

**Public Policy Committee Minutes**  
**Crowne Plaza North**  
**Columbus, Ohio**  
**July 13, 2018**  
**9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.**

**Members Present:**

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

**Other Council Members/Guests Present**

Marci Straughter	Christine Brown
Brenda Brandon	Jeremy Morris
Rochelle Hall-Rollins	Renee Wood
Jeremy Morris	Casper Shahan
Erich Bittner	Billy Mae Ware
Eric Rathburn	Mark Seifarth
Betsy O’Leary	Deborah Remington

**Staff:**

Paul Jarvis	Carla Cox
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. James Plasencia moved the minutes be approved as drafted. Michael Richards seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Karen Kerr, Jull Radler and Lori Kershner abstained.

### **Old Business:**

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the first item on the agenda, Data and Policy Research Topics. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with the draft Notice of Funds Available, which he intends to publish after the Council meeting. No new subjects were added to the list of potential research topics. Paul Jarvis reported that External Peer Reviewers have been selected to serve on the grant review panel, to include Jeremy Morris, Tina Evans and Matt Whitehead. He asked for volunteers from the Public Policy Committee to serve on the panel. Matt Harrison, Marci Straughter, Karen Kerr, Laura Leach, Michael Denlinger and Michael Richards volunteered. Jarvis told the committee he would draw names following the Council meeting.

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, the state plan amendment for the General Assembly Briefing Session. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with background on the grant and indicated the amendment would increase funding to pay for photographs that were taken in the first year of the grant and to also pay for the costs to conduct a tour of the Universal Design Living Laboratory. James Plasencia made a motion to accept the state plan amendment. Michael Denlinger seconded the motion. Jarvis clarified that additional funding was available from the unspent funds resulting in the cancellation of the Blue Fire research grant. No questions were asked. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington DC. Paul Jarvis pointed out the committee ran out of time to discuss the conference at the last Public Policy Committee. Lori Kershner, Jean Jakovlic, Karen Kerr, Dara Walburn, Jo Spargo, Michael Denlinger, Rhonda Rich, Mark Seifarth, Jeremy Morris, Erich Bittner, Christine Brown, Paul Jarvis and Carolyn Knight discussed the merits of returning to the Disability Policy Seminar in 2019 or whether Council would prefer to conduct federal advocacy in Washington, DC without participating in the existing Disability Policy Seminar. Members of the committee decided that the negative tone and approach of the current Disability Policy Seminar were a distraction and a disservice to individuals who are new to policy advocacy. The Committee agreed that any member who still wished to attend the conference could attend, but charged Paul Jarvis, Jeremy Morris and Erich Bittner with developing a plan for Council, in coordination with the Ohio Statewide Independent Living Center and the Ohio Association of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities, to go to Washington DC to meet with policymakers and engage in appropriate advocacy activities.

### **New Business:**

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, the legislative update. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with an update on legislation the committee has been tracking. He also gave the committee a legislative brief on House Bill 236, legislation that would change licensing and certification for engineers who install Limited Use, Limited Application elevators. Lori Kershner, Jo Spargo, Michael Denlinger, Marci Straughter and Rhonda Rich discussed the legislation and whether Council should take a position on the bill. After a discussion of the benefits and drawbacks of the bill, Rhonda Rich made a motion that Council abstain from taking a position on House Bill 236. Blaine O'Leary seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. There were no abstentions.

Christine Brown updated the committee on her efforts to fix federal law related to the Medicaid Buy-In Program for Workers with Disabilities. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with additional information related to the effort.

Chairwoman Walburn moved to the next item on the agenda, the issue of gun ownership by people with disabilities. Matt Harrison explained to the committee his position on gun ownership by people with disabilities, indicating that he would like to obtain his concealed carry license in Ohio. Paul Jarvis provided the committee with a background memo on what the federal law states regarding individuals with intellectual disabilities, or "marked subnormal intelligence", and gun ownership or possession. Dara Walburn asked the committee to discuss. Lori Kershner, Vicki Jenkins, Matt Harrison, Michael Richards, Blaine O'Leary, Brenda Brandon, Casper Shanahan, and Rhonda Rich spoke on the issue. When it was revealed that Matt owns a gun but cannot possess it because he lives in a home that he does not own, Paul Jarvis stated the memo was related only to the ability of an individual to own or possess a firearm, not the issue of private property rights.

### **Adjournment:**

With no further business before the committee, Lori Kershner made a motion to adjourn. Matt Harrison seconded the motion. Without objection, the committee adjourned at 10:45 a.m.