financial support from county boards of developmental disabilities. Wagner also described the budget proposal for increases for early intervention services and increases in rates for non-medical transportation services to incentivize smaller vehicles and more direct trips. Connie Mehlman, Jo Spargo, Michael Denlinger, Rhonda Rich, Rochelle Hall-Rollins, Marci Straughter, Dara Walburn and Christine Brown asked questions about the budget bill.

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, review of the DD Awareness and Advocacy Day. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with final attendance counts, attendance demographics, and results from the event evaluations. Jarvis told the committee that planning for the 2020 event would begin later in the year and some issues that would be taken forward included returning to having more speakers with disabilities and to look at alternative ways to provide parking support to participants. Blaine O'Leary, Jo Spargo, Rochelle Hall Rollins, Matt Harrison, Lori Kershner, Eric Rathburn and Dara Walburn discussed the results of the event and the need for improvements.

New Business:

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, Washington DC Trip for 2019. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with state plan language that would provide funding to the Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council to contract with the hotel to block 30 rooms for two days in September. Funds would also be used to pay for meeting space in the hotel, portage fees and to allow Council members who attend to be added to a direct bill instead of requiring upfront payment and reimbursement. Lori Kershner made a motion for the state plan amendment to be approved. Victor Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Jill Radler, Karen Kerr, Matt Harris, Blaine O'Leary, Jean Jakovlic, Jo Spargo, Michael Denlinger, Victor Wilson, Lori Kershner and Dara Walburn abstained.

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, topics for the Data and Policy Research Grant. Paul Jarvis explained he was seeking input from all of the committees to develop topics for the Data and Policy Research Grant in 2020. Vicki Jenkins suggested a study to examine the health disparities of children receiving early intervention services and to look at the infant mortality rates of those children. Pamela Green stated the Department of Health may already be looking at this issue. Marci Straughter asked the committee to consider voting issues of people with disabilities, including examining the awareness and ability of people with disabilities to vote. Michael Denlinger stated the voting topic was currently under review by Disability Rights Ohio. Ilka Riddle stated SABE was also conducting national voter research. Ilk Riddle suggest a study to examine understanding the issue of aging caregivers and aging adults with developmental disabilities, to identify how many there are, to explore the needs of those families, and to identify guardianship rates. Ilka Riddle suggested a study to examine the issue of parenting with an intellectual or developmental disability. Jill Radler suggested a study to evaluate emergency preparedness for people with developmental disabilities and families in light of recent flooding.

Adjournment:

With no further business before the committee, Matt Harrison made a motion to adjourn. Michael Denlinger seconded the motion. Without objection, the committee adjourned at 10:48 a.m.