

Olmstead Council Meeting

Thursday, November 3, 2016 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Bureau of Senior Services, Charleston Town Center Mall

Attending: Joyce Floyd, Suzanne Messenger, Ardella Cottrill, Jeannie Elkins, Mark Fordyce, Nancy Fry (phone), Roy Herzbach (phone), Jenni Sutherland, Richard Ward, Angela Breeden, Amber Hinkle, Cathy Hutchinson, Susan Given, Paul Smith, Regina Mayolo, Cindy Tucker, Laura Friend (phone) Jenni Sutherland and Vanessa VanGilder.

Chairperson Mark Fordyce chaired the meeting, which began at 10:04 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 August 4, 2016 meeting minutes

Ardella Cottrill made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2016 meeting. Jeannie Elkins seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Public Forum

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

Membership Update

Vanessa VanGilder gave the Membership Committee update in Steve Wiseman's absence. All the positions are filled. Steve is coming up on the end of his term as chairperson of the membership committee Ardella Cottrill volunteered to be chair new chairperson for the membership committee.

Take Me Home WV Update

No one from Take Me Home was in attendance to give an update. Vanessa did say that work was continuing transition services for the AD and TBI waivers.

Legislative Priorities

Council members reviewed the legislative priorities from last year and discussed the issue of children and youth being placed out of state. Following the discussion, it was suggested that we invite someone from the Bureau of Children and Families (possibly Linda Watts), to talk to the Council about this issue.

Council members also talked about the importance of voting and about the accessibility of polling places. WV Advocates has been working on this issue.

Grant and Budget and Transition and Diversion Program

Vanessa reported that FY 2016 has been completed. The Olmstead Transition and Diversion Program assisted 334 people and spent approximately \$370,000 which is an average of a little more than \$1,100 a person. The program assisted with 8 transitions, once of which was from Sharpe Hospital. Vanessa thanked the Council members who assisted with reviewing the applications and read thank you notes from those who received assistance.

The FY2017 budget is in place and we are just waiting to hear that the money is available. In addition to our regular funding, the Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities gave the program \$200,000 again this year. For FY2017, there will be \$355,400 available for the Transition and Diversion Program. The Fair Shake Network will receive \$1,000 for their annual legislative training and Disability Advocacy Day at the Capitol.

Revising the Olmstead Plan

The committee that has been working on this has not been able to meet for the past several months due to scheduling conflicts. Suzanne commented that we could make all the plans we want but we must remember what is realistic and we need to have people to buy in so it can be implemented. We need to have a good relationship with the new Governor's office. It was suggested that we invite someone from the new Governor's office to attend. There was also discussion that social workers/discharge planners and others don't know what services are out there and that we need to do more education. Regina suggested that we look for education opportunities such as the WV Health Care Association, which has two conferences a year. Council members discussed several ways to get information out about Olmstead and home and community-based services.

2017 Meeting Dates

Meeting dates for 2017 will be February 2, May 4, August 3 and November 2. Vanessa will check to see if the meeting room of the Bureau of Senior Services is available.

Open Discussion/Announcements

Ardella announced that the Behavioral Health Planning Council has two seats open for youth ages 18-25. These are for youth with mental health or substance abuse issues. Anyone interested can apply online the BHPC website with an interest indicator.

Susan Given announced that WV Advocates will be holding a reception on Tuesday, December 13 from 2-4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express Civic Center. WV Advocates will be changing their name to Disability Rights of West Virginia. Susan also announced that she has a new legal director, Jeremiah Underhill. She is also interviewing for new attorneys. Susan reported that she is also working with the P & A in New York about children housed at Woods Services in Pennsylvania. WV has three people placed there.

Regina Mayolo invited everyone to attend a training on Disability and Elder Law on Wednesday, Nov. 16 from 9:30 to 1:30 p.m. This is being co-sponsored by several organizations including WV Advocates and the Job Accommodation Network. She also reported that a seminar titled "Code Compliance: From ANSI to Fair Housing" will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 16 in Morgantown. This will include information on design and construction requirements and the Fair Housing Act. West Virginia will be hosting the National Universal Design Conference in May 2017. This will include many concepts such as programs, services, education and housing. There will be an AARP track on age friendly communities. This is also the CreateWV Conference, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary. There will be many experts on universal design attending.

Susan also reported that WV Advocates is monitoring sheltered workshops. There is a national initiative in place. She is working to set up a screening of the video "Bottom Dollar," a documentary which exposes the exploitation of people with disabilities. WV Advocates is working with WVU CED and the WV Developmental

Disabilities Council on employment and assisting people with disabilities to be employed in real jobs.

Susan also brought up an issue about staff filing charges against residents at institutions and HIPPA implications. There was discussion on this and possibly talking to union representatives, prosecutors and public defenders about this issue.

Suzanne advised that CMS recently sent out some new federal regulations that incorporated language about Section Q and allows surveys to check for compliance. She said that they can issue deficiencies and citations. There is a move toward home and community-based services and there will be some consequences.

The Fair Shake Network will be holding their annual training day on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 and Disability Advocacy Day will be March 8, 2017. The next Fair Shake meeting is Nov. 16.

Joyce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1 p.m. and Ardella seconded it.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 2, at 10 a.m. at the Bureau of Senior Services at the Town Center Mall.