

Olmstead Council Meeting

May 5, 2016 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Bureau of Senior Services, Charleston Town Center Mall

Attending: Ardella Cottrill, Leslie Cottrell (phone) Susan Given, Jeannie Elkins, Mark Fordyce, Nancy Fry, Roy Herzbach, Ann McDaniel, Carissa Shirley, Tracy White, Richard Ward, Elliott Birckhead, Angela Breeden, Rebecca Nicholas, Lewis Newell (phone), Pat Nisbet, Cathy Hutchinson, Amber Hinkle, Jim Womeldorff (phone) and Steve Wiseman (all Council members), Vanessa VanGilder (Olmstead coordinator) and Regina Mayne.

Chairperson Mark Fordyce chaired the meeting, which began at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Members were welcomed and introductions were made.

Reading of the Mission Statement

Vanessa VanGilder read the mission statement.

Approval of December 2015 meeting minutes

Ann McDaniel made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2016 meeting. Ardella Cottrill seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Membership Update

Steve Wiseman gave the Membership Committee update. He presented recommendations for Council approval.

Regina Mayolo from Morgantown was recommended for the housing position. She has been an advocate for people with disabilities for many years and is especially knowledgeable in accessible and fair housing. Steve asked the Council to approve the Membership Committee nomination for Regina Mayolo to the Council and Ann seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There are two positions open for people with disabilities or family members. Cindy Tucker from Lewisburg was recommended for one of those positions. Cindy was a Division of Rehabilitation Services counselor for many years before her retirement. Steve asked the Council to approve the Membership Committee

nomination for Cindy Tucker and Jeannie Elkins seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Joyce Floyd from Elkins was recommended for the other open seat for people with disabilities and family members. She is an active advocate for people with disabilities and has recently been selected for appointment to the Statewide Independent Living Council. Steve asked the Council to approve the Membership Committee nomination for Joyce Floyd and Ann seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Take Me Home WV Update

Marcus Canaday was unable to attend the meeting but Pat Nisbet gave a short update. Work is progressing on transferring the program to the Home and Community Based Services Unit. There will have to be some changes made to policy manuals concerning navigation services and there will be a public comment period. It is possible that two or three people from the current program will be retained. Work is still progressing on the IMS System and it is hopeful that this will begin on July 1.

Grant and Budget and Transition and Diversion Program

Vanessa reported that all of the Transition and Diversion part of the grant was spent in two months and that all of the applications that have been received have been reviewed. The grant money assisted 155 people at a cost of \$1,056 per person. Vanessa reported that many people have called or written to thank the Olmstead Office for their assistance and she passed around a folder of pictures, emails and thank you notes that have been received.

There was discussion about lift chairs, which is the most requested item in the program. Discussion included purchasing items online, having people from the community assist people with setup, having someone local if someone has a problem with their lift chair, warranties and other concerns. There was also discussion of what happens to an item that the program purchased if the recipient passes away.

Mark suggested that we have someone from a DME company come to the next meeting and talk about lift chairs and other equipment.

There was a discussion on what is imminent risk. Vanessa read some language that she found in some old paper work of Tina's. "Imminent risk means the applicant's mental, physical or medical condition has significantly changed in a way that placement in a facility is being sought or considered. The applicant has the responsibility to provide information explain their imminent risk of facility placement."

Ann suggested that we put this language in and to ask them to have documenting support from someone such as a physician or social worker.

Vanessa also reported that the grant includes an opportunity to assist with two trainings. She reported that last year's funding paid for a scholarship for Partners in Policymaking that that class is finishing up and will have graduation in a couple of weeks. One of the trainings for this year will be the Social Role Valorization training sponsored by the Developmental Disabilities Council. Steve Wiseman reported that Angela Breeden is the new DDC chairperson.

Revising the Olmstead Plan

The committee has met several times and decided that #6 - Eliminating Institutional Bias was the biggest priority. "In order to provide community-based supports and services, institutional bias in funding long-term supports must be eliminated." Under that heading, the goals are to develop a definition of most integrated setting, look at the state of the state section of the Olmstead Plan, broaden this part of the plan to include others, not just Medicaid and DHHR and to expand 6.2 which is to provide education and training to mental hygiene commissioners about the Olmstead decision and alternatives to institutional placement.

There was discussion on several issues including exploitation of seniors, changes and alternatives to guardianship, lack of in home care services and staff availability, adult day care, abuse and neglect, the nursing home population, public policy, homelessness, lack of affordable, accessible housing, subsidized housing, and homeless shelters.

Elliott reported that for the mental hygiene commissioners training, that Linda Richmond Artinez would be the person to contact.

There was further discussion on how changes after the election might affect any changes we want to make in the plan, as we currently have a Plan and Executive Order in place.

There was also additional discussion on HMIS (Homelessness Management Information System), a four county pilot program, and the ending of the 811 grants.

Following this conversation, it was agreed that the current group keep meeting and report back.

Vanessa suggested that we try to somehow include employment, which is not included at this time. Another suggestion was day services.

Pat said that she had some language from us from the CMS most integrated setting rule that she would send.

Public Forum

No one from the public was in attendance to address the Council.

Open Discussion/Announcements

Ardella reminded everyone to get out to vote.

Pat announced that a new AD/PC program manager had been hired. LouAnn Summers will start her work in that position on May 31. She will also be working on the new Substance Use Disorder Waiver. She also reported that public comment for the Personal Care manual is ready to post

Roy reported that there is a new ADRC director – Jennifer Fazzolari.

Susan advised the Council that West Virginia Advocates is recruiting a legal director, which is a full time position. Regina Mayne, one of the staff attorneys, will be attending the Olmstead Council meetings representing West Virginia Advocates. Susan will send out the information on the position to be sent out.

Pat reported that the Bureau for Children and Family eligibility unit has been moved to Bureau for Medical Services.

Next meeting

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 4, 2016 at 10 a.m. at the Bureau of Senior Services at the Town Center Mall.