

# **Developmental Disabilities Council**

## **Public Policy Committee**

**January 16, 2019**

**11:30am -1:30pm**

Location: United Churches

Olympia, WA

### **Draft Committee Minutes**

Present: Pat Shivers, Chair, TK Brasted, Than Kirkpatrick, Mike Raymond, Adrienne Stuart, Ryan Troyer, Courtney Ward, David Lord, Mark Westenhaver

Guests: Ivanova Smith, Amanda Smith, (The Arc of the Peninsulas) Sarah Stabenow, (Seattle University Law Extern) Beth Leonard, (DD Ombuds)

Staff: Donna Patrick, Emily Rogers, Ed Holen, Aundeaha Martinez

Support: Suliana Tii, Jim Quatermass

### **Call to Order**

Pat Shivers called the meeting to order and asked for introductions

### **Approval of October 2018 Minutes**

**Action:** October 2018 Public Policy Committee minutes were moved by Mike Raymond and seconded by TK Brasted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

## **Legislative Agenda/Legislative Priorities**

Donna explained that the Council's Legislative Agenda is based on principles. The Council also has a list of specific legislative priorities for the 2019 legislative session.

Council members were given cardstock with the DDC logo to write a few talking points. Donna used DD Housing Set-Aside as an example of potential talking points for the legislative reception.

The Committee was urged to think about policy recommendations that could go forward to the full Council. She also encouraged members to take individual action.

Ed recommended that the Council put the DD Housing Set Aside high on our radar screens. Some organizations do not like set asides, so it already an upstream battle. The numbers of units nowhere near satisfies the need. In order to use the DD set aside there needs to be a local funding match. Local matching funds are hard to come by

TK asked if there was a list of all of the Legislative Committees and the members on particular committees. At the time of the meeting, the final committee lists were not available. It is important to talk to all legislators because they will be voting on everything.

Additional issues discussed included:

- Residential Wages
- Adult Family Homes (Supported Living)
- DD Kids Aging Out of Foster Care
- Parent to Parent Expansion
  - An idea: expanding parent to parent cultural communities
- Expanded Respite
- Community Engagement
- Sub Minimum Wage
- Health Care for Workers with Disabilities
- Increase Medicaid Rate to Medicare Rate

- High School Transition
- Increased Funding in Special Education
- Increasing the multiplier favoring those in general ed
- DD Ombuds
- Supported Decision Making
- Supported Living Investigators
- Smart 911
- Protection of Vulnerable Adults

Adrienne asked about the funding of Parent to Parent and the role of the Council. Donna clarified that the Council advocates with the legislature for funding. DDA sub contracts for distribution of funds.

Committee members were asked which issues they would like the Council to take a lead role on. Possibilities. . .

- DD Budget-we are expected to take a lead-DDC
- DD Set Aside-Donna-DDC
- Civil Rights Legislation-DD Ombuds

Think about:

What do you as Public Policy Committee members want to be involved in?

What do you want to recommend to the Council?

The bill process is just that-a process. It is really about the relationships. The legislative assistants are the front door, very important and knowledgeable.

Ed talked about the significant hole in the budget. Many challenges are coming up. Ed encouraged people to come to Advocacy Day and connect on an issue.

Maintenance or Carry Forward means to continue paying for what you have already been doing plus inflation and population growth. Policy bills are new ideas that may or may not involve a cost.

TK asked it was appropriate to talk to the sponsor of the bill about Medicaid rate, Representative Monica Stonier. Donna also suggested asking if she is collecting stories about the issue. We want stories to show it is a statewide issue. Offering to get stories from others makes your case stronger. Also tell your story to your own legislators so that they can support you. Legislative assistants often take a tally of how many people write and call about particular issues.

One pagers are full of information and facts. This is only the first step and the stories and relationship are most important. How an issue affects people's lives is what is going to make the difference.

Consider: What is an appropriate role for the Council?

Consider Where do I work? Who are the legislators in that district?

How do you get legislative information? Ask Donna or Emily for information to navigate through the website

Be sure to sign up through the Arcwa.org Action Alert system to stay up to date with what is happening.

Be very specific about what you like or don't like in a particular bill when you comment. The website currently allows you to comment.

[www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

Adrienne asked a question around TVW: close captioning is available real time; however, if you go back later it is not closed captioned. She was connected with David Lord who has a resource who might be able to help.

### **Beth Leonard-Office of DD Ombuds**

DD Ombuds has a new bill this session. Bill of Rights for clients of DDA. It brings all of the rights together in one place plus

Some new rights included in the bill:

- The right to a have access to all of your service plans

- The right to receive notice if your provider has any conditions placed on their license or certification or if they are decertified
- Increasing the amount of time given to terminating services to 30 days in all settings

During the meeting there was not a bill number. Now the bill number is SHB 1651

Beth passed out the DD Ombuds report “Stuck in the Hospital”.

Recommendations:

- Figure out the scope of the problem
- Invest in community resources to prevent this problem
- Increase the capacity of crisis placements for people with IDD

DD Ombuds have asked the Health Care Authority and DDA to come together in a workgroup about the gaps in services.

Pat asked everyone to take the DDC cardstock half sheets to share their talking points with legislators.

David Lord talked briefly about guardianship issues and mentioned this should be a banner year for guardianship issues.

Come to the briefing following this meeting to get more information about all of these issues.

Pat adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm.