

COUNCIL HYBRID MEETING MINUTES
Zoom Webinar
Thursday, August 11, 2022

A regular public meeting of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities was held on Thursday, August 11, 2022 as a Hybrid Zoom Webinar 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 Star Ledger and the Trenton Times.

Public Comment

Paul Blaustein addressed one public comment that was submitted in advance.

Meeting Minutes

The May 12, 2022, meeting minutes were distributed. Paul called for discussion of the minutes. Kevin noted his attendance was in person and not on zoom.

ACTION:

Motion made by Kevin Nunez to approve the minutes after revising his attendance.
Seconded by Todd Emmons, meeting minutes are approved and will be added to the website.

Voting on Executive Committee Member At Large and Vice Chair

Paul Blaustein explained the nomination and voting process for the Hybrid meeting. Voting will be done by paddle count in the room and by “Direct Message” to Jacinta for those on Zoom. The following candidates made a short statement to the members:

Executive Committee At Large

Todd Emmons

Myrta Rosa

Andrew McGeady

Safiyah Muhammad

Elizabeth Dalzell

Vice Chair

Todd Emmons

Myrta Rosa

Kevin Nunez

Congratulations go to the following elected member:

Executive Committee At Large

Andrew McGeady

Vice Chair

Kevin Nunez

Presentations:

Department of Children and Families/ Children System of Care, presentation was given by Mollie Greene, Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families.

An overview of the services and supports that are available through the Children System of Care (CSoC), as well as some information about the CSoC eligibility determination processes and clarifying some of the questions that are often received about who is responsible for what within CSoC.

The Arc of New Jersey: RFP 3.3 Providing Information and Technical Assistance that Align with Employment First, presentation was given by Jerisa Maseko, Director of Planning for Adult Life.

Planning for Adult Life is a project managed by the Arc of New Jersey, it is funded by the Department of Human Services to inform and educate individuals and families on how to manage the transition from a student's educational entitlement to the adult service system. Jerisa provided an overview of the contract awarded by NJCDD to The Arc to train educators in the principles and steps of Employment First.

NJCDD thanked both presenters for their participation.

Committee Reports (given the limited remaining time available, all committee reports were deferred and the Chair encouraged members to read the very detailed reports submitted by the Committees/Subcommittees)

- ❖ Executive Committee and Chair Report
 - Advocate Advisory Subcommittee Report
- ❖ Public Policy Committee Report
 - Children and Youth Services Subcommittee Report
 - Health and Wellness Committee Report
- ❖ State Plan Committee Report
 - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee Report
- ❖ Grants Committee Report

Advocate Caucus Update

Executive Director Report given by Mercedes Witowsky.

Public Comment

- Jernica Quinones was present and made a comment to the members regarding services for her children.
- Many questions typed into the Zoom Q&A were addressed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Kevin Nunez Seconded by Gary Rubin.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35pm.

Minutes prepared by Jacinta Williams, Executive Assistant

Next Advocate Caucus is November 09, 2022 at 6pm-8pm
Next Council meeting is November 10, 2022 at 9:30am-2:30pm

ATTENDANCE

Self-Advocates, Family Members

Paul Blaustein	Todd Emmons	Elizabeth Dalzell
Andrew McGeady	Sarah Aziz, Zoom	Walt Fernandez, Zoom
Gary Rubin	Myrta Rosa	Ryan Roy
Peg Kinsell	Kevin Nunez	Safiyah Muhammad, Zoom
Helen Steinberg	Michael McCarthy, Zoom	Nantanee Koppstein, Zoom

Excused

Kara Kushnir

DD Act Agencies Representatives & Government Agencies

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

Public Member

VACANT

Guests

Matthew McMullen
Annette Smith, Zoom
Nick Taubenslag, Zoom
Kerry McGrath
Walter Kalman, President, The McKallyn Group
Paul Aronsohn, Ombudsman
Christine Bakter, Deputy Director, Ombudsman
Laura Williams, Executive Director, Arc Ocean County, Zoom
Celine Fortin, Assoc. Executive Director, Arc NJ
Kaylee McGuire, Assistant Commissioner, Zoom

Guests Continued

Cathy Tamburello
Jernica Quinones
Laura Sucharski
Edna Bond, PCA

Council Staff

Mercedes Witowsky
Bob Titus
Kyoko Coco
Jodi Fox
Gary Brown
Jesse Schwartzman
Jade Pollack, Zoom
Alison Malnak
Jacinta Williams