



Governor's Council on People with Disabilities
Council Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2015
150 E. Campus Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43235
Ken Campbell Conference Room

Attendees:

Matt Sauer, Chair
Judy Sauer, PA
Robert Heidt, member
Bryan Grubb, member
Tonya Grubb, PA
Sean Bailey, member
Stephanie Garrett, member
Christine Brown, member
Melinda Kale, member
Christine Huggins, member
Nick Huggins, PA
Victoria Willford, member
Kevin Willford, PA
Marshall Kimmel, member
Shirley Marchi, staff
Jane Allinder, interpreter
Interpreter DSC
Donna Foster, staff
PRI court reporter

Introductions of all members and guests present were made. The Chair, Matt Sauer, determined a quorum was present and called the meeting to order. New member, Chip Heidt introduced himself as a veteran from the Cincinnati area.

The first order of business was to approve the minutes. Member Bailey made a motion to approve August 2015 meeting minutes and Member Kale seconded. Motioned approved. Members reviewed the information in the packet, which included: reimbursement forms, the statute, the bylaws, agenda, etc. The next order of business was for members to give updates regarding their involvement in local community organizations.

UPDATES ON DISABILITY ORGANIZATIONS

Chair Sauer has asked each member to become connected with two disability organizations in their area, and then to report any business or trends within this organization at each council meeting.

Chair Sauer reported that he is involved with a local organizations that focuses on Autism spectrum disorders. He also directed a program through the University of Cincinnati and the Department of Labor in hiring People with disabilities

Member Grubb reported on his involvement with the DeafBlind community. He also has a new service dog and warned members that she may want to meet them.

Member Garrett reported that she is involved with the PLAY Project in Preble County. Later in the morning, a guest speaker will be explaining the program for children with autism. She also was able to help families in need in Preble County by being involved in the Christmas toy program and is working with the Special Olympics in her county.

Member Willford reported that she is on a committee for DD Advocacy Day at the Statehouse in March. She is working on the outreach committee which will be trying to help people with disabilities from outlying counties come to Columbus for the event. She also is involved in the National Core Indicator Survey and will be conducted surveys in Southeast Ohio.

Member Heidt introduced himself as a new member from the Cincinnati area. He is working with Veterans with PTSD and also focusing on the heroin epidemic in that area. He also is involved with Easter Seals and the Real Abilities Film Festival in his area.

Member Brown introduced herself. She informed people that the Legislative Advocacy Day that she coordinated in August is now on YouTube. She also reported that she went to Washington DC with Bridget Gargen, Executive Director of the Association of County Boards, and Joe, the legislative liaison. There they met members of Congress and spoke about issues regarding Medicaid Buy In.

Member Huggins introduced herself and reported that the Bauer Fund started by a former GCPD member who lives in Marietta County has raised almost \$25,000 since September. The goal of the Bauer Fund is to assist people with disabilities through education, empowerment and the protection of their legal rights. She also reported the Ohio Speech Language and Hearing Association devoted the spring 2015 issue of its professional Journal to Aphasia.

Member Bailey reported that he is now working for Citibank in Kentucky, right across the river. Citibank is looking to hire more people with disabilities across company lines. He has continued his involvement with representing people with disabilities on the Brown County Emergency Management Taskforce.

Member Kale reported on the CMS transition plan and her involvement with it through her employer, Woodlane Industries. They are looking to privatize so they will be conflict free.

Objectives for 2016

Members discussed ideas for goals for 2016. A lot of the discussion revolved around educating the community about GCPD and the awards and being a conduit for relaying issues affecting the disability community to the Governor's office. Ideas for marketing including videos on Facebook or YouTube and also making sure everything was accessible. Member Grubb asked for an objective to be related to SSP services for the DeafBlind Community and Member Brown wanted to see presentations about Medicaid and possibly exploring funding options for people with disabilities going to college.

GUEST SPEAKERS – Brie Lusheck, Legislative Liaison, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD)

Brie Lusheck introduced herself and reported on current legislation.

HB158 - to change disability terms

HB 56 – would limit public employment's use of criminal records in hiring.

House Resolution 21 –To urge the Congress of the United States to request that the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services revise its guidance on employment services for individuals with developmental disabilities to maintain their right to participate in programs offered by facility-based day programs, training centers, and sheltered workshops.

Director Miller, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD)

Director Miller informed the council that the State of Ohio jobs website no longer will kick out applicants that do not have a driver's license. This is significant for people with disabilities such as visual impairment. He then spoke about the Sunset review and the recommendation for GCPD, CAC and the Commissioners to be "sunsetting" and for a State Rehabilitation Council to be formed. He explained the makeup of the proposed State Rehab Council and also added that OOD would like to hear more from local organizations and or consumers.

MollyKurtz, Department of DD, spoke about the Play Project. She and her daughter, Katie, gave an overview of autism and explained The PLAY Project which is the name for:

- An evidenced-based autism early intervention program
- A Set of principles, methods and techniques used to improve autism symptoms
- An organization that provides professional training and development.

LUNCH

Letter to the Governor

Members discussed issues that they would like to see included in the letter and reviewed what had already been written. Members will email any other additions for the letter to the Governor to Chair Sauer within two weeks so that the letter can be sent by the end of the month.

Proposed State Rehabilitation Council

Members discussed what Director Miller from OOD presented in the morning. Members each gave their opinion and was asked to submit any other concerns to Chair Sauer by the end of the week. Chair Sauer will draft a letter/email expressing concerns and will send to members of the Sunset Review Committee.

Motion made by Member Kimmel to adjourn, Member Grubb seconded.
Meeting Adjourned.