

APPROVED MINUTES – COUNCIL MEETING
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING COUNCIL
Friday, November 8, 2019
625 SILVER AVENUE SW (DDPC CONFERENCE ROOM)
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87102
10:00 AM - 4:30PM

Members Present

Advocates

Laurel Deans
Elisheva Levin

Family Members

John Arango
Katie Stone
Chinda Lucoski
Tarra Main
Jennifer Sanchez

Agencies Present

Lanthia Miles (Non-Government Agency)
Kathleen Holmes-Cates (Life Roots Inc.)
Joel Davis (Elevate the Spectrum)
Pat Osbourn (UNM, CDD)
Sharilyn Roanhorse (HSD)
Eli Fresquez, proxy (CYFD)
Michal Hayes, proxy (ALTSD)
Deborah Dominguez-Clark (PED)
Diane Mourning-Brown (DVR)
Gary Housepian (DRNM)

Staff Present

Alice Liu McCoy (DDPC Executive Director)
Rachel Romero-Lovato (DDPC Office Manager)
Daniel Ekman (DDPC CSA Program Manager)
Kathy Coates (DDPC Chief Financial Officer)
Maria Bourassa (DDPC Guardianship Manager)
John Grubestic (Assistant Attorney General)

Advocates Absent

Emma Farris

Family Members Absent

Valentin Anaya
Joseph Jaramillo
Selma Ramos Nevarez

Agencies Absent

Lupe Sanchez (SF County Government)
Jason Cornwell (DOH, DDSD)

Public Guests

Mary Smith, Attorney

Call to Order/Introductions/Housekeeping

John Arango called the meeting to order, completed the roll call, and housekeeping was conducted. The meeting convened at 10:03 AM.

Approval of November 8, 2019 Agenda – Action Item

Katie Stone moved to approve the Agenda as written, seconded by Lanthia Miles, and motion passed unanimously.

Approval of August 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Kathleen Holmes-Cates moved to approve the August 23, 2019 Minutes as written, seconded by John Arango, and motion passed unanimously.

Executive Committee/Chair Report - John Arango

John Arango appointed Joel Davis as member of Executive Committee. Arango introduced the newly formed advocacy committees: Education, Employment, Housing, Health and Community-Based Services, and Legal and Civil Rights. Each committee will elect an advocate co-chair and state agency co-chair.

Executive Director Report – Alice Liu McCoy

Agency priority is to support Council’s advocacy efforts. Discussed attending the Executive Director’s Summit for National Association of Developmental Disabilities Councils. Discussed DDPC’s work with the Governor’s office, other state agencies, legislators, the courts, family members concerned about guardianship and conservatorship issues, and New Mexicans in the Gallup area concerned about health care. Discussed appointment to serve on the Supreme Court Guardianship Steering Committee. Discussed budget process and budget adjustment request for Office of Guardianship.

Legislative Advocacy Overview – John Arango, Alice Liu McCoy & Daniel Ekman

DDPC hosted legislative training luncheon for self-advocates and family advocates. Disability Coalition is hosting Disability Rights Awareness Day and will be tracking relevant bills during the legislative session.

Lunch

12:05pm

Public Comment

Mary Smith, Attorney, continues to express concern about existing staff, annual leave and overtime audit findings, and misconduct allegations against past Executive Director and current Office of Guardian Program Manager.

Agency Reports

Department of Health/Developmental Disabilities Supports Division Report (DOH/DDSD)

Human Services Department/Medical Assistance Division (HSD/MAD)

Shari Roanhorse discussed upcoming community-based waiver reapprovals.

Aging and Long-Term Services Department

Michal Hayes discussed ALTSD's focus on both seniors and adults with disabilities, including mental health and guardianship issues.

Public Education Department (Special Education) Report

Deborah Dominguez-Clark discussed PED's work to ensure appropriate supports for students with disabilities in the general education classroom, Project SEARCH, Best Buddies, Dream Bigger Summit, autism portal, FOCUS Pre-K initiative, large numbers of children under the age of 5 suspended or expelled, alternative licensure for teachers. Katie Stone requested more information about the special education budget.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Report

Diane Mourning-Brown discussed staff vacancies, working with UNM and NMHU to develop a career ladder, increased staff morale, and order of selection. Chinda Lucoski requested more information about job developers.

Center for Development and Disabilities (UCED) Report

Pat Osborn discussed Partners in Policymaking program, HM 51 for autism programs, developing family peer mentor network and curriculum for adults with ASD, pilot project in group homes for individuals with "challenging behaviors," ASD registry funding request, and podcast for families.

Disability Rights New Mexico

Gary Housepian discussed DD Waiver waiting list, Medicaid community benefits, lawsuits against the state, special education clinics, and lack of education for children in residential treatment facilities.

Working Committees Breakout Sessions – Part One

2:05 PM

Break

2:45 PM

Working Committees Breakout Sessions – Part Two

2:55 PM

Working Committee Reports

Alice Liu McCoy acknowledges that transportation, rural communities, and Native American communities are issues present in all committees. Jennifer Sanchez states that the Council must reach Spanish speaking and Native American communities.

Education

Katie Stone and Deborah Dominguez-Clark are Co-Chairs. The mission is to ensure IDEA compliance in New Mexico. Must track special education funding. New early childhood department must include special education interests. Must change education culture that segregates students with disabilities. Track graduation rates.

Employment

Elisheva Levin and Diane Mourning-Brown are Co-Chairs. Focus on funding for DVR. Explore preferential hiring to improve diversity in the state through the State Use Act. Explore ways to implement WIOA and employment in the community with appropriate supports.

Legal and Civil Rights

Gary Housepian is Chair. Propose DD and OOG state statutory updates.

Health and Community-Based Services

Jason Cornwell is proposed state agency chair.

Housing

Member Announcements

None.

Next Meeting will be held at DDPC in November.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Elisheva Levin and seconded by Jennifer Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.