

July 8, 2021 Executive Committee Minutes

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

A meeting of the Iowa Developmental Disability Council (DD Council) Executive Committee (EC) was held on July 8, 2021 via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 9:05.

State Plan Approval: Discussed the proposed five year State Plan. Lovelace stated that although it is required by federal regulation that the council approves the plan; the council would only be approving the goals and objectives of the plan. The EC considered two voting options: 1) take the plan to the full council for approval or 2) approve at the executive committee as a first motion and then bring to full council as a first motion, and look for a second motion and approval from the full council. It was decided to approve at the executive council and bring to the full council for approval. Lovelace said the only significant change made to the plan was based on council discussion in May in regards to the Targeted Disparity objective. Based on the changes, the Targeted Disparity Objective has been moved from Capacity Building goal to the Systems Change goal. Schneider voted to approve the State Plan, Judy Warth seconded motion. Motion carried

Evaluation Committee: Fagerlund discussed the value of an evaluation committee responsible for the regular review of and tracking of progress on the state plan. It was decided that the executive committee could serve in this capacity and that the evaluation of the state plan should be a standing agenda item. Judy Warth suggested that other council members, if interested, could be invited to attend executive committee during the time of this standing agenda.

2020 & 2021 Budget Review: Reviewed current budget that was updated to end of May. Lovelace reported that all money was obligated for 2019, but as reported in previous meetings, spending is behind schedule due to pandemic. If money is unspent by September 30, 2021, the money will need to be reverted back to the federal government. Lovelace reminded EC that we have another year to spend 2020 funds and only 75,000 needs to be obligated (signed contract). Lovelace stated that we are going to look at better ways to explain the budget information for the full council with graphs or PowerPoints.

Next meetings: Fagerlund discussed the options of meeting in person, continue to meet virtually or offer a hybrid option for the September meeting. Werger stated he would like it be optional, if people feel comfortable they should be able to attend in person and if they prefer they can join virtually. Fagerlund stated that this would be a transition for the September and November meeting. Then a decision can be made about whether or not the By-laws need to be changed. Lovelace stated that the council meetings are public and we will need to give the option to also participate in person. It was recommended that the public should be encouraged to attend virtually. Warth suggested that we evaluate how effective a hybrid model of meeting works for engagement. Werger made a motion to have people choose to come in person or participate virtually, Kelly seconded motion. Motion carried.

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Administrative Assistant Update: We had a number of applicants and have selected a top candidate. Lovelace said an offer will be extend after approval from Human Resources The new assistant would start in August.

Annual Self-Advocate Award in Honor of Mia Peterson: Lovelace discussed the advocacy efforts and contributions of Mia Peterson, a self-advocate who passed away in June. Mia Peterson was also a DD Council member in 1997. Lovelace would like to offer an annual self-advocacy award of someone who has “taken action” in honor of Mia and have the award given at our annual Make your Mark Conference. Warth suggested that we offer the award to someone who has shown they can advocate but to also offer a scholarship for someone who wants to be a better leadership and this scholarship would support that. Warth made a motion to offer an annual self-advocacy award to a strong advocate as well as five \$1,000 scholarships to people who want to take action and become a better leader. Schneider seconded. Motion carried.

Vaccine Marketing Campaign: Lovelace shared that the vaccine hesitancy campaign, commercials and toolkits will be slated to go the following week. Council members Fisher and Brady did a video about why there were vaccinated. Lisa Yunek , mother of council Member Baldluf and Lisa Heddens, former state representative and mother of a person with a disability and two providers were also included in a video. Lovelace reminded the EC that these funds were a separate grant from the Administration of Community Living.

New Board Members Appointee Status and Orientation: Lovelace shared that as of July 1, the Council has 10 openings for Council Members. Lovelace has had frequent contact with the Governor’s office about our appointments. There are enough applicants for the openings. Lovelace stated that Governor’s office hopes to have appointees yet this month. Lovelace shared that only the 14 current members can vote today during the full council meeting on council business. Lovelace stated that we still will want to do a new member council orientation in August. Schneider suggested doing it after August 23.

Executive Committee Member Updates: Kallestad shared that he is interested in establishing a Public Policy Committee that would more frequently throughout the year to work on policy issues and meet with legislators. Fagerlund suggested piloting this committee for a year before we make it a standing committee. Werger made a motion, Kelly seconded. Motion passed. Kallestad will send out a description to the full council and ask for volunteers. Warth also suggested asking all Council members to take part of at least one committee or volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

Kelly made a motion to adjourn. Warth seconded. Motion carried

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