

Draft Olmstead Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2023

Staff and Council Members Present:

Carissa Davis, Elliott Birkhead, Jerry Boyko, Ardella Cottrill, Rick Dempsey, Joyce Floyd, Nancy Fry, Lynsay Frye, Susan Given, Amber Hinkle, Annetta Johnson, Kelley Johnson – Marcum (Dept. of Ed.), Suzanne Messenger, Aaron Morris, Chris Orndorff, Cara Price, Nia Jackson, Delmar Davis, David Duke, Michelle Angus (BSS), Teresa McDonough (BMS), Lesley Cottrell, Rich Ward, Rebecca Jennings, Ed Hopple, Shawn Allen, and Marcus Canaday

Others Present

Sylvia Caley, Roxanne Clay, Dan Guyla, Jana Johnson, Cynthia Lokey, and Ben Tharpa

Council Members Not Present

Christy Black, Mark Drennen, Danny Gray, Travis Kline, Kim Nuckles, Paul Smith, Jenni Sutherland, Becky Spaulding, and Kimberly Taylor-Newsome

Welcome And Introduction

Lynsay, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Reading of Mission Statement & Rules and Responsibilities

Cara read the mission statement and the rules and responsibilities.

Public Forum

None

Approval of Minutes

Joyce made a motion to accept the May 2023 minutes as corrected and Aaron seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Old Business

Olmstead Plan Update

Carissa presented the sample scope of work and the proposal received from Peppermill/Emma Pepper LLC. Bruce Decker has indicated interest in submitting a proposal. Council members asked Carissa to send the sample agreement/scope of work to Bruce. The Council will consider altering the scope of work based on his proposal.

Annual Report

Carissa still needs information from two programs. Once that information is received, Carissa will send the draft report to the workgroup for review and then to the full Council.

HUD Public Comments

Carissa submitted the comments she received regarding the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's update to Section 504 Disability Rules.

New Business

WVABLE

Roxanne Clay gave a presentation. Carissa will send the handouts to Council members.

West Virginia Technology Related Assistance Revolving Loan Fund

Cynthia Lokey gave a presentation. Carissa will send the handouts to Council members.

Council/Office Logo

There is an opportunity to work with DHHR's Office of Communications to develop a logo for the Olmstead Council and Olmstead Office. Rick explained how the process worked for the WV Office of the Mental Health Ombudsman. A workgroup will be created to work on this process.

Olmstead Complaint Process

The Olmstead Council Executive Committee discussed developing a formal complaint process and asked Carissa to bring this to the full Council. Council members agreed a written procedure with a form should be developed. Carissa will share the form Minnesota uses with Council members so they can share their thoughts on how our process should work.

Agency Olmstead Related Updates

Elliott provided a Bureau for Behavioral Health (BBH) update. BBH is finalizing the first draft of their combined block grant application. The plan is to have that up for public comment by August 4th. They receive about nine million for substance use disorder and 3.4 million for mental health block grant funds, which are primarily used to fund emerging practices and evidence-based practices that are not currently funded by Medicaid. Also, they will meet with the new WV Department of Human Services Secretary next week.

Transition and Diversion Program

Appeal Process

Carissa discussed the appeal process with the Executive Committee and the Application Review Committee, and they requested this issue be brought to the full Council. Currently, appeal requests are reviewed by the Application Review Committee, but there has been a suggestion of having the Executive Committee review appeals. Teresa proposed having the Application Review Committee review the appeal first and if the appeal is denied, send it to the Executive Committee for review. Nancy made a motion for that proposal. Teresa seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Statistics

Carissa provided program information. 110 applications have been approved and 44 applications have been denied since January. Of the 44 denials, two appeals were approved and six were denied. 13 transitions (10 were also TMH participants) have taken place. Approximately \$32,000 is still available. The Council has asked for a yearly report with this information as well as the counties represented and a breakdown of requested items.

Other Business

None

Announcements

Jerry announced the WV Statewide Independent Living Council has an apartment available and a car show taking place in Charleston on October 14th.

Rick announced that Christopher Nelson is the Interim Inspector General effective July 31st.

Aaron announced meetings for the WV Behavioral Health Planning Council October meeting and the Fair Shake Network September meeting.

Nancy announced the Legal Aid virtual event taking place on September 28th.

Lynsay announced the WV Families Conference November 3 – 5 at Canaan Valley and the People First Conference September 6 – 8 at Jackson's Mill.

Adjournment

Joyce motioned to adjourn the meeting. Aaron seconded the motion and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

Save the Date: Future meeting dates: November 2nd