



Stephanie A. Pratico, *Chair Person*
Kevin T. Casey., *Executive Director*

COUNCIL MEETING NOTES January 26, 2017

A regular public meeting of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities was held on Thursday January 26, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency New Brunswick, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 10:50 am by Chris Miller, Vice Chair Person, 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*.

Introductions/Announcements/Approval of Minutes

Announcement:

- ❖ The Council Advocacy Conference was held on Saturday January 21, 2017 and was well attended. Kevin Casey gave a feedback. Kevin Nunez also shared his experience while attending the conference.
- ❖ Andrew McGeady passed out a flyer seeking a part time staff person.
- ❖ The Council Retreat is scheduled for March 23, 2017. The location is Battleship NJ which is in Camden. Kevin Casey suggested that he and Andrew would conduct a site visit to double check the accessibility.

Action:

Motion made by Andrew McGeady to consider changing the location of the Council Retreat to something accessible and centrally located. Motion seconded by Gary Rubin and discussed. Kevin Nunez is also available to attend an accessibility tour.

Action:

Motion amended by Andrew McGeady to instruct Kevin Casey to change the retreat location and keeping in mind the accessibility standards, Gary Rubin seconded the amended motion. Motion approved, a new location will be found for the Council Retreat.

Abstaining Members: Chris Miller and Peg Kinsell

- ❖ Vice Chair Person Elections will take place during the July 27th meeting. Send suggestions and nominations to Kevin Casey/Jacinta Brister.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the October 27, 2016 meeting were distributed.

Action:

Motion made by Bill Testa to accept the October minutes, seconded by Todd Emmons and approved. The minutes have been approved and will be added to the website.

Public Comment ~ AM

- ❖ Joan Migton was present and made a comment.

Presentation:

Dr. Leah Ziskin, Council Member Health & Wellness Committee Update

Leah gave a summary of the goals of this committee. Presentation of committee white paper: Training Medical Residents to Understand the needs of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Committee Report

- ❖ Executive Committee/Chair Person report given by Chris Miller
 - Peg Kinsell has a concern that the Education Subcommittee should be functioning again. Kevin will take a look at the old membership to bring members back. This will be a subcommittee of the Policy Committee. If anyone is interested in the committee email Kevin Casey and Bob Titus.
- ❖ Policy Committee Report given by Ellie Byra
- ❖ Executive Director Report given by Kevin Casey
 - Database update given
 - Frank Latham is the new Grants Manager and will staff the grants and planning committees. That will leave 2 positions open on the staff.
 - 5 year plan was updated and will be covered extensively during the retreat.
- ❖ Planning/Grants Committee report was given by Chris Miller
 - The following RFPs have gone out and are due back by March 6 by 5pm:
 1. Self-Advocate and Family Member Advocacy Material and Training
 2. Direct Support Professional Advocacy
 3. Special Education Advocacy

Public Comment: ~ PM

- ❖ None at this time.

Other/New Business

- ❖ Paul Blaustein gave an update on the SHA Conference he attended in December.
- ❖ Gary Rubin shared SABE information and feedback.

Adjournment

Action

Motion made by Kevin Nunez to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tara Montague.
Meeting adjourned at 2:15pm

ATTENDANCE

Self-Advocates, Family Members

Ellie Byra	Walt Fernandez	Andrew McGeady
Chris Miller	Tara Montague	Leah Ziskin
Todd Emmons	Myrta Rosa	Gary Rubin
Safiyyah Muhammad	Paul Blaustein	Kevin Nunez
Helen Steinberg	Peg Kinsell	

Absent Members

Stephanie Pratico
Elizabeth Dalzell

DD Act Agencies Representatives & Government Agencies

Michael Knox, Ph.D., Deputy Director, The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities
Jill Hoegel, Disability Rights New Jersey
Kimberly Murray, Office of Special Education Programs
Felicia Walton, Division of Family Health Services
Alice Hunnicutt, Director, Division of Voc. Rehab. Services
Liz Shea, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Developmental Disabilities
No Representative, Division of Disability Services
No Representative, Division of Medical Asst. & Health Services

Public Member

William Testa, Executive Director, Arc of Morris County

Guests

Jonathan Blaustein
Matthew McMullen
Michael Avella
Joan Migton
Cecile Feely, Ph.D., Transportation Autism Project Manager, CAIT, Rutgers
Tyree Clark
Adeola Sonaike, National Get FIT Director, FRN
Eric Joice, Executive Director, Family Resource Network (FRN)
Mercedes Witowsky
Amy Smith

Council Staff

Kevin Casey, Executive Director
Gail Furrer, Fiscal
Jacinta Brister, Assistant
Kyoko Coco, Family Support Coordinator
Frank Latham, Grants Manager/Presenter
Dennie Todd, DD Specialist
Bob Titus, Legislative Coordinator
Jonathan Waller, Communications
Jaymes Brill, People First Coordinator/Youth Leadership