



Governor's Council on People with Disabilities
Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2016

Council Member Attendees: Matthew Sauer, Ph. D., Chair, Chip Heidt, Vice-chair, Bryan Grubb, Melinda Kale, Victoria Baker-Willford, Christine Brown

OOD Staff: Susan Pugh, Deputy Director, BVR, Shirley Marchi, Program Administrator

Guests: Andrea Crago, PRI, Kevin Willford, Jane Allinder, Tonya Grubb, Derek Mortland, Judy Sauer, Eric Ochmanek, State Treasurer's Office, Liz Lewis, State Treasurer's Office

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Sauer welcomed members and visitors and determined a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

Review of Information in Packet/Approval of Agenda

Council members reviewed the information in their packets and approved the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Council member Brown moved to accept the June 15, 2016 minutes, seconded by Council member Grubb. Motion carried

GCPD Awards and Awards Ceremony

GCPD members reviewed nominations and identified the recipients of the 2016 GCPD Awards that included Accessible Medical Services Award, Advocacy Award, Maureen Fitzgerald Leadership Award, Employer of the Year Award, Public/Non-Profit Best Practice Award, Accessible Parking Enforcement Award, and the Karla M. Lortz Scholarship. Council members discussed the Legislator of the Year Awards. GCPD Liaison Shirley Marchi is to notify the award recipients and non-recipients. All recipients will be honored on October 18th at the GCPD Annual Award ceremony at the Statehouse.

Community Updates by Council Members

Council member Brown:

- Held meetings with legislators and self-advocates to discuss higher education funding.
- Met with Director Martin regarding the changes that are going on and the mixed messages. People are worried the workshops may be shut down and everyone will be on the street.

- OOD will be attending the central region in September. The Cynergy Conference Registration will be sent to Council members.

Vice-chair Heidt:

- Recently joined the Board of LADD in Cincinnati, which is living arrangements for the developmentally disabled. They are looking at people first language.
- The Real Ability Film Festival is coming in 2017. The film festival is done every two years and brings in advocates from all over the country.
- The wheelchair games will be in Cincinnati as well as awareness about veterans.
- Cincinnati has a pilot program with the Department of Labor called, Getting Down to Business. This program is to strengthen small businesses through disability inclusion.
- Children's Home is opening up a school that focuses on children with autism.

Council member Kale:

- A business was awarded a multi-million dollar contract with the state and Community Rehabilitation Programs. This provided opportunities for employment through production and customer service.
- The industry is continuing with its transition to become a private entity with the new CEO in place. A leadership team was just hired. Interviews are currently being conducted with direct care staff. The goal is to become a completely nonprofit private entity.

Council member Grubb:

- On the Board for the Deaf Culture. We have seven board members and have been meeting to raise money. Packets will be created to include a welcome letter, introduction letter and explanations about being a deaf citizen. We will have a digital library for people to access information about deaf history, the deafblind community, and for families that have a child born into a hearing family and this is their first exposure to deafness and not knowing what options are out there for raising a deaf child.

Council member Willford:

- Providing trainings for Ohio Provider Network Association in conjunction with Ohio Self-Determination Association. Emphasizing a stronger Provider resource support system for southern Ohio Appalachia, with the importance of employment and supporting true integrated employment.

Chair Sauer:

- Working with the Office of Civil Rights. There has been a gap in the university environment across the country in taking the ADA into employment situations when you are in a situation where your reemployment is part of your educational process. Working on guidelines and looking at best practices to figure out what kinds of things we should talk about and develop in a program.
- Developed a program for students on the autism spectrum in the university environment.

- Looking at issues of persistence to graduation. Students perform very high in the academic realm, but persistence to graduation is a problem.

OOD Updates

- *Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Portal (OODWorks.com)*: BVR Deputy Director Susan Pugh reported Phase one of the VR portal pilot program began yesterday at the Whitehall office. It is not available to the public yet. During National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) in October, there will be a more robust rollout. The front page of the OOD's website (OODworks.com) was created to not look like a government page. There will be motion graphics, a video that talks about why you would work, the value of work and what the VR program does in terms of offering assistance. The video will be accessible. Phase two will be for existing consumers who are receiving services with more functionality. If they need to get additional paperwork, they will be able to upload the information. Phase three will be for Providers to upload reports.
- *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)*: The WIOA regulations have not been published in the Federal Register yet. In June, 2016 the draft regulations have been communicated out by the Department of Education and the Department of Labor. OOD is working on the alignment activities that needs to be done with the new Act. An area the WIOA is focusing on is youth and self-advocacy training, which is a big part of the Youth Leadership Forum (YLF).

STABLE Account Presentation

Eric Ochmanek and Liz Lewis, State Treasurer's Office, provided a presentation on the STABLE Account.

Sunset Review Update

There has been no action regarding sunseting the GCPD.

Old Business

- *Members*: Council members are to contact the three GCPD members (who have not attended meetings recently) to see if they are still interested in being a member.
- *Name Plates and Business Cards*: Council members reviewed their name plates and business cards. GCPD liaison Shirley Marchi to order name plates and business cards.
- *Executive Summary*: Stephanie and Chip are spearheading

New Business

- October is National Disability Awareness Month. OOD has several job fairs scheduled throughout the state. The job fairs are only for OOD consumers.
- Pam Prosser is OOD's new Communications Chief.

Public Comment

None.

Adjourn

Vice-chair Heidt motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chair Sauer. Motion carried.