

## COUNCIL MEETING March 28, 2008

A regular public meeting of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities was held on Friday March 28, 2008, at the Wyndham Conference Center in Plainsboro, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 1:28 p.m. by Elaine Buchsbaum, Chair, who presided and declared a quorum present.

**MINUTES** – The minutes from January 24, 2008 were approved as distributed – upon motion and seconded.

### **INTRODUCTIONS** – Elaine Buchsbaum, Chair

Elaine thanked everyone for attending the retreat. Karen Flippo's presentation was very informational. The DD Council is consolidating their files and created a list of member's names and appointment terms. The list was distributed for updating.

The meeting notice was published in the *Newark Star Ledger* and the *Trenton Times*. It was posted on the bulletin board at the Mary Roebling Building on State Street in Trenton.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Elaine Buchsbaum

- None.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT** – Gail Furrer

#### Discussion

The Administrative Budget for 2007 was presented and reviewed. There were no questions.

### **GRANTS COMMITTEE UPDATE** – Purnima Hernandez and Dennis Rizzo

#### Discussion

The Council is in the second year of the five year plan. The Notice Of Funds Available went out in 2007, the objectives were submitted in January and there were three meetings to inform the grantees how to communicate in writing their Letter Of Interests. 48 Letters Of Interests were received this year and 26 were selected for full proposals. Elaine asked if anyone wanted to become a member of the Grants Committee. There were no additional volunteers at the time. The grant review process is done in a fair manner. A question was asked that in the event there was a conflict of interest, is there a "second string" that would review the grants. The response was if there is a conflict, that person would be off the committee.

**BY-LAWS – Lorraine D’Sylva-Lee and Pat Krupka**

Discussion

A proposed draft was distributed for review. The following recommendations were suggested: At the beginning of the Council meeting, the purpose of the Council should be read aloud and not the public meeting act; the State Planning Committee purpose be reviewed; the name change from task force to subcommittee because task force has a time limit; ensuring that the Chairs on the standing committees be Council Members; the creation of workgroups for the purpose of inviting outside input from the public but they do not cast a vote. These recommendations will go before the Executive Committee for review.

**WAITING LIST ISSUE**

Discussion

This topic will go before the Executive Committee for discussion.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Director – Dr. Alison Lozano**

Discussion

The Council Office will be re-locating to another building within the next three months. More information will be coming. Council staff will welcome Frank Latham as the Youth Leadership Coordinator on Monday April 28, 2008. He is taking the place of Carole Tonks.

**Policy Committee – Carolyn Hayer**

Discussion

The Committee will schedule a meeting to discuss the budget issue and report back to the Executive Committee.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The Direct Support Professional Conference is scheduled for September 25, 2008 in Somerset, New Jersey

The Division of Developmental Disabilities is planning to use Money Follows the Person funds to expand the Career Path Pilot statewide.

**Save the Date:** “Positive Behavior Support: Enhancing Quality of Life for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and Families”, presented by the Boggs Center, is scheduled for June 13, 2008.

David Tag announced the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Spring Into Action Network Luncheon scheduled for April 12, 2008.

The Consumer Satisfaction survey was distributed and should be filled out and returned to Council Staff before dismissal.

**ADJOURNED – 3:10 p.m.**

Upon motion, seconded and carried.

**DISTRIBUTED FOR INFORMATION**

January 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes

Administrative Budget

Council Bylaws (1<sup>st</sup> draft)

The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities Report

NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services Report

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Self Advocates & Family Members**

**Guests**

Elaine Buchsbaum, Chair

Donna Holden, Sign Language Interpreter

Lorraine D'Sylva-Lee, Vice-Chair

Purnima Hernandez

Larry Jones

Ellie Byra

David Tag

Carolyn Hayer

Gary Rubin

Mary Kay Weber

Mercedes Jimenez-Ramirez/Excused

Maria Teresa Abinader/Excused

Jennifer DeMauro/Excused

**DD Act Agencies Representatives**

Deborah Spitalnik, Ph.D., Executive Director, The Boggs Center

Michael Knox, Deputy Director, The Boggs Center

Sarah Mitchell, Executive Director, NJ Protection and Advocacy, Inc.

Joseph Young, NJ Protection and Advocacy, Inc.

**Government Agencies**

Brian Fitzgibbons, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

William Ditto, Director, Division of Disability Services

Shawn McInerney, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Developmental Disabilities

Pauline Lisciotta, NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services

**Public Member**

Frank Caragher, ARC of Union County

**Staff**

Alison M. Lozano, Ph.D., M.P.A., Executive Director

Doug McGruther, Deputy Director

Gail Furrer

Pat Krupka

Sharian Mackins-Gist

Norman Reim

Dennis Rizzo

Dennie Todd

Jane Dunham