

May 13, 2021 Executive Committee Minutes

Attendees:

Council Members

Kristine Dreckman – Chair
Al Fagerlund – At large
Hugh Kelly – At large
Brady Werger – Vice Chair
Mark Schneider – At large

Staff

Brooke Lovelace
Lindsay Leonetti
Bill Kallestad

A meeting of the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) Executive Committee (EC) was held on May 13, 2021 via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

Agenda Item / Funding notice: The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is providing grants to DD Council's to increase access and awareness and to address barriers that are preventing people with disabilities from getting vaccinated. Lovelace had a meeting with DHS Director Kelly Garcia and the Department of Public Health to discuss how the Council can utilize these funds. Iowa DD Council received \$36,536 from ACL. Garcia suggested marketing and educating individuals with disabilities who are hesitant to get the vaccine about the importance of getting the vaccine Garcia shared that access is not an issue, but rather a personal choice due to fear. Dreckman inquired about what the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) are doing to tackle hesitancy. Kallestad said that Garcia didn't share what exactly the MCO's are doing but instead shared that the DD Council has better access to people than the MCO's and are perhaps in a better position to assist people with disabilities. Lovelace shared that Direct Service Providers are also hesitant to get the vaccine and that could also be a focus of the campaign. Lovelace shared that Capture Marketing's budget to implement a marketing and education campaign would be \$29,990. Their current contract would be amended so they would be able to assist the Council with the campaign. The campaign would include Facebook posts, developing a toolkit that providers and others could use, emails to the DD Network, direct mail and Public Service Announcements Fagerlund asked about how exactly the Council would move forward with helping people get the vaccine. Lovelace shared that we are partnering with Disability Rights Iowa (DRI) and the University of Iowa Center for Disabilities and Development (CDD) on the campaign. Also, the CDD would hire a social worker to be available to help individuals. Dreckman said it would be helpful to have a mobile vaccine station so that the vaccine could be brought to people who have not been vaccinated. Schneider made a motion and Kelly seconded to bring this to Council. Motion carried.

Agenda Item / 2020 & 2021 budget Lovelace shared that we are able to use a percentage of our administrative costs and apply it to the 2020 award. The ACL has now released guidance stating that councils now have until September 30, 2022 to spend any unobligated money (it was previously September 20, 2021). Administrative costs and salaries can now come out of the 2020 and the 2021 award. Lovelace also shared that we have an administrative cap that Council's are held to, which is 30%. This means that 30% of our total costs can go toward administrative costs. Also, that any time that is spent doing state plan activities, does not count towards the administrative cap. A new budget spreadsheet was created to track this time, and the council is slightly over this 30% admin cap, however, we can adjust this as we move towards the end of the fiscal year. We currently have \$78,000 unobligated and those funds must be spent by 9/2022. Lovelace shared that the Council plans to

continue the Customized Employment with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) contract and also continue the Community Ambassador contract the University of Iowa. Lovelace shared that in the future the budget will be shown to the Council and explained briefly, and then the Council will have an opportunity to ask questions. Dreckman and Fagerlund agreed that this will be acceptable in the future.

Agenda Item/Candidates for EC: The election committee met on April 6, 2021 to develop a slate of candidates to serve on the Executive Committee. The Election Committee will present the following possible appointments to the full Council today.

Al Fagerlund – Chair July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Brady Werger – Vice Chair/Chair Elect - July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Mark Schneider – Member at large July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Hugh Kelly - Member at large July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Judy Warth – (New) Member at large July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

The Election Committee will make a motion to approve the slate of candidates in the full council meeting today, and the full council would second, and then vote.

Agenda Item/ In-person or Virtual: The Council will need to make a decision on when/if we will conduct meeting in person or a hybrid type meeting. Lovelace said that if the Council chooses to conduct a hybrid meeting, the bylaws will have to be changed/amended. Werger said that he is ok with meeting in person. Fagerlund said that he is still uncomfortable with meeting person. Schneider suggested having people raise hands to see who would like to come in person September. Fagerlund suggested a 6 month test period, and maybe gradually changing to meet in person. Dreckman said that we have something in the bylaws for accommodate everyone and therefore not feasible to change bylaws. Since there will be changes in the future to guidance on meeting in person, the EC agreed to wait until the July council meeting to decide how to move forward with the September meeting and whether the bylaws will need to be changed

Agenda Item/Designated State Agency: Department of Human Services (DHS) and Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) may be merging into one agency. DHS is currently the Designated State Agency (DSA) for the DD Council. The DD Act of 2000 has a regulation that states that the State DD Councils cannot have a designated state agency who provides direct services to people with Developmental Disabilities. The Iowa DD Council may have to change their DSA or explain why we should continue to be under DHS. Other Councils have had previous issues with ACL approving a DSA even if they only changed the name of the DSA. More information will be made available one this in the future and Lovelace will share with the Council.

Agenda Item/New Board member Orientation: Lovelace shared that the Council has not received an update from the Governor's office about new appointees for the Council. As of July 1, if they don't appoint anyone the Council will have 9 openings. If the Council does get new members, Lovelace said that she would like to do an orientation for the new members in August.

Agenda Item/RFP updates: Leonetti shared that we have gotten three Intent to Bid letters for the Advocacy Management RFP, and one Intent to Bid for the Public Policy Partnership RFP. Proposals are due on June 23, 2021, with evaluations happening shortly after. The successful bidders will be announced on September 1, 2021 and services will begin on October 1, 2021.

Motion to adjourn by Fagerlund, Kelly seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:05