

Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)
Children and Families Committee Meeting
Friday, September 15, 2017 from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM
DDDS Fox Run, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 2540 Wrangle Hill Road, Bear, DE

Minutes of Meeting

Members Present: **Laura Greene**, Committee Chair and Advocate; **Alvin Emory**, Advocate; **Steve Yeatman**, Parent Advocate; **Carrie Melchisky**, Parent Advocate

Members Absent: **Nancy Lemus**, Parent Advocate

Guests Present: **Andrew Braune**, Danio Diary

Staff Present: **Kristin Harvey**, Social Services Administrator, Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)

- I. **Call to order-** There being the absence of an immediate Past Chair or Vice-Chair, Chair-Elect Laura Greene called the meeting to order at 1:42 PM.
- II. **Approval of Minutes-** Alvin Emory made a motion to approve the August 11, 2017 meeting minutes. Carrie Melchisky seconded the motion. All committee members present were in favor and the minutes were approved.
- III. **Approval of Agenda-** Alvin Emory made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Yeatman seconded the motion. All committee members present were also in favor. The agenda was approved as written.
- IV. **Chair's Report-** Laura Greene did not provide a Chair's Report, being new to the position.
- V. **Staff Report-** Kristin Harvey did not provide a report.
- VI. **Current Business-**
 - A. **Discussion: Re-Group and Re-Focus:** The committee and staff congratulated Laura on her election as Committee Chair. The committee agreed that they do not have any pressing concerns at this time, and that they are comfortable with how their work assigned to them from the State Plan is progressing.
 - B. **Discussion: Social Media and Its Potential:** Laura shared that she feels there is more that can be done to promote the DDC and its mission. She also stated that she feels that RFPs and projects could be better promoted. Laura suggested that the Council consider seeking a dedicated social media consultant. The consultant's role would be to handle all publicity, marketing, public awareness and social media for the Council. Kristin stated that she would look into the feasibility of such a position by consulting with Pat Maichle. Kristin said that such a position could possibly fit in with the current state plan, under the objective that deals with increasing the amount and quality of information that is easily accessible and useful for people with disabilities.

C. Discussion: Meeting Places and Times: Laura reached out to the current Children and Families Committee members as well as some members who have since stopped attending meetings due to scheduling conflicts. Through her research, Laura discovered that the most agreed-upon day and time to hold a meeting was Wednesdays at 10 AM. Following a discussion, the committee decided to change their regular meeting dates to the first Wednesday of each month from 10 AM to 12 PM. Kristin stated that she will reach out to DDDS Fox Run to see if the meeting room that the committee normally uses is available on that date and time and will report back to the committee.

D. Discussion: Vice-Chair?: The committee discussed the possibility of having a Vice-Chair. The committee agreed that having a Vice-Chair is a good idea. The Vice-Chair can serve as backup if the Chair is unable to attend. The committee agreed that a Vice-Chair can be chosen from its membership. Laura asked if any of the members present would be interested in serving as Vice-Chair. Carrie Melchisky stated that she would be happy to serve as Vice-Chair, but wanted to give others the opportunity to put their name in for the position. The committee agreed that Carrie would make an excellent Vice-Chair, but that they would ask once again at their next meeting in case anyone else is interested.

VII. New Business:

A. There being no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:31 PM.