

Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council Meeting Minutes July 8, 2021

Council Member Attendees: Alecia Balduf, Carol Cross, Robert Fisher, Amber Gale, Catherine Hedderich, Paula Motsinger, Rob Roozeboom, Jean Willard, Judy Warth, Brady Werger, Hugh Kelly, Mark Schneider, Al Fagerlund

Council Staff: Brooke Lovelace and Bill Kallestad

Council Members Absent: Jason Goulden and Mark Smith

Members of the Public: Kristen Aller, Roxanne Cogil, Amber Gale, Tiffany Poage, Catherine Johnson, Connie Fanselow, John McCalley, Vienna Hoang, Julie Bergeson, Lisa Yunek, Liz Matney, Matt Highland, Lane Till, Emily Koss and Amy Campbell

Call to Order:

Council Chair Fagerlund called the Iowa Developmental Council (DD Council) meeting to order on July 8, 2021 at 10:38 a.m. A quorum was established. Lovelace shared that the Governor's office has not appointed our new members that were to take place July 1, 2021. Therefore, we only have 14 members of the Council and only those 14 members can vote on Council business.

Agenda Item/Approval of Minutes and Agenda:

Lovelace indicated two changes to agenda. 1) Agenda Item: Call to Order, change to "9 members must be present based on current members". 2) Agenda Item: Executive Committee Report, change DD Council Budget Status to 2020 and 2021. Warth made motion to accept changes and approve, Kelly seconded motion. Motion carried. Kelly made motion to accept minutes. Fisher seconded that motion. Motion carried.

Executive Committee report:

State Plan Approval: Fagerlund reported that the EC discussed and approved the five-year State Plan. More discussion later on the agenda.

2020 and 2021 DD Council Budget Status: 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 to the federal government. Lovelace also shared that we are going to develop a format that will make it easier to see what our financial status is and that will be coming by the November meeting if not before.

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Next Meeting Plans: Fagerlund shared the EC decided that the next meeting in September will be a transition meeting where people can decide to come in person or participate via Zoom. The By-laws currently do not allow for people to participate by Zoom but this may not be a permanent change so we will not be changing By-laws at this point. Fagerlund also said we are going to encourage public to attend the September Transition meeting via Zoom to reduce the numbers in the room. If people do not feel comfortable attending in person they should participate via Zoom.

Update Administrative Assistant: We had a number of applicants and have selected a top candidate. Lovelace said an offer will be extend after approval from Human Resources. If the offer is accepted the new assistant would be here for our September meeting.

Self-Advocacy Award: Lovelace discussed that a recommendation was approved at the executive council to have an award of self advocacy award to be presented yearly at the Make your Mark conference. 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. The Council would 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. Lovelace shared that during the EC meeting, Warth suggested that we also offer five \$1,000 scholarships to new and empowered advocates to support in their growth. The money will be used for future training and education. These opportunities will be announced at the Make your Mark Conference

Public Policy Committee: Kallestad will organize a committee this fall and will be looking for members to help create, prioritize and guide the policy work of the council. Look for email updates soon.

State Plan Approval: Lovelace shared that the Council received the full state plan that will be submitted to the federal government as well as the smaller version that has only our goals, objectives and activities. The Council only needs to approve the goals and objectives. Lovelace reported 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. Fagerlund reported the executive committee moved to approve the goals and objectives of the five year State Plan, this acts as the first motion. Motsinger seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve the five year State Plan.

Make your Mark! Conference and Vaccine Campaign Update:

Lane Till and Emily Koss from Capture Marketing provided an update on the annual self advocacy conference to be held in person at the Marriott in West Des Moines on September 15th and 16th. Registration is open and volunteers will be needed. Till and Koss also provided an update on the Vaccine Hesitancy campaign set to launch next week. A video of Council Member Fisher was shared of him talking about why he chose to be vaccinated.

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Policy Updates:

Amy Campbell from InfoNet and Kallestad gave an update on the bills that were signed into law and the bills that did not make it this session. Other opportunities for advocacy during the off session were discussed. **For additional information please see the PowerPoint included in the meeting material handouts. [End of Session Recap](#)*

Department of Human Services Update

Director Garcia was scheduled to attend but was not able to attend. Liz Matney, Director of Medicaid provided an update. Matney stated that she wants to hear from stakeholders on where Medicaid is working and where it isn't. Matney share that they are looking for input on how to spend the extra funding from the Rescue Act. They are looking at sustainable efforts. Matney shared there are three areas they are looking at, training Home and Community Based providers across the state, increasing access to services and workforce shortage. Matney shared that there is about 90 million dollars to spend. Council members then discussed how they feel they are not able to work because there is a fear of losing their benefits. Matney suggested forming a workgroup to brainstorm what some of the barriers maybe as well as what missed information about working and keeping benefits. Matney then shared information about a town hall meeting later in the day to gather more input about spending

Council Updates

Fisher gave an update on the Adel Post office. They have updated the door but it is not automatic. It is a lighter door but not as accessible. Werger told a story about advocacy effort in Glenwood Iowa. There was a bridge with some potholes and cracks in the sidewalk. Werger became aware of the issue on Facebook. He alerted the city of the issue. They explained they knew of the issue, but could not fix it until after the school year. Werger was happy to report that it was fixed immediately after the school year. Kelly gave an update on the SOAR conference. This year it is virtual. The conference is Friday-Sunday following the Make Your Conference year. Warth shared an update of the sexual health-training program she has been working on. She is still looking for advocates to be a train the trainer.

Public Comments

Lisa Yunek commented that there people are able to work and keep their Medicaid. There are rules to follow, you should follow up and take IVRS Benefits Planning. Vienna Hoang commented that Vocational Rehabilitation has a monthly benefits planning meetings with family members and students but anyone can attend. The next one is on July 8 at 6:00. Roxanne Cogil shared information about training on seizures. Cogil also shared that there is a transitional camp that her daughter has been going to that is losing their funding. If people know of another funding source to message Cogil.

Kelly made a motion to adjourn. Werger seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:15.

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