

**The Southbury Training School Board of Trustees
Met in Eugene Harvey's Conference Room at Southbury Training School,
Southbury, Connecticut, on Monday, October 23, 2017.**

Present: Eileen Lemay, Chair
Diana Mennone
Louis Richards
Mark Cooper
Eugene Harvey
Excused: Ann Dougherty, Vice Chair

Eileen Lemay, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m. in the Director's Conference Room.

COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Diana Mennone, STS BOT Representative to the Council on Developmental Services, reported on the June 15th, July 11th, August 24th and September 14th meetings.

June 15, 2017 Commissioner Jordan Scheff updated the Council on the state not having a budget and how DDS is making preparations. DDS legislative affairs will send updates to the Council once a budget is agreed upon.

Camp Harkness and Camp Quinebaug will be open for the summer.

Christine Polio Cooney (Legislative Liaison) noted that the legislature passed a deficiency appropriations bill and a deficit mitigation plan bill for fiscal year 2017. These measures as passed assure that the state budget for FY 2017 (the current fiscal year) is in balance. Additionally, the legislature approved the call for special session at a date to be determined. The call of the special session is to include only items related to the FY 2018-2019 budget, revenue, bonding and school construction. If a budget is not passed before the beginning of the next fiscal year (July 1, 2017), the Governor has executive authority to determine allocations to state agencies. After a budget is passed, budget implementer bills will follow which outline details related to items in the budget. DDS is keeping an eye on items that need to go in the implementer such as the move of the Office of Protection and Advocacy's Abuse Investigation Division to DDS. If the language is not passed before July 1, 2017, DDS will enter a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Rehabilitative Services (DORS) to reflect the move to DDS. Other items that DDS are tracking closely include a proposal by the nursing home association to offer services to individuals with intellectual disability in nursing homes in a segregated wing (DDS is opposed and has shared concerns with the proponents); the issue of financial responsibility for school age children in residential settings; and requirements around federal background checks for staff who handle federal tax information. DDS legislative affairs will keep the council up to date once a budget is agreed to.

July 11, 2017 Special Meeting

The Commissioner updated the Council on the budget explaining reduced expenditures affecting DDS. The Commissioner regularly attends meetings with other state commissioners, Secretary Barnes of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), the Governor's Chief of Staff, Brian Durand, and the Governor who attends

periodically. During the meetings, there are discussions concerning contingency plans and when the legislature will come to a vote. The Commissioner works fondly and closely with many legislators and has looked at each proposed budget and was appreciative but concerned over the potential impact on DDS. The Commissioner is hoping for a budget by October 1st and that current levels of funding will be restored back to July 1st.

August 24, 2017

I was unable to attend the August meeting.

September 14, 2017

I was unable to attend the September meeting.

To view the approved minutes from the June, July, August and September 2017 meetings, go to the DDS website at www.ct.gov/dds - click on **BOARDS AND COUNCILS**, click on **COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**, scroll down to: **2017 MEETING SCHEDULES / MINUTES**. Find dates of **MEETINGS**; see **AGENDA** columns and **MINUTES** columns to the right.

To ask and receive DDS legislative updates, email the DDS Legislative and Regulations Specialist: Rod.OConnor@ct.gov

More information is available on the DDS website: www.ct.gov/dds (Legislative Affairs)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Current resident population is 216.
- Cottages 31, 5 and PBR closed on 6/29/17. Cottage 7 reopened on 6/27/17 and has a current population of nine. All staff has been relocated to other cottages on grounds.
- Closure of Cottage 8 was announced on September 12, 2017. Ten of the residents will be transferred to STS Cottages by early December and the remaining three residents, who are slated for community placement, will remain in Cottage 8 until the anticipated placement occurs in February 2018.
- STS has submitted a request to fill twenty part-time Direct Care workers for 1st shift. This request is currently with OPM.
- Approval to fill two nursing position has been received.
- The Supervisor of the Communications Department has retired, but there is additional staff to cover the Department.
- Dr. Wagher, our part-time Dentist unfortunately passed away recently. Eugene met with Dr. Jessica Bruce at 11:00 a.m. today for consideration of establishing a per diem position focusing on later hours.
- The two-year closure plan for the STS Fire Department has been resubmitted to OPM. It is anticipated that this issue will not be reviewed until after a budget has passed.
- Met with Engineers on Thursday, October 19th, regarding the heat pump plan for Cottages 18 and 33. It is anticipated that the installation of the pumps will be approximately \$125,000 and that the installation will be complete by late spring.
- New floors have been installed in Cottage 33.
- Looking at Cottage 9 as an alternate location for Thrift Shop One. New Day Programs have been created in both Thrift Shop One and Thrift Shop Too. Cottage 9 will be able provide a larger space for our staff, the Day Program and the customers.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

The Town of Southbury and specifically the Southbury Planning Commission has been conducting a study to consider uses of Southbury Training School property when the time comes to close it. DeLoris Curtis, Land Use Administrator, reached out to the Board and asked if they would be interested in the Southbury Planning Commission share their study. Eileen Lemay, BOT Chair, will invite Ms. Curtis to the November meeting.

The 2018 BOT Meeting Schedule was reviewed. Mark Cooper made a motion to accept the 2018 Meeting Schedule; Diana Mennone seconded. All in favor.

The next meeting of the STS Board of Trustees will be **Monday, November 27, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. in the Director's Conference Room.**

There being no further business, Diana Mennone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:06 p.m.; Mark Cooper seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Webb, Recording Secretary

Mark A.R. Cooper, Secretary

Approved by the STS Board of Trustees
October 27, 2017