

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Zoom Webinar
Thursday, February 10, 2022**

A regular public meeting of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities was held on Thursday February 10, 2022 and was held as a virtual ZoomWebinar Meeting. The meeting was called to order by Paul Blaustein, Chairperson, who presided and read the Open Public Meeting Act and Council Vision. The meeting notice was published in the Newark Star Ledger and the Trenton Times.

Announcement

- Paul Blaustein recognized the newest member, Michael McCarthy. Michael introduced himself to the members and was welcomed by all.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Meeting Minutes

The November 18, 2021, meeting minutes were distributed.

ACTION:

Motion made by Kevin Nunez to approve the minutes.

Seconded by Todd Emmons, meeting minutes are approved and will be added to the website.

Committee Reports

- ❖ Executive Committee and Chair Report was given by Paul Blaustein.
- ❖ Public Policy Committee Report was given by Kara Kushnir
 - Children and Youth Services Subcommittee Report was given by Peg Kinsell
 - Health and Wellness Committee Report was given by Elizabeth Dalzell
- ❖ Grants Committee Report was given by Mercedes Witowsky
- ❖ State Plan Committee Report was given by Helen Steinberg.

Advocate Caucus Update was given by Kevin Nunez

Voting:

The nominations for the 2nd At Large position on the Executive Committee for an advocate Council Member are:

Myrta Rosa

Andrew McGeady

Todd Emmons

Members submitted their votes in a direct message to Jacinta Williams, as the Zoom Host. Once all votes were tallied, with 1 abstention by Michael McCarthy, Andrew McGeady. Andrew was voted in and congratulated by all.

Executive Director Report given by Mercedes Witowsky.

Public Comment

Paul addressed 1 public comment from the comments section within the Zoom platform.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10pm.

Minutes prepared by Jacinta Williams, Executive Assistant

Next Advocate Caucus is May 11, 2022 at 6pm-7pm
Next Council meeting is May 12, 2022 at 10:00am-Noon

ATTENDANCE

Self-Advocates, Family Members

Paul Blaustein	Todd Emmons	Elizabeth Dalzell	Kara Kushnir
Andrew McGeady	Helen Steinberg	Sarah Aziz	Gary Rubin
Peg Kinsell	Safiyah Muhammad	Myrta Rosa	Ryan Roy
Kevin Nunez	Michael McCarthy		

Excused

Walt Fernandez

DD Act Agencies Representatives & Government Agencies

Joyce Jelley, Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities
Gwen Orłowski, Executive Director, Disability Rights New Jersey
No Representative, Division of Family Health Services
Karen Carroll, Division of Voc. Rehab. Services
Jonathan Seifried, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Developmental Disabilities
Jacqueline Moskowitz, Division of Disability Services
Phyllis Melendez, Division of Medical Asst. & Health Services
Nicole Butan, Office of Special Education Programs

Public Member

VACANT

Guests

Annette Smith
Paul Aronsohn, Ombudsman
Charlotte Glover

Council Staff

Mercedes Witowsky
Jacinta Williams
Bob Titus
Kyoko Coco
Jodi Fox
Gary Brown
Maria Leary
Brenda Considine
Jade Pollack