



**Governor's Council on People with Disabilities
Council Meeting Minutes
November 14-15, 2012
150 E. Campus Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43235
Ken Campbell Room**

Attendees:

Matt Sauer, Chair GCPD
Judy Sauer, PA
Chuck Beatty, member
Shari Cooper, member
Erma Cooper, PA
Bob Thurman, member
Bob Milliken, member
Harry Prestanski, member
Amy Feagle, member
Toni Bigby, member
Marshall Kimmel, member (November 14 only)
Victoria Willford, member
Kevin Willford, PA
Connie O'Brien, member (November 15 only)
Sara Clark, PRI
Donna Foster, staff
Larry McCartney, staff

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Matt Sauer.

Introductions: Council members and guests introduced themselves. GCPD has two new members, Bob Milliken and Harry Presentanski.

Bob Milliken is from Stark County. He became an advocate because he has two older brothers with DD. He's been involved in many organizations, including serving as a board member. The organizations include the Stark County Board of DD, Ohio Association of County Boards, Ohio DD Council and Ohio Sibs.

Harry Prestanski is from Cincinnati. He is an advocate for veterans, especially veterans with disabilities.

Brad Reynolds, Chief of Communications at RSC, now oversees GCPD staff and is the liaison to the Governor's office and RSC. Reynolds described his duties and stated his belief in open communication and commitment to building a good relationship with the Council.

Discussion of 2012-13 Objectives

Youth Leadership Forum (YLF)

Foster gave a short explanation of last year's financial situation and discussed the meeting with Gary Tonks, ARC of Ohio and Carolyn Knight, DD Council. A letter was drafted to Ben Hollinger of Employment First, as recommended by Knight.

TO DO: Foster, McCartney and Sauer will follow up with ARC of Ohio, Employment First and the Department of Education. After a fiscal partner has been identified and agreed upon, other Members may be assigned to other duties.

Annual Awards meeting

Members discussed the difference between this year's event and prior years. It was stated that members need to be more involved to help make this event more memorable for award winners. A recommendation was made to tag annual awards ceremony onto RSC's Disability Jobs Summit 2013, scheduled for October of 2013.

TO DO: Reynolds and Sauer will further discuss this opportunity and how it would affect the GCPD budget and outgoing members and their ability to be reimbursed travel expenses if they are no longer members.

Discussion arose regarding mailing lists/list serves and lack of records from previous council years.

TO DO: Staff will check with IT to see what happened to Pam Carter's info on her computer.

Policy and procedures regarding nominations

Members held a discussion regarding the need for formal, written policies and procedures.

TO DO: Bob Thurman, Tori Willford and Marshall Kimmel will work on writing up template/procedures for awards and will finalize the healthcare professional award started by Kitty Hevener last year.

Letter by Member Chuck Beatty

Beatty passed out a copy of a letter that he sent to his State Representative regarding possible changes to the Ohio Revised Code regarding GCPD. Members discussed and it was recommended to review with Brad Reynolds.

TO DO: Sauer will discuss with Reynolds and Director Miller, if appropriate, for feedback prior to December's meeting.

Involvement in other disability organizations

Chairman Sauer asked each member to have contact with 2 disability organizations in order to report back issues or perspectives of people with disabilities (PWD.) This information will be recorded in the minutes and reviewed for trends, emerging themes or concerns that could be shared with the Governor's Office.

TO DO: Each member will report at December's meeting what two agencies/disability organizations that they will connect with on an ongoing basis.

Chairman Sauer began a discussion of committee structure. Members had varying opinions, but most agreed that working as one committee was not beneficial and that members needed to be split in some fashion. Chairman Sauer asked each member to return in the morning with at least one goal for the Council that is specific, realistic and measurable. He also asked for members to be prepared to discuss how liaisons can be best utilized.

Meeting Adjourned.

November 15, 2012

Welcome and Introductions.

Members each gave a goal.

1. Ask to have all members appointed by December 1.
2. Ten students from YLF to participate in future leadership training, such as Partners in Policy making, Ohio Self Determination, People First.
3. Work with airports to have test on screen regarding flight changes, etc. so information is accessible to Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals.
4. Advise the Governor on three issues within the state budget that affect PWD.
5. Expand the Executive Order Employment First to include all people with disabilities not just developmental disabilities.
6. Work with ODJFS to make all announcements, etc. in accessible format.
7. Present MBIWD to 4 county boards/SSA.
8. Develop a database network/ mailing list for sharing information.

9. Appoint a liaison from the National Council on Disability (NCD) to GCPD.
10. Determine barriers for business to hiring people with disabilities.
11. Appoint a member of GCPD to be a liaison to the Business Leadership Network (BLN).
12. Partner with the BLN and other entities to have a job fair for PWD.
13. Partner with RSC for disability Jobs Summit 2013.
14. Explore with other entities on how to help Ohio bring all federal dollars down for VR.
15. Determine how the Affordable Care Act (ACA) as implemented in Ohio will affect PWD.

Members were asked to pick their top three goals. The goals chosen most often were #2, #4, #5, #8, #9, #11, and #15.

Members were assigned as follows:

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE – chair, Marshall Kimmel

Members: Matt Sauer, Chuck Beatty, Connie O'Brien, Harry Presentanski, Robert Mitchell

Liaisons: Carolyn Knight from DD Council

TO DO: Shari Cooper will ask Carolyn Knight if she can be a liaison.

Goal: Expand the Executive Order - Employment First to include all people with disabilities not just developmental disabilities.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – chair, Shari Cooper

Members: Karen Mendoza, Amy Feagle, Bob Milliken, Bob Thurman

Liaisons: Nozipho Nxumalo from the Department of Education

Goal: Ten students from YLF to participate in future leadership training, such as Partners in Policy making, Ohio Self Determination, People First.

HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE – chair, Tori Willford

Members: Toni Bigby, Chuck Beatty

Liaisons: Neal Edgar, Mental Health of America

Goal: Determine how the Affordable Care Act (ACA) as implemented in Ohio will affect PWD.

ACCESS CONCERNS COMMITTEE – chair, Bryan Grubb
Members: Marshall Kimmel, Robert Mitchell
Liaisons: Eric Rathburn, AT of Ohio, Scott Lissner, OSU, Judy Sauer, special consultant

Goal: Develop a database network/ mailing list for sharing information.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – chair, Bob Thurman
Members: Bob Thurman, Connie O'Brien, Matt Sauer, Toni Bigby

Goal: Advise the Governor on three issues within the state budget that affect PWD.

TO DO: Chairs, or other designated member, of committees are responsible for developing an action plan related to their goal and presenting it at the December 12 meeting.

LIAISONS

Neal Edgar, Mental Health America, Franklin County reported on SB 310. This bill would allow judges to court order outpatient mental health treatment. NAMI supports this bill, but the consumer group, the Ohio Employment Coalition, doesn't. GCPD could contact Betsy Johnson, NAMI OHIO, to see how they could be helpful. Toni Bigby asked for Neal Edgar to bring information to the next meeting on how the ACA would affect people with mental illness and the field's hopes for the new state budget.

TO DO: Bob Thurman will call Doug Law, Franklin County Veteran Services, and ask to be a liaison.

TO DO: Foster will ask Melody Moon from the Department of DD if she can find a liaison for the employment committee.

DIRECTOR KEVIN MILLER

Director Miller reported on the state of RSC.

- Budget numbers have been submitted to the Governor for the upcoming year.
- One of RSC's goals is to eliminate the wait list. Over 8,000 consumers have been released so far.
- RSC is partnering with Department of Education and the Department of DODD to provide services for a variety of consumers.
- RSC is working with the Business Leadership Network to provide services to employers.
- The new fee schedule was rolled out in October.
- RSC will have a name change soon.

Meeting adjourned.