

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
Full Council Meeting Minutes
January 21-22, 2021

Members Present: Susan Kabot, Chair, Amanda Baker, Dick Bradley, Conney Dahn, Sarah Goldman, Elly Hagen, Cherie Hall, Laurie Harlow, Dennis Hart, Kevin Johnson, April Katine, Jack Kosik, Lisa Miller, Barbara Palmer, Jan Pearce, Elizabeth Perkins, Tom Rice, Frank Shalett, Jean Sherman, Kali Wilson, Victoria Zepp

Members Absent: Eddie Hall, Yolanda Herrera, TJ Moon and Louis Towson,

Staff Present: Valerie Breen, Safee Broxton, Kristen Conlin, Misty Grimm, Sheila Gritz-Swift, Holly Hohmeister, Margaret Hooper, Vanda Jenkins, Kay Spence, Lisa Taylor

Others Present: Ginnifer Barber, Helen Andrews, Christine DeMeo, Margaret Lynn Duggar, Renee Jenkins and Barbara Denmark

The face-to-face committee meetings were held via zoom on Thursday, January 21st from 9:00 am – 1:45 pm. The full council meeting began on Thursday, January 21st via zoom from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm and on Friday, January 22nd from 9:00 am – 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Kabot called the full Council meeting to order at 2:00 pm on 01/21/2021. Roll Call was established.

I. Presentation by Margaret Lynn Duggar

Duggar gave a presentation on Conflict of Interest.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Friday, January 22, 2021

I. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the September 25, 2020 meeting were approved as presented with no corrections.

Action Taken: Johnson made a motion to accept the September 25, 2020 minutes with no corrections. Baker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Chair/Vice-Chair/Executive Director Report

The following information was shared during this report.

Kabot shared pictures and explained the sentiments behind the Hannukah celebration with her son. Baker followed by sharing details of her interview with the news channel on the COVID vaccine.

III. Executive Director

Breen discussed the upcoming legislative session to include upcoming legislative events. She also highlighted the staff and the roles they have within the FDDC org chart.

IV. State and Sister Agency Reports

Reports were provided by Jean Sherman, Mailman Center, Elizabeth Perkins, The Florida Center for Inclusive Communities, Cherie Hall, Disabilities Right Florida, Ginnifer Barber, Elder Affairs, April Katine, Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education Services, Jan Pearce and Allison Flanagan, Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and Tom

Rice, Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

V. New State Plan Presentation Part I by WellFlorida & Valerie Breen

Jeff Feller & Valerie Breen presented on Access to Services and Sustain the iBudget.

Action Taken: Kosik made a motion to accept the Access to Services priority of the New State Plan. **Kosik** seconded. Motion passed. Herrera opposed.

Action Taken: Perkins made a motion to accept the Sustain the iBudget priority of the New State Plan. **Baker** seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. New State Plan Presentation Part II by WellFlorida & Valerie Breen

Jeff Feller & Valerie Breen presented on Aging Caregivers, Self-Advocacy Leadership and Broad Systems Change/Emerging Issues.

Action Taken: Perkins made a motion to accept the Aging Caregivers priority of the New State Plan. Baker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Taken: Hart made a motion to accept the Self-Advocacy priority of the New State Plan. Johnson seconded. Motion passed. Goldman, Baker, Hall and Shalett abstained.

Action Taken: Hagen made a motion to accept the Broad Systems Change/Emerging Issues priority of the New State Plan. Johnson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Public Policy Committee Report

Refer to attached Public Policy Committee Summary Report.

Action Taken: Hall made a motion to accept the Public Policy report as presented. Kosik seconded. Motion passed. Pearce, Rice and Katine abstained.

VIII. State Plan Committee Report

Refer to attached State Plan Committee Summary Report.

Action Taken: Hart made a motion to accept the State Plan report as presented. Perkins seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Finance Committee Report

Refer to attached Finance Committee Summary Report.

Action Taken: Perkins made a motion to accept the Finance report as presented. Goldman seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

X. Executive Committee Report

Refer to attached Executive Committee Summary Report.

Action Taken: Bradley made a motion to accept the Executive report as presented. Dahn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. Public Comment

None

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc
Public Policy Committee Report
January 22, 2021
via Zoom

The Public Policy Committee met yesterday, and we discussed secondary legislative issues for Council support and got an update on our primary legislative priorities. The main priorities for the Council are Preserve the iBudget and Supported Decision Making.

The Preserve the iBudget website and materials are almost completed and initial budget testimony is being heard in interim legislative committees. The state has a \$2 billion shortfall, so we want to protect the funding and services of the iBudget waiver.

We have sponsors for the Supported Decision-Making Bill. Senator Gruters in the Senate and Representative Tant in the House. There are no bill numbers yet.

Decision items that were considered by the Public Policy Committee included the following secondary legislative priorities.

1) Students with Disabilities in Public Schools - HB 149 DuBose and SB 192 Book

This Bill requires school districts to prohibit the use of seclusion on students with disabilities in public schools, requires school districts to adopt positive behavior interventions and support procedures, creates the Video Cameras in Public School Classrooms Pilot Program, and requires continuing education and in-service training for instructional personnel teaching students with emotional or behavioral disabilities.

The bill does not prohibit straight jackets, zip ties or handcuffs except where they prevent breathing or cut off blood circulation. Effective Date: 7/1/2021. **The Committee voted to support the bill only if it prohibits the use of mechanical restraints that are not recommended by a doctor.**

2) Resource Information for Individuals with Disabilities - HB 117 Tant and, as of yesterday, SB 714 Taddeo This bill requires the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) to provide specified written information to persons applying for iBudget waiver services. The bill requires agency to provide certain disclosure statement along with such information. Effective Date: July 1, 2021. **The committee voted to stay neutral for now. Some members supported the idea of some of the information being required and others thought it may not be the agencies role to disseminate all the information that is required in the bill.**

3) Purple Alert bill-SB 184 Berman and HB 79 Casello- This bill requires the Department of Law Enforcement, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Department of the Lottery, and local law enforcement agencies, to establish and implement the Purple Alert. The bill requires the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction to notify media and alert subscribers if a Purple Alert is determined to be necessary and appropriate. The bill provides that the Department of Law Enforcement, as the Purple Alert coordinator, and certain agencies, employees, individuals, and entities are immune from civil liability for damages when performing certain actions in good faith. APPROPRIATION: \$322,836 Effective Date: Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect July 1, 2021, this act shall take effect July 1, 2022. **The committee voted to support this bill.**

Virtual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day is scheduled for March 30, 2021!

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc
State Plan Committee Report
January 22, 2021
via Zoom

I. Approval of minutes from September 24, 2020 Meeting

The minutes from the September 24, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

II. Approval of Program Budget with proposed revisions

The State Plan Committee approved the State Plan Budget with modifications.

This includes total **increases** to the following goals:

- Transition – \$180,507 (*FYI Transition Website*)
- Broad Systems Change/Emerging Needs - \$325,188
 - \$155,188 for *Black-African American ASD Identification Research Expansion Project*
 - \$170,000 for *Aging Caregivers Roadmap Initiative*
- Program Reserve - \$394,305

This includes total **decreases** to the following goal:

- Transportation - \$900,000

With these changes, \$950,539 is added to the reserve with the total reserve amount at \$1,108,726. This amount is comprised of \$987,351 of 2019 & 2020 funds which must be spent by 9/30/21 and \$121,375 for 2021 funds which must be spent by 9/30/22. It is highly unlikely we will be able to spend \$987,351 by 9/30/21 and we will have funds revert. The State Plan Committee will meet to consider ideas for spending funds.

III. State Plan Highlights

A presentation on the current State Plan Goals that highlighted what worked, what will be continued, and what is being sustained was presented.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc
Finance Committee Report
January 22, 2021
via Zoom

Action Items:

1. Approved minutes from the 9/24/20 Finance Committee meeting.
2. Approved the Audit for the fiscal year ending 9/30/20. FDDC has an annual audit by independent CPAs in accordance with our grant award agreement. FDDC received an unmodified opinion which is the highest opinion that can be received.
3. Approved the State Plan Budget with modifications. This includes total **increases** to the following goals:
 - Transition – \$180,507 (*FYI Transition Website*)
 - Broad Systems Change/Emerging Needs - \$325,188
 - \$155,188 for *Black-African American ASD Identification Research Expansion Project*.
 - \$170,000 for *Aging Caregivers Roadmap Initiative*.
 - Program Reserve - \$394,305Total **decreases** in the following goals:
 - Transportation - \$900,000

With these changes, \$950,539 is added to the reserve with the total reserve amount at \$1,108,726. This amount is comprised of \$987,351 of 2019 & 2020 funds which must be spent by 9/30/21 and \$121,375 for 2021 funds which must be spent by 9/30/22. It is highly unlikely we will be able to spend \$987,351 by 9/30/21 and we will have funds revert. The State Plan Committee will meet to consider ideas for spending funds.

Review/Discussion:

1. Reviewed the Administrative Expenditures Budget to Actual Report for 10/01/20 through 11/30/21. Line items were highlighted with details and the overall administrative spending in line with the budget.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc
Executive Committee Report
January 22, 2021
via Zoom

The committee established quorum and began our meeting via zoom at 1:00 p.m.

We approved the minutes for both our November 6, 2020 and our December 8, 2020 minutes with no changes.

The meeting was then closed to the public so the committee could meet with and ask questions of Jackie Reeves, a Certified Financial Fiduciary of Bell Rock Capital, who the committee had engaged to review the current retirement plan structure the Council offers to its employees.

The committee voted unanimously to hire Jackie Reeves and Bell Rock Capital as the Council's retirement fiduciary and instructed the Executive Director to inform Ms. Reeves so the transition could occur between the current fiduciary and our new fiduciary.

The committee also asked the Executive Director to work with Ms. Reeves to explore options for consideration by the committee, before the next Council meeting, for offerings and options in providing retirement benefits for existing employees and any new hires.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.