

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL  
EDUCATION

Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes

LOCATION  
Governor's Council Conference Room  
3601 C Street  
Anchorage, Alaska

Teleconference  
Meeting Date  
July 12, 2016  
12:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Amy Simpson, Chair  
Art Delaune  
Sandra DeHart-Mayor  
Mallory Hamilton  
David Kohler  
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus  
Maggie Winston  
Elizabeth Joseph

Staff:

Patrick Reinhart, Executive Director  
Kristin Vandagriff  
Ric Nelson  
Ian Miner  
Halle Yisra'el

Minutes prepared by: Paula DiPaolo, Peninsula Reporting

**Call to Order –12:00 p.m.**  
**Roll Call**

## **WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR** **INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GOOD NEWS**

Patrick Reinhart announced that he attended the service for Steve Lesko, and he read a legislative recognition of Steve’s life on behalf of Representative Millett. A copy of the legislative citation will be hung in the Council’s conference room.

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**

No committee members had conflicts of interest to declare at this time.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Maggie Winston **MOVED** to approve the agenda as presented, **SECONDED** by David Kohler. Hearing no objection, the motion **PASSED**.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

David Kohler **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2016 meeting, **SECONDED** by Maggie Winston. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**, and the minutes were approved as presented.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Patrick Reinhart reported the following correspondence of the Council:

- Letter to the FDA on proposed ban of electric stimulation devises to treat persons with aggressive behaviors.
- Letter to the U.S. Advisory Committee on Increasing Competitive and Integrated Employment.
- Letter to the federal Social Security Administration opposing the proposal to ban firearms to people who receive Social Security.
- Letter to SDS on 1915(i) I/DD eligibility and services draft document.
- Comments to the State Board of Education regarding input on ESSA.

- Letter of support for the Section of Women’s, Children’s, and Family Health for an autism grant, which WCFH received.
- Developed a white paper on Smart Home technology for SDS stakeholder group working on the \$26 million cuts.

## **REPORTS**

### **Executive Director’s Report**

Patrick Reinhart reviewed his written report with committee members as follows:

#### **Financial:**

- Coming in under budget by approximately \$300,000 for the second year in a row.
- Halle Yisra’el and Ian Miner have been working to resolve hundreds of IRIS items either not fully processed or held up elsewhere in system. Halle also learning ALDER, and creating a budget tracking offline.
- Working on all the RSA’s with Trust, DEED, and SDS (receiving), and several to CHD (giving), for FY ’17.
- Revised FY ’17 budget because of increases in federal funding in DD grant and reduction of the Health and Disability grant, which was not renewed.

#### **Human Resources:**

- Reassigned staff time to take up slack with planner and research analyst positions empty. Ric Nelson will take lead on DD, Kristin Vandagriff with Medicaid Ad Hoc, and Christie Reinhardt with FASD. However, with loss of Health and Disability grant, which paid for 50% of Lanny Mommson’s position, she will be reassigned to help with FASD and other areas.
- Caught up on all performance evaluations.
- Received permission to hire for planner from Governor’s office, posted for state-only hire, and in the process of interviews. Several quality candidates. Should be done in a couple weeks.

- Reviewing and revising research analyst position. Not looking to finish this process until the fall.
- Halle Yisra'el is the in-house HR tech. She has extensive experience in this area, and she has the Council's HR files all up to snuff with state standards.
- Call Patrick Reinhart anytime. Call Halle Yisra'el or professional staff anytime. If asking Ian to do something, cc Halle or just call Halle herself, and she will determine what needs to be assigned to him as he is being shared administratively with SDS.

### **Governor's Office Appointments/Updates:**

- Appointments and reappointments made: Elizabeth Joseph of Kongiganak, (YK Delta), a parent to take seat of Angie Fraize; Ursula Jones of Juneau, a parent, to take seat of Alex Gimarc, who was not renewed; Shelly Vendetti-Vuckovich of Anchorage, a parent, to take Heidi Haas's seat; and Maureen Harwood of SDS to take Tara Horton's seat. Still working on ACoA seat. Trying to update lists online and offline and setting up orientation meetings with new members.
- Working on ABLE Act bill signing with Governor's office and bill sponsors.
- Wrote remarks for the Governor for Special Olympics summer games ceremony.
- Was invited to be part of a meeting with Governor's office and Congressional offices to put pressure on the Region X SSI determination office on their overwhelming number of denials for disability benefits (highest in the nation).

### **Trust Update:**

- Just finished two-day FY '18/'19 stakeholders meeting with Trust. Trust planning on focusing resources on Medicaid Reform and Criminal Justice.
- Preparing statement of intent (SOI) with Trust for FY '17 funding levels. All the same except BEE down \$100,000. This will be the last year for ASPEN.

- Planning on attending August 9 - 10 Planning Committee meeting and Full Trust meeting Sept 6 - 7; preparing 40-min presentation.

### **AMC Update:**

- Now serving as president of the board. Seeking Northern region rep on the board.
- Finished contract with SILC for administrative support. SILC is looking to fill current opening in administrative staff position.
- Updated membership list and invoices sent out.
- Finished brief strategic plan with the board.

Mallory Hamilton inquired about the Council's Medicaid Ad Hoc Committee's participation in all of the moving parts of Medicaid Reform. Patrick Reinhart stated that, yes, the Council continues to be involved, and Maureen Harwood would be the best point of contact for further information. Mallory stated that she had made a point to Maureen Harwood that she would like to be involved in assuring the person-centeredness of Medicaid Reform.

### **Committee Reports:**

A written presentation was prepared for committee members. Kristin Vandagriff added that tomorrow's Medicaid Ad Hoc Committee will have two presenters, Steve Lutzky from HCBS Strategies, and Mary James from interRAI.

Patrick Reinhart added that Peer Power purchased new videoconference equipment for the Council's conference room.

Ric Nelson stated that Peer Power is going to apply to be partner in a new grant with EPIC.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **2017 Revised Budget**

Patrick Reinhart reviewed the revised budget with committee members. Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the FY'17 budget as written, **SECONDED** by Maggie Winston. Hearing no objection, the motion **PASSED**.

### **National DD Conference, July 5 – 8, Washington, D.C.**

Maggie Winston stated that she and Ian Miner attended NACDD, and they had a great time and learned a lot. Particularly useful for her was learning the different acronyms.

Ian Miner stated that he attended the technical part of the conference, which was a heavy dose of the PPR. Tomorrow a webinar will be hosted regarding the new system for reporting to the ACL.

Ian also stated that he went to several breakout sessions, some regarding people with I/DD waivers and supports after caregivers pass away, nutrition, and stress reduction.

He enjoyed being at the conference with differently-abled people with disabilities. He had a really fun time and hopes that other staff members are able to go next year.

Maggie Winston stated that the most fulfilling for her was the chair and vice chair training day. It was very informative and eye opening. She felt like all the sessions she attended were very beneficial, and she expressed her gratitude for being selected to attend. She also commented that she heard many other states complaining about their executive directors, and it gave her an opportunity to brag about Patrick Reinhart and all of the roles he fulfills for Alaska.

Next year's conference will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **October Council Meeting**

The Council meeting is scheduled for October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. If the meeting is held by videoconference, it will be a one-day meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>. If it is the will of the Executive Committee, Patrick will request to have a face-to-face meeting on both October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, because the Council expends federal funds and it is not an undue burden to the State budget. Executive Committee members agreed that the Council should meet face to face because of the varying abilities of Council members to appear by webinar/videoconference. It is also an important opportunity for new Council members to meet face-to-face with the full Council.

Patrick Reinhart stated that the Autism Ad Hoc Committee is planning to meet for a half day face to face either before or after the full Council meeting.

### **Other Business From the Floor**

Patrick Reinhart stated that Ric Nelson just arranged for the Council to receive a Tapestry intern named Nicole, who will be working 40 hours at the Council office this summer.

### **State Plan Update**

Patrick Reinhart commented that they received 14 stakeholder comments from the Council's SurveyMonkey regarding the State Plan. They are working to adjust a few sections of the plan based on the comments. The goal is to have it completed by July 30<sup>th</sup> and submitted by August 15<sup>th</sup>. He will send the completed draft back out to the members of the Executive Committee for feedback before sending it to the feds. Approval from the feds should take place by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for August 8th, 2016 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** for adjournment, **SECONDED** by Sandra DeHart-Mayor. With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.