

January 13, 2022 Executive Committee Minutes

Attendee Council Members: Judy Warth, Brady Werger, Hugh Kelly, Mark Schneider, Al Fagerlund
Council Staff: Brooke Lovelace, Bill Kallestad, and Lindsay Hommer

A meeting of the Iowa Developmental Disability Council (DD Council) Executive Committee (EC) was held on January 13, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by Fagerlund

2022, 2021, and 2020 Budget Review:

Reviewed detailed budget. A payment to Capture Marketing from 2020 has not been paid yet. Once this is paid, this will take away most of our remaining funds for 2020. Warth stated that she heard Administration on Community Living (ACL) is sending extra money to University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), DD Council's and Protection and Advocacy (P & A.) Lovelace stated that this is correct. Each DD Council can apply for \$80,000 that is part of the American Rescue Plan dollars. The money is to go either hiring someone or contracting with somebody to work on public health, specifically around the pandemic and vaccines. Lovelace said she wants to see how flexible the fund is because we are looking to get an intern to help do some policy work that has a disability. We want to see if we can use the funds for this. Lovelace thinks we will apply for this. The \$80,000 is for 2 years. Lovelace stated that we could also use the funds to cover a portion of the salary for Kallestad and free up some funds to do projects. Lovelace met with Crystal Stanley who works at Drake University. Crystal believes that Drake has many students with disabilities that would like to do some policy work.

Reviewed spending sheet. No questions.

Reviewed obligation sheet. We are over obligated for the 2021 award. We're scheduled to spend all of that by September. Projects have to be done by the end of September but can be pay for projects for 90 days after that. We may or may not spend the entire \$10,000 for conference sponsorships. 2022 is also over obligated. We can start taking funds from the 2023 award if that happens. Lovelace stated that DD Council's may be receiving a increase of their 2022 appropriation. Right now though, we are basing our budget off of what we know we previously have received. Fagerlund asked who determines if there is a problem with our spending. Lovelace stated that DHS draws down our money and we reconcile with them. They draw down from the federal government. The federal government monitors that we spend 70% of the appropriation on projects and 30% on administration. Kallestad stated that this is also included in our state plan. Lovelace stated the federal reporting, requires us to report how much we spend on each goal. We can share that document Werger asked if the Community Ambassador Program can do anything to advocate to get more funding for projects such as the Community Ambassador Program. Lovelace said this will be the last year that the DD Council would be able to fund the Community Ambassador Program unless the DD Council receives more funding through grants. Warth wondered if MFP (Money Follows the Person) has venues to pay for the program or the State should want to help with this. Werger asked if Connor Training Connection would be able to help with this.

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Lovelace she did not think so as there is not enough funding in that program. Lovelace said we can talk to DHS about possible options for funding

Legislative Agenda:

Lovelace said that Capture did a great job on the handout. Kallestad said that next year we will work on the timeliness. The stories in the handout are the tip of the iceberg to the stories. Schneider stated that the families and persons with disabilities will see the stories and this will give them ideas on what to talk to their legislatures about. Kallestad said that Ann Meyer, a house representative and a supporter of adult changing tables, said the stories help lead the way for changing legislation. Kallestad stated that we would like to see Council members with disabilities and others with disabilities advocating and we would like to support them. Kallestad said that we are printing the handouts and will email and send to every legislator. During the legislative meeting on January 14, stories will be shared with the legislatures. The next step will be having deeper dive conversations with legislatures in the future. Schneider shared that he will be staying for the MCO (Managed Care Organization) meeting based on problems he has had in the past related to his son and MCO's. Werger shared that his sister is having problems getting the care she needs. He feels the state policies need to be relooked at to let people qualify for the care they need. Warth stated that Serena Lowe of CareSource is a long-time advocate.

State Plan Evaluation (review of workplan):

Lovelace stated not a lot of response from Council members on what part of the workplan they would like to assist with. After this week we start trying to schedule community conversation meetings. Werger stated his dad may be able to help set up a meeting in Waverly at Wartburg College. The meeting will be for providers, social work students, and the DD Council. Kelly stated he would like to help with objective 2.3 on the workplan. Schneider asked if this is something that could be partnered with the MHDS regions. Lovelace said that the region is involved in the community conversation meeting we are trying to get scheduled in May for Wartburg, We need to get the regions involved and the commissions and community action agencies that are in that area. Lovelace stated we continue to struggle with getting Council members engaged in volunteering with helping. Lovelace asked if the EC has suggestions to get people involved more. Schneider would like to help with MYM conference each year even though he will no longer be a Council member after June. Schneider suggested we make a list of what we need help with and ask each member which area they will help with. Lovelace stated we will be having a nominating committee formed soon. In February we will be having a meeting about MYM Conference and she wants Council participation in the planning for this. Lovelace stated we don't know where MYM Conference will be held yet but will remain in September. Fagerlund asked if InfoNET is clear on their objectives on the workplan for the year. They have several publications that are sent out throughout the year. Lovelace stated that they are clear and report quarterly on their progress to meet their objectives in the workplan. Hard copies from InfoNET are no longer being sent out every two weeks, emails and videocasts, , are being done weekly instead. Quarterly newsletters will still be sent out in hard copy though. Kallestad stated that the report that is submitted by Capture and Campbell Patterson is about

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15 pages that is sent to us quarterly and is reviewed by him. Lovelace stated that Kallestad has the Public Policy committee and there is an editorial board for InfoNET to keep language simple and understandable and make sure we are covering topics that are of interest.

Annual Survey Results:

Lovelace said that 190 people responded to the survey. The previous year we had close to 300. Most that responded to the survey were people with disabilities. People are generally happy with InfoNET. 33 people that filled out the survey attended at least one of our events. People enjoy the Capitol chats. We are rebranding the DD Council. People are still not tying that ID Action is part of the DD Council. We may start calling ID Action our disabilities network. Slide 46, about what haven't you used, people are stating they don't have a computer or internet. We may see an issue when we send emails due to this. People didn't know the Take Action Center existed. We need to get into the rural areas. Should we bring back telling people how legislators voted on certain legislation? Lovelace stated the annual survey results are useful. Someone on Facebook stated that she uses the forum information on infoNet all the time. We have to do the survey because we have to report to the federal government on certain questions. Warth asked if surveys are done at every event. Lovelace stated that they are and that information is used in the quarterly reports. Kallestad said these are helpful because they are specific to the events. Lovelace said that we could set up a separate meeting to go through these results if that is wanted.

EC Member Updates:

We are not doing our Community Connection quarterly newsletter anymore. We are doing a yearly magazine instead that will be available in hard copy or electronically. Lovelace would like this to come out every January 1st. It will be out this year in the next couple of weeks. Lovelace asked that member share this with their networks

Kelly is eligible for another 3-year term due to filling someone's vacated position who resigned. He is going to reapply.

Lovelace stated to Werger that he will need to reapply because his terms ends in June. Goulden, Fisher, Schneider, Fagerlund are going to be ending their time on the Council in June. We will need 2 family members and 2 self-advocates.

Lovelace asked that if anyone has suggestions for EC members to let her know. Funston has expressed interest on being on the executive committee. Lovelace stated that Smith may also be interested.

Adjourn: Werger made a motion to adjourn and Kelly seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:09 AM.