

**Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council**  
**Draft Executive Committee Meeting Minutes ~ June 5, 2017**  
VTDDC Offices, Berlin

Approved August 14, 2017

<b>Present:</b> Fred Breunig, Terry Holden, Kay Stambler
<b>Absent:</b> Catherine Hybels
<b>Support Staff:</b>
<b>Guests:</b>
<b>VTDDC Staff:</b> Kirsten Murphy, Susan Aranoff, Chelsea Hayward

**1. Welcome and Adopting Minutes:**

Council President Fred Breunig declared that the minutes of the May 5, 2017 Executive Committee as accepted without revision.

**2. Executive Director's Report:**

- **Federal budget:** There is a continuing resolution to get VTDDC through to September 2017. The White House budget for 2018 zeros out DD Councils. DD Councils would be removed from the DD Act and placed under a new administrative entity called *Partnerships for Innovation, Inclusion, and Independence*. This new program would combine allocations for DD Councils, state independent living councils (in Vermont, SILC), and brain injury programs that exist in 17 states. Total funding for this new program would be less than half what is currently appropriated for DD Councils

Kirsten is drafting a letter and impact statement to share with Vermont's Congressional delegation and Governor Phil Scott. VTDDC is working collaboratively with the Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights and the Vermont Center for Independent Living, as well as receiving guidance from the National Association of DD Councils (NACDD).

Another concern in the proposed White House budget for FFY'18 is the fact that the LEND program (an advanced training for leadership education of neural disabilities) has been completely defunded.

The Executive Committee agreed that because the federal landscape is changing so rapidly, Kirsten will delay preparing VTDDC's FFY 18 budget until later in the summer, with the goal of putting the recommended budget to a vote at the September 22, 2017 quarterly meeting.

- **Employment Summit** will take place tomorrow, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Kirsten has also arranged for our guest Allan Bergman to speak with the management team at the Division of Aging, Disability, and Independent Living (DAIL). Allan will also hold a round-table discussion for family members of people with disabilities at the Vermont Family Network; this is an opportunity for advanced leadership training.
- **Technical Assistance Grant:** We were included in a five-year community of practice grant to help enrolled states build capacity in cultural and linguistic competency. With the grant does not provide direct funding, it comes with considerable technical assistance and education. Kirsten will attend the first working session in DC in late July, with travel and accommodations paid for by the grant.

### **3. Executive Committee Business:**

- **Membership:** There are four excellent candidates who will be interviewed and hopefully have recommendations by the Membership Committee for the June 22, 2017 quarterly meeting. They have all graduated from Leadership. We are still waiting for someone to be appointed to represent the Medicaid program. The governor's office has promised to act on outstanding recommendations but they have not done so. Fred will follow-up.
- **PPR:** Kirsten provided a timeline and memorandum explaining how the next submission of the PPR will be timely. The plan requires a Request for Proposal for an independent program evaluator to be drafted by August 14 and bids due September 24, 2017.
- **Projects:** Kirsten reviewed progress made in each of VTDDC's three SEEDS grants. There are an equal number of projects in-house as there are by grantees.

### **4. Program Committee:**

- **SILC:** Representatives from the Vermont Statewide Independent Council met with Kirsten to discuss revising their proposal. They plan to re-think how they will incentivize teachers to use the *Include* curriculum and materials.
- **Vermont Special Olympics (VSO):** Kirsten has met several times with VSO and she has a better understanding of the goals of this organization. VSO seeks to be a "quality sports organization" that is highly invested in encouraging healthy lifestyles and better healthcare for people with I/DD. Their national association has the largest health database for people with disabilities in the world.

- **Champlain Community Services:** They have been asked to revise their proposal, but Kirsten has not met with them yet.

All SEEDS applicants were asked to re-submit in August. However, Kirsten asked the group to consider VSO proposal. The Executive Committee agreed.

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**Program Committee**

June 5, 2017

Present members of the Executive Committee convened as the Program Committee. Upon reviewing the SEEDS proposal by the Vermont Special Olympics, they agreed to recommend the proposal to the full Council at the June 22, 2017 quarterly meeting.

The Program Committed meeting was adjourned.

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The Executive Committee reconvened and continued their meeting.

## **5. Annual Goals for Executive Director:**

Kirsten shared draft goals with the Executive Committee. The committee accept the goals and charged Kathy and Fred with drafting language and specific targets.

Progress toward the goals will be reviewed at six and at 12 months. Goals included:

- Capturing and sharing compelling stories, per the Five-Year Plan Goal 2, Objectives 2.1 and 2.4.
- Raising the public profile of the Council
- Submitting the Program Performance Review (PPR) on time, consistent with the plan presented in Section 3 above.
- Expanding VTDDC membership and bringing membership into compliance with DD Act requirements, with help from Council members and the Membership Committee.

## **6. Plan for June 22, 2017 Quarterly Meeting:**

The agenda for the June 22 meeting will include the following:

- **Executive Director Report:** Kirsten will be sure to include concerns with our future allocations.

- Visit by Sheila Reed from the **Office of Senator Bernie Sanders**: She will talk about the national Medicaid campaign “No cuts. No caps.”
- **Membership vote**: Vice President and Membership Committee.
- **Current SEEDS projects**: staff from VFN and partners from Windham County will present findings from their regional assessment of family needs.
- **SEEDS Proposal and vote**: Kirsten will create a short summary of VSO’s proposal.
- **Training**: The “training slot” is currently vacant because of a cancelation by the Secretary of State’s Office. Kirsten is trying to find another presenter who can teach the Council about Vermont’s Public Meeting Law.
- **State legislators**: They will be meeting in special session on that day and are very unlikely to join us for lunch. Kirsten will schedule Sheila Reed to coincide with lunch.
- **Policy Committee**: Susan and committee members will report what’s happened at the legislature since the last Quarterly Meeting.
- **Making meetings accessible**: Skye Peebles from Green Mountain Self-Advocates (GMSA), will attend the meeting to type key-points on a screen to help guide VTDDC members in conversation. This is an accommodation that GMSA strongly recommends.
- **Photo**: The Council will update its group photo.

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.