

CT Family Support Council

Meeting Minutes: November 10th, 2016

Meeting Time: 10:00 - 12:00

Meeting Location: Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, 60B Weston Street, Hartford, CT.

In Attendance: Ann Gionet, Joan Barere, Linda Mizzi, Lisa Sheppard, Lynn Fogg-Cornelio
On Phone: Laurie Cantwell, Annika Burney, Sara Lourie, Allison Quirion, Mona Tremblay, Robin Wood

Absent:, Renee Toper, Wayne & Jackie Cammaro, April Dipollina, Isabelina Rodriquez

Guests:

Call to order: 10:08 by Lisa Sheppard

Public Comment: None

Approval of July Minutes: Ann Gionet made a motion to accept minutes as written. Lisa Sheppard's name is misspelled. Sara Laurie seconded the motion with spelling corrections. It was approved by the Council members present. Mona Tremblay abstained.

Approval of October Minutes: Mona Tremblay made a motion to accept. Linda Mizzi seconded the motion with verbiage corrections " Dyslexia Awareness Month". Ann Gionet and Sara Laurie abstained.

Old Business:

Follow Up meeting with Alan Bergman on November 15th, 9:00 am -12:00 pm at the Office of Protection and Advocacy. Please submit any questions for Alan Bergman prior to the the follow up meeting to Linda Mizzi. A reminder will sent to Council members. Mona Tremblay will call in. The minutes from the Retreat submitted by Lynn Fogg-Cornelio were very thorough and appreciated.

Ann Gionet informed the Council of another event scheduled for November 15th from 12:00 - 4:30. The Office of the Healthcare Advocate has an important event, "15 Years of Advocacy". Attendance includes: Kevin Lembo, Lt Governor Nancy Wyman, Senator Tony Hwang, Representative Susan Johnson and Damian Fontanella, Acting State Healthcare Advocate. Topics include: Accessing Autism Services & Other Available Resources, Timely and Affordable Access to Mental Health & Substance Abuse Treatment, Accessing Healthcare. Ann Gionet and Lisa Sheppard will represent the Council. Contact- Denise Ramoutar at: (1-860-331-2471) to register for this event.

Review Agency Membership Letter: The Council will review membership vacancies from state agencies and family members. Council members will review and edit the current membership letter. The letter needs to be succinct and provide specific information to Commissioners as to the importance of re-appointing agency staff to the Family Support Council.

We should review the statute for technical changes or revisions to current language due to the mergers of agencies, i.e., Commission on Children, Permanent Status of Women and the Commission on Aging which became the Commission on Women, Children and Seniors. Also, with the changes to the Office of Protection and Advocacy. Office at the Legislature, have lawyers to review statutes and ensure it is corrected during these transitions.

New Business:

The Council is audited to ensure specific requirements and responsibilities of the Council must abide by, ensuring appointments for membership are fulfilled, the annual report is submitted to Legislature and filed with the Library of Congress.

Legislative Review Committee: Formed to review the Council's statutes. Joan Barere and Allison Quirion will meet to review and discuss transitions and determine necessary changes to the Council's statutes if necessary. Please forward any suggestions to the committee of changes you think should be addressed.

Membership/Nominations Committee: Several individuals have expressed interest in becoming members of the Council. It was suggested that members invite interested individuals to a meeting for them to become informed about the purpose and role of the Council. Ann Gionet asked if any people from the Partners Reunion were interested in the Family Support Council. It was decided to delay any discussions on recruiting new membership until the new mission and vision statements are written, goals determined and action plans devised for the Council.

Wayne and Jackie Cammaro were appointed. Lisa Sheppard needs to receive the Appointment letter and she will send a Welcome letter.

Discussion regarding the status of current members who participate without a sanction, and whether these individuals continue to be considered unofficial. The Co-Chairs were asked to inquire into the status for these members. Questions regarding the vetting process requirements and the need to submit a resume even if the member has received a signed citation. Question regarding Council By-Laws on member's length of terms, number of re-appointments. Co-Chairs will review by-laws, procedures for appointing members and required documentation. Robin Wood will speak with Rod from DDS about the legislative process to ensure we are meeting all requirements for member appointments.

Networking Committee: On hold until Council meeting with Alan Bergman

2020 Campaign: Nothing to update at this time.

2016 Annual Report: To be sent to new legislators. Mona has been appointed to the Medical Assistance Program Oversight Council where she recently shared the annual report; people seemed very interested in the Council. Lisa Sheppard inquired how people can access the Council for information. There is an email for the Council.

New Business:

Updated Contact List- Lisa Sheppard shared a 2010 list. It was determined that the Council needs to review statute requirements; number of members appointed by the Governor, Pro-Temp, Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Majority Leader, Legislative, State Agency Commissioners, and family members. Council needs to determine vacancies, increase in

membership and meeting schedules for members. Discussion revolved around suggested membership, CPAC, PATH, OEC, etc. Refer to the 2010 Family Support Council Voting Member list and the Membership Guide documents.

Annual Report- Council needs to begin compiling the Annual Report. It was recommended that the report be shortened, that it is too much information for legislators. Need a document that is a two page summary with the most pertinent information. Suggestion to ask Alan Bergman at the next meeting. Also suggested to link information to the vision, mission and goals and address the accomplishments of the Council. Describe how each stakeholder supports the Council. Include a page for each stakeholder; provide a link to their content. Keep it in a digital file. Have it graphically organized by topic area for easy access. Alan Bergman made suggestions on positive language, shorten it. Include an acronym page too. Look at our mission and vision statements and how agencies align with the Council goals. Joan and Allison will draft a template to share with Alan Bergman.

Agenda for Alan:

- Develop a Mission, Vision, and Core Values
- Bring your ideas of 3-5 Core Values to the meeting.
- How do we connect these to the annual report
- Obtainable and achievable.

Meeting Adjourned: Lisa Sheppard adjourned the meeting at 11:55.