Developmental Disabilities Council

**Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, July13, 2016**

**Margaret M. O’Neill Building, Dover, DE**

**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Pencader Corporate Center, Newark, DE**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Members Present:** Barbara Monaghan (Chairperson), Carol Barnett, Alvin Emory Jr., Karen Gallagher, Laura Greene, Terri Hancharick, Michael Harris, Brian Hartman, Rick Kosmalski, Nancy Lemus, HarrietAnn Litwin, Debra McCann, Karen McGloughlin, Daniese McMullin-Powell, Beth Mineo, Sue Ellen Powell, Steve Tull, Steve Yeatman

**Members Absent:** Maitri Campbell, Angela Ehst, Alex Eldreth, Katie Howe, Diann Jones, Katie Macklin, Carrie Melchisky, Joseph Merritt, Jr., Shawn Rohe, Jill Scannell, Steve Slotkin

**Staff:** Pat Maichle, Kristin Cosden, Stefanie Lancaster, Emmanuel Jenkins

**Guests:** Barbara Bass, Catherine Pringle, Art Jenkins, Victoria Counihan (Deputy Attorney General), Colleen Yezek, Bill Monaghan, Libby Cusack, Wendy Strauss

# Call to Order – Barbara Monaghan called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

1. **Approval of Minutes –** Daniese McMullin-Powell made a motion to approve the minutes. Steve Yeatman seconded. The minutes were approved by Council.
2. **Approval of Agenda –** Daniese McMullin-Powell made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Yeatman seconded. The agenda was approved by Council.
3. **5 Minute Public Comment Period –** There were no public comments at this time.
4. **Chair’s Report –** Barbara Monaghan reported that she recently attended the National Association of Council on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) and Chairpersons training at this national conference last week. This training was really informative. Barbara also reported that Matt McCollough was appointed President of NACDD. This is the first time ever that a person with a disability has been appointed to this position. Congratulations Matt!

1. **Staff Report –** Pat reported the following:

* The Final Supported Decision Making (SDM) report was submitted to Quality Trust. The work that was done regarding SDM in Delaware has been well received and Pat has received several compliments on the educational materials developed as well as the SDM bill, SB230, which is currently awaiting the Governor’s signature.
* A list of resources- DVDs, books and reference materials located in the DDC office has been provided to those present. Stefanie has brought this list up to date. If there is anything that members would like to borrow, please just let staff know.
* Emmanuel Jenkins reported on the social media update. For Facebook, at our previous meeting, the Council had 640 likes. As of today, there are 754 likes which is an increase of 114 likes. Emmanuel has set a goal for our page to reach 1,000 likes by our September Council meeting. He asks that all members like the DDC page if they have not already done so and share our page with five of your friends. This should help us reach that goal. Twitter currently has 162 tweets following and 67 followers. Emmanuel also asked that for our September council meeting that all members come prepared to have a group photo taken to use for the Annual Report.

1. **Financial Report**

**Financial Advisory Committee Report –** Steve Tull reported that 2015 funds are spent other than one project that should be finalized by the end of the month and spent. 2016 funds currently has $49,949 remaining left to obligate. Most of the projects utilizing 2016 are still ongoing at this time. The Council received an additional $10,377 from Puerto Rico’s allotment that they were given. Puerto Rico was having issues spending their funds so their funds were divided among other councils throughout the country. This is a one-time extra allotment. Of the 2017 anticipated funds that will be received there is approximately $115,000 remaining of that to be obligated. If you have any questions, please let Steve or Stefanie know.

1. **Current Business**
2. **Strategic Planning/5 Year State Plan** – Vote Required – Pat stated that the Strategic Plan Report needs to be submitted to our federal granting agency by August 15, 2016. Everyone who has been involved thus far, thank you all for all of your hard work. Public comment has been received after the 45 day required period and included in these documents. This plan will guide the work that the Council does for next five years. Additional requirements were added for this plan such as the inclusion of cultural competency and targeted disparity which were not included in previous years. This document was emailed to Council yesterday for review. Pat stated we need a motion to approve. Barbara Monaghan asked for motion to approve. Council voted to approve the 2017-2021 State Plan as written.
3. **Logic Model – New –** A copy of the Logic Model that is required by our Federal granting agency has been provided to members for their review.
4. **Legislative Update –** Pat stated that the Legislative Tracking document that Stefanie and Emmanuel have been updating will be distributed at the September Council meeting. This shows all bills that our Council as well as the State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) and Governor’s Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has been monitoring through this legislative session. Some bills Brian and Pat updated Council on that have recently been updated are as follows:
   1. SB230 - Supported Decision Making (SDM) passed with an amendment. This is currently awaiting the Governor’s signature. The Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) will be publishing a form for individuals to designate a person to help with their life choices. This is not a required form but if another form is used it must conform to the basic information on the original document. There will also be a committee formed under the DD Council that will be co-chaired by the Arc of Delaware to implement this with DHSS. Recommendations from the Committee will be submitted to Secretary Landgraf before she leaves office as she has been instrumental in getting this bill passed.
   2. Parking bill did not pass.
   3. SB179 - Fair Housing / Source of Income bill which amends the law so that lenders can not discriminate on the source of income used to supplement housing costs such as those who receive SSI, Social Security, etc. This bill is awaiting the Governor’s signature.
   4. SB255 - Voting Assistance bill - passed on last day of session. This is currently awaiting the Governor’s signature.
   5. HB404 Concussion bill addresses kids out of play if they have symptoms of concussion. The original bill did not cover youth leagues. This bill will also require training for all coaches and officials.
   6. Age of Majority bill passed and was signed by the Governor last month to address the federal regulations established in 2006 which address standards for kids turning 18 and officially being considered legal adults.
   7. SB221 - Employer Tax Credit bill involves giving those employers who hire individuals with disabilities a tax credit. This is currently awaiting the Governor’s signature.
   8. Medicaid coverage passed Senate but could not get it through the House. This will be reintroduced next session.
5. **Annual NACDD Conference/TA Institute –** Kristin updated that she recently attended the NACDD Conference (which Barbara talked about previously in the Chair report) along with Barbara Monaghan and her attendant, Bill, Nancy Lemus, Shawn Rohe and Angie Ehst. A wealth of information was received during this conference. The new Five Year State Plans are going to be submitted through the ACL reporting program which is a brand new program that does not read/connect with the previous DD Suite system. Kristin will be undergoing training this afternoon for this. The report needs to be submitted by August 15th. Some information received: \*The Partners in Policymaking program is not considered a demonstration project but rather a Council program. NACDD recently received funding from the United Healthcare Grant that will help this program. \*During one of the Breakout sessions, Kristin spoke and heard from the South Carolina DD Council regarding a free health and wellness program that they offer. This is similar to one of the goals in our state plan that we just developed. Kristin will reach out to them as this project is ongoing as they have a model that we can use to help bring this to Delaware. \*The Kentucky DD Council and Indiana DD Council have partnered with the Close Up Foundation. This foundation provides support to councils to enable them to take a group of individuals to DC where they take them to see monument and provide testimony, etc. Kristin stated that Close Up may be a nice complement to the Junior Partners in Policymaking program. \*NACDD Dues for the upcoming year were voted on. The Delaware DD Council’s dues will be $4,017.
6. **Reinventing Quality Conference –** Several members and staff plan to attend this Conference that is being held July 31 through August 2 in Baltimore, MD. This conference looks toward state of the art ways to help support individuals with disabilities. The staff will report on this at the September meeting.
7. **ADA25 –** Victoria Counihan reported that the Council, in conjunction with the Attorney General’s office, have been working with the Families Speaking Up (FSU) group to resolve issues relating to the ADA 25th Anniversary celebration that occurred last July. A resolution has been agreed upon. With recent details being received, there was a slight wrinkle in the terms of the agreement. However, the terms have been altered and agreed upon. An apology letter directly from Pat as well as Pat attending FSU’s meeting on October 17th at 7 p.m. were terms of the agreement. All members that would like to attend the FSU meeting are welcome to. The agreement that has been met stated no legal action will be taken regarding the events that occurred at the ADA celebration.
8. **Committee Reports**
9. **Adult Issues**
10. **Launch Space Proposal to be voted on –** Terri Hancharick reported that a proposal from Independent Resources Inc. (IRI) was received to request $21,000 to continue funding the Launch Space project that the DD Council has funded for two years thus far. The Committee has agreed to approve this proposal and recommend to Council for their approval. To date, 36 individuals with disabilities are working to own or are operating their own businesses. This was approved by Council with little discussion.
11. **Children and Families –** Kristin Cosden reported that the committee has been working diligently on the State Plan with the support of Barbara Monaghan stepping in to help in the Chair position of this committee until the September election of officers. Nothing else to report at this time.
12. **Policy and Law**
13. **Self-Advocacy Support – Recommendation –** Terri Hancharick reported that an RFP was put out three times and no proposals were received. Some DD Councils throughout other states have paid for a mentor to help support a Self-Advocacy Organization. The committee is recommending that Council provide this support in the amount of $10,000 for one year. Laura Greene questioned the proposal she submitted. Pat stated that this did not meet the requirements of the request for proposals as the Council is unable to purchase equipment as she had requested. The proposal is to support a Self-Advocacy Organization to obtain their 501c3, not for purchasing goods or services. This request for $10,000 was approved by Council.
14. **Draft Position Statement on Assisted Suicide –** Terri stated this will be discussed at the next Council meeting.
15. **DDC Mission Statement Recommendation –** No recommendation was made to change the Mission Statement at this time.
16. **Membership –** Karen McGloughlin reported the Membership Committee recently had a meeting to discuss and review the ballot for the upcoming election of officers in September. A ballot will be emailed to you as well as available at the upcoming meeting. Also, Maitri Campbell is our latest appointment as a person with a disability. We will have to welcome Maitri when she is present, hopefully at our next meeting. The Council also must say a temporary goodbye to Steve Tull. Steve has served two consecutive terms on Council. Therefore, he must take one year off and reapply for Council if he so chooses. Thank you Steve.
17. **Consumer Caucus –** Due to Joseph Merritt not being at this meeting, Bill Monaghan reported that the last meeting was cancelled due to lack of participation. The next meeting will be held on August 13th at ChesDel Restaurant. Please mark your calendars and join us for our next meeting.
18. **Partners Oversight –** Karen McGloughlin reported that this Friday, July 15, 2016, will be the next Partners class. A panel of former graduates will be there to share their stories. If any Council member is interested in attending, this will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Dover beginning at 4 p.m. Friday. Pat stated Ari Nee’man will be coming to the graduation ceremony that will be held at the September Partners session. Jamie Wolfe, the contractor for the Junior Partners in Policymaking upcoming project, has started conversations regarding this project. Junior Partners will be held at Delaware State University. More information to come as it becomes available.
19. **New Business**
    1. **Collen Yezek, DMMA – Money Follows the Person Grant –** Colleen Yezek spoke to the Council today to provide an update on the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Grant and updates on the program. The grant was awarded and received in May, 2007 by the Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA). Some objectives with the program was to increase the use of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS), improve DMMA’s ability to continue these services for individuals transitioning into the community and provide continuous quality improvement in the long term care (LTC) services. The purpose of the grant is to provide funding to help individuals move from institutions into the community. Those eligible must reside in an institutional setting such as assisted living facility, nursing home, etc. for the 90 day required period before being eligible for MFP funds. Since the program began, there have been 228 individuals that have transitioned through the program into the community as of 2015. Currently, there are 23 people that MFP is following/assisting and 103 people in the pipeline waiting for help. This program is now moving under Managed Care Organizations (MCO’s). This allows for an increase in the number of people transitioning into the community. MCO’s have more staff available to help transition more people. Also, home modifications are now offered to all Long Term Support Services (LTSS) members through managed care. The other new option is the Community First Choice Option that allows for MFP supported services to be sustainable once the grant is exhausted. The people currently being helped will be helped through 12/31/17. For more information, please contact DMMA.
    2. **Beth Mineo – Education Technology Task Force Summary (Report Attached) –** Beth Mineo provided a summary for the Council regarding the task force on State Educational Technology under SCR#22. This task force was formed to study educational technology and update the state educational technology plan to ensure that all Delaware students have access to modern and effective educational and assistive technologies that enhance learning and promote college and career readiness. Some of the outcomes listed in the Executive Summary of the report are as follows:
       1. Within this task force, three subcommittees were formed: Infrastructure and Leadership, Teaching and Learning and Assistive Technology.
       2. Goals reached are:
          1. Focus on students with the creation of guidance documents on how to consider and how to get the help you need.
          2. By 2019-2020 school year, the recommendation is to switch the focus to learning being more away from books and more into the digital format.

Some of what was being discussed caused Council members to ask many questions regarding how students will have the access and ability at home to do work if it went to digital format only. All of the suggestions made will require training and education for educators on understanding assistive technology equipment and how to better accommodate those with disabilities.

* 1. **Future Speakers –** Pat stated that Leslie Haley and Emmanuel Jenkins will both be presenting at the September Council meeting. They will be providing an update to the STAND project. If you have any future speakers in mind, please share that information with Pat.

**XI. Other Council Business-** The September Council meeting will be held at Dover Downs in the large room near the buffet. Directions to this room will be sent closer to the meeting date. This is the annual meeting with the election of officers for the upcoming year. Please plan to attend.

**XII. Adjournment –** The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

“Executive session may be held to discuss legal advice, pursuant to 29 Delaware Code section 10004.”