

WV Developmental Disabilities Council  
Quarterly Meeting - Stonewall Jackson Resort  
April 27, 2011

MINUTES

Members present: Sarah Brown, Robert Cain, Joyce Church, Richard Covert, Ronald Dean, Jeannie Elkins, Sandy Haberbosch, Betty Holliday, Ann Hubbs, Kelly Miller, Richard Perry, Clark Queen, Jerry Ramsey, Tina Tanner, Stacey Thomas, Amber Hinkle, Beth Morrison, Christina Mullins, Patricia Nisbet, LuAnn Summers, Jane McCallister, and Clarice Hausch.

Members absent: Virginia Gattlieb, Stephanie Jackson, Clint Martin, Karen Robinson, Carlos Lucero, Julie McClanahan, John David Smith, Karen Ruddie, and Janice Holland.

Staff present: Steve Wiseman, Christy Black, Jim Cremeans, and Linda Higgs.

**Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements:** Jeannie called the meeting to order and welcomed Beth Morrison as the newest Member to the Council. Everyone introduced themselves.

Jeannie reported that she, Stacey, Christy, and Steve had attended the National Disability Policy Forum in Washington, DC on behalf of the Council, meeting with Congressional representatives while there.

Steve reported the Council has become a member of the newly re-established APSE organization in WV. Its main focus is the promotion of supported employment.

He also reported a joint letter from him and Clarice (for WV Advocates) had been sent to the newly appointed Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jorea Marple, addressing the lack of policies on restraints and seclusions in WV schools. He then referred Members to a report on this issue in their packets called, "The Cost of Waiting."

Steve then announced the Council had received \$3,000 from the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) to be used to off-set the costs of technical assistance for the Council's five year planning process.

He also informed Members that the formal paperwork has been completed and approved for the Council to provide funds to the Department of Education to assist with the COACH training the Council approved previously.

**Mission Statement Reminder:** Stacey read the Council's Mission statement.

**Public Comments:** None

Jeannie recognized and thanked Members who particularly helped to spread the word and attend the Council's recent public forums: Kelly, Stacey, Joyce, Ann, Richard, Jane, and Pat.

**Approval of January 25, 2011 Minutes:** Joyce asked that the Minutes be corrected to indicate Pat's attendance for the afternoon only portion of the meeting. **Ron moved and Clark seconded the motion that the Minutes be accepted as corrected. Motion carried.**

**New Business**

**Budget Update:** Steve reported the Council is currently a bit under its projected budget and that the \$75,500 planned for current expenses for the year still looks good. Some grants are under budget at this point in the year because some have under spent and one grant has been halted.

He reported that the Council will be affected by the Federal budget reductions but since the Council budgets conservatively and still has some carry-over monies from previous years, the overall impact should be very minor.

The \$717,000 allocated for current year grants will be reduced by approximately \$40,000 with the discontinuation of one grant. Six other Council grants are in their final year and will be expiring.

**Grant Discussion:** Steve provided an update to the Members about the Council's previous grant with the WVU Psychology Department (through the WVU Research Corp.) to develop an on-line course for emergency responder training. The grant expired at the end of March following a no-cost extension. \$33,069.45 was billed by the grantee but progress was not made and the work was not completed. A letter will be sent to the WVU Research Corporation to cancel any future billing and an attempt will be made to recover some portion of the expended funds.

Steve told the Members that because of the success of other projects in the area of emergency response (Arc of the MOV and RESA VIII) the Council has achieved results in this area although the WVU grant failed.

**Designated Stipends Allotment:** Steve proposed that the Council approve a slight increase, from \$32,000 to \$35,000, for the FY2012 allotment due to rising costs. **Jane moved and Sandy seconded the motion to approve \$35,000 for FY 2012 Designated Stipends funding. Motion carried.**

**Call for Investments Allotment:** Steve proposed making \$225,000 available to advertise for the FY2012 Call for Investments. **Ann moved and Stacey seconded the motion to approve \$225,000 for the FY2012 Call for Investments. Motion carried.**

Jeannie then returned to a previous order of business and invited Council Members who had any announcements to speak.

Clarice thanked the Council for the designated stipend funding provided to assist with families attending the Wright's Law training hosted by WV Advocates.

Ann reported she had contact with a member of the National Guard in Monongalia County concerning emergency response training and will refer them to Council staff.

Pat Nisbet thanked the Council for the funding provided (\$1200) to the ID/DD Quality Improvement Advisory Council to assist with the participation by family members and individuals with developmental disabilities who are members of that Council. Steve and Pat both mentioned that the ID/DD QIA Council will be soliciting new members in the near future.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

**Approval of new Members for Appointment by the Governor:** Betty Holliday was the Chair of the Committee and reported to the Council. **Betty moved and Christina seconded the motion to forward applications for Joyce Church, Ann Hubbs, and Jerry Ramsey to the Governor for re-appointment to the Council for another four years. Motion carried. Joyce, Ann, and Jerry abstained from voting.**

**Betty moved and Kelly seconded the motion to forward applications to the Governor for appointment for Jim Slinn for a one year term, and Greg Bilonick and Stefanie Caldwell each for four year terms. Motion carried.**

**Betty moved and Stacey seconded the motion to forward an application to the Governor for the appointment of Melissa Sears to an At-Large position for a four year term. Motion carried.**

**Betty moved and Christina seconded the motion for the Council to change the Higher Education position to one filled by a representative of the State Higher Education Policy Commission. Motion carried.**

**Betty moved and Kelly seconded the motion that John David Smith continue in the Higher Education position until the Council By-Laws are amended to reflect the change just approved. Motion carried.**

**Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson: Betty moved and Christina seconded the motion to approve Stacey Thomas to a two year term as Council Chair and Clark Queen to a two year term as Council Vice-Chair. Jeannie asked for any nominations from the floor, and none were made. Motion carried. Stacey and Clark abstained from voting.**

Further details of the Nominating Committee's work was available to Members through the Nominating Committee Report provided in their Council meeting packets.

**Election of Executive Committee Member: Jeannie reported that a request had gone out to all eligible Council Members soliciting interest in filling a vacancy on the Executive Committee. One Member, Kelly Miller, expressed an interest. Jeannie moved and Christina seconded the motion to approve Kelly Miller for a two year term to the Executive Committee. Jeannie asked for any nominations from the floor, and none were made. Motion carried. Kelly abstained from voting.**

## **Other Business**

### **Update on Council Activities**

**Final Legislative Report:** Christy provided Members with a final update on the recent legislative session. Her report was distributed at the meeting.

**Trainings:** Christy reminded Members of the upcoming class for Partners in Policymaking (PIP) and Linda spoke about the recent SRV-10 training and informed Members of several other planned trainings, including: the 'Meaningful Life' training in August; PASSING in the fall; and a training on alternatives to guardianship being planned for April, 2012.

**Council Members' Concerns:** Bob asked Members for any items they would like to bring up at this time. No concerns were raised.

**ID/DD Waiver Update:** Pat provided Members an update on the ID/DD Waiver. She reported that the Rate Review Committee is still working on rates and that surveys were sent to 14 behavioral health provider agencies to solicit detailed information to help in setting new rates. 12 surveys were completed and returned. The Committee meets weekly by conference call, but will meet on site at BMS on May 9. She expects the rates to be a top priority on the Agenda.

Pat still hopes to be able to post the new Manual on the Bureau for Medical Services' website by the end of May for a 30-day comment period. She then expects training on the new Manual would begin in July with the intent to hold education forums around the state. These may be two-day sessions with one day to cover changes to the Manual and one day to give specific information on the new self-direction option.

Pat anticipates the new Waiver Manual will go into effect around the first of September or October.

She also reported the current wait list for the ID/DD Waiver stands at 407 and expects there will be between 100-150 rollover slots available on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Pat then reported that Adepto, a new Agency in Parkersburg, is being closed as of Friday, April 29, at midnight. Eight individuals were being served by this Agency. Seven have already been transferred to other Agencies in the area.

Clarice asked Pat about the \$1million allocation from the Legislature for the ID/DD Waiver. Pat reported that the Department has until June 30, 2012 to determine how the funds will be used and expects it will be used to cover 2014 slots.

Steve then shared with Members two major concerns he has been bringing up at the ID/DD Waiver QIA Council meetings. He has expressed grave concerns about areas of the state where staff cannot be recruited, particularly the eastern panhandle and Morgantown areas. He has also expressed a desire for discussion about incentivizing rates in border counties of the state to help address the staff recruitment issues.

Ann then related her concerns and experiences with trying to find staff for her son in Monongalia County.

Steve also spoke of another concern he has brought up at the QIA Council meetings related to policies and practices that inhibit people from getting valued employment and the need to incentivize services that are already allowed in the Waiver for supported employment rather than day programming.

Clarice expressed a concern for those in the Monongalia and Preston County areas who need 24 hour support in small (3 or less people) residences, which is not available in those areas at all at the present time. She stated that people needing these services are being moved to other areas of the state.

**Council Five Year Plan:** Jeannie turned the meeting over to Julie Pratt, who was facilitating the Council's work on the Plan. The Council continued its work from the retreat held on Tuesday, April 26 to determine the Areas of Emphasis the Council would concentrate on in the next five years.

The Areas of Emphasis the Council will address during the next Five Year Plan will be Community Support, Employment, Quality Assurance, Health, and Education.

**Adjournment:** Kelly moved to adjourn the meeting.