



Legislative & Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2018 -- 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Chancery Conference Room Second Floor
Denver, CO 80203

MEETING AGENDA:

- 1) Convene, establish quorum, introductions (Hal)
- 2) Approval of September meeting minutes (Group)
- 3) Introductions of LPPC members and members of the public (All)
- 4) Old Business:
 - a. Update on changes to and timeline for HCPF'S Waiver Implementation Council
 - b. Potential legislation on suspension and expulsion of early childhood to 2nd grade students & confirmation of a collaboration led by the Colorado Children's Campaign to re-introduce HB 17-1210 (Bob and Jessica)
- 5) New Business
 - a. LPP Committee procedure development (regarding community members of the Committee, Hal's outline 3. b. iv.) (Hal)
 - b. Revised meeting dates for January and February 2019 (Hal)
 - c. Federal policy and legislative updates (Bob)
- 6) Action items (group discussion)
- 7) Public Comments (group discussion)
- 8) Adjourn

Next Meeting: November 19, 2018

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DISCUSSION:

1. Hal called meeting to order at 10:12 am.
2. Introductions were made.
3. Minutes: Kristen made motion to approve minutes. Hal seconded. September 17th minutes were approved with amendments to paragraph 5, a typo correction to paragraph 6, and updates to paragraph 8.
4. HCPF Waiver Implementation Council (WIC) update:
 - Bob shared information on the last meeting October 15th. This meeting followed a September 20th special meeting between HCPF and new members of the WIC which addressed a number of concerns from a family perspective. Because many of the meetings were scheduled over the phone, people expressed feeling disconnected and, at times, confused. Other issues about the WIC process were expressed to HCPF. HCPF decided to disband the WIC during the October 15th meeting. Some new members expressed feeling like the elimination of the WIC was retaliation. Although the WIC is now disbanded, HCPF wants to continue to have waiver redesign stakeholder meetings and allow members of the general public to provide input and feedback on waiver redesign activities. The next meeting is scheduled for November 28th from 1:30 to 4:30.
 - HB 14-1051 required that HCPF provide annual updates to the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) on their five year plan to eliminate the wait list for the HCBS-DD waiver program.
 - "Waiver redesign" is the mechanism HCPF is using to combine the HCBS-DD (Comprehensive) and the HCBS-SLS (Supported Living Services) waiver programs. Ongoing concern has been communicated that service resources will be lost as a result of combining the waiver programs. Support for this process derives from the ultimate goal that everyone in the state will have the services they need and not be on the wait list for lengthy periods of time.
 - Bob has asked HCPF if people on the HCBS-DD waiver have to worry about their resources being reduced. He is continuously told that it is not HCPF's intent that resources would be reduced. This answer about HCPF intentions does not feel like an adequate resolution of an issue that is increasingly on the minds of family members.
 - Hal made a suggestion that Joelle, staff, and Alicia send a letter to HCPF to request a meeting about this issue.
5. Campaign to re-introduce HB 17-1210:
 - Jessica reached out to the supporters of House Bill 17-1210. The bill prohibits a school district or public preschool program (enrolling entity) from expelling a student, except as specifically required by federal law. The bill also specifies that school districts are required to adopt prevention and early intervention strategies to reduce the need for early childhood and early elementary grade suspensions and expulsions. This bill did not pass due partially to resistance from rural school districts. Ignoring this issue perpetuates the school to prison pipeline. Jessica stated they do plan to reintroduce this House Bill 17-1210 in 2019 and will work with the Council for support.
 - The idea of related legislation that *did* pass (HB 17-1211) is to try to get teachers the training they need to properly interact with students so they are not suspended or expelled at an early age. This bill depended upon "gifts, grants and donations" for

funding and CDE has confirmed that these sources of funding have not been forthcoming. Thus, although it passed, HB 17-1211 has not been implemented.

6. Committee procedure development:

- It became apparent over the last year and a half that there are not a lot of procedures written down to guide the Council and its committees. The Executive Committee decided to resolve this issue and are going to work on developing procedures. In the meantime, Hal identified five Legislative and Public Policy Committee procedural areas:
 1. Description of this committee
 2. Authority of this committee to take a stand on a bill in real time on behalf of the Council
 3. Structure and operations of the committee.
 4. Testifying rules- testifying before the Colorado General Assembly during committee hearings
 5. Budget authority to incur obligations and reimburse expenses
- The Structure and Operation procedure intends to identify fundamental things that clarify the way we need to move forward. Hal would like these prioritized.
- Committee membership, describes
 1. Appointment
 2. Terms
 3. General duties
 4. Council members
 5. Organizational members (agency members) including Colorado General Assembly members (It is very helpful that Senator Irene Aguilar has served on the committee and offered support.)
 6. Community members
- We also should address:
 1. Participation of the public
 2. Invited guests role
 3. Policy for leave of absence
 4. Committee co-chairperson: The committee could have a co-chair. This person would have the same responsibility of the chairperson and would chair meetings when the chairperson is absent.

7. Revised meeting dates:

- Hal and Bob proposed to have committee meetings the second and fourth Monday during the legislative session. Bob will email these dates to the committee to confirm.

8. Federal policy and legislative updates:

- Bob briefly went over the topics within the Federal Policy Updates document. Members indicated this information was useful.
- Bob reported that he met with the current head of the state planning and budget office last summer and found out she has a daughter with Down syndrome and is open to expanding employment opportunities for individuals with I/DD.
- More recently Lauren Larson, OSPB Director, called Bob and explained that there is a HCPF-controlled cash fund composed of not-fully-utilized funding in any fiscal year. She asked Bob to propose how these funds might be used to expand employment opportunities for people with I/DD. The appropriation would be included in the Governor's budget (due out November 1st) and would require legislative approval. The concept is to use \$800,000 of funds within HCPF's "DD Cash Fund,"

which would be transferred to the Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and then federally matched for use to expand Employment First initiatives. This is highly significant because this would potentially allow Colorado to become a leader in customized employment implementation. Bob was asked to provide the perspective of the Employment First Advisory Partnership (EFAP, which Bob Co-chairs) in developing a proposal for the appropriation.

9. Public Comment:

- Steve Miller: Steve's wife is on the human rights committee (HRC) in Boulder and got a notice that changed purposes is up for discussion. Bob explained that he had received an email on potential legislation to change the purpose of the HRC. Steve asked that a link be posted on our website regarding this. Last spring Steve talked about housing models and needs. Some of the committee members expressed interested in the housing model in the past. Will there be time for this committee to be given a presentation?
- Cat Nash: Cat asked that the Council post ongoing legislative information on our Facebook page.
- Klaus Weickmann: Klaus expressed the concern that housing options are currently limited for people with I/DD in Colorado and that this issue is important. He and members of Blue Spruce Community are working to expand options and provide practical alternatives to family members.

10. Michael made motion to adjourn meeting at 12:00 pm. Hal seconded motion.

Motions/Actions:

1. Kristen made motion to approve minutes. Hal seconded. The motion passed.
 2. Bob will email updated committee dates to the committee.
 3. The plan for the next meeting is to work on the Committee Procedure draft with members.
 4. Come January Hal would like the committee members to utilize Colorado Capitol Watch.
 5. Members should attempt to review the Legislative Public Policy Committee procedure documents before the November meeting.
 6. Post federal summary pieces under the Action Alert on the website.
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Council Committee Members Present: Hal Wright, Kristen Erby, Millie Segura

Council Visiting Members Present: Alicia Eakins, Bruce Cline

Community Committee Members Present: Michael Hoover (disability rights representative and past Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council member).

Guests: Donna Downing (past-president of the National Autism Committee), Mary Leathers (parent), Steve Miller (Blue Spruce Community), Klaus Weickmann (Blue Spruce Community), Cat Nash

Staff Present: Vanessa Hernandez, Robert Lawhead

Council Committee Members Absent: Julie Schleusener, Jessica Howard, Senator Irene Aguilar, Joseph Morrone (medical leave of absence), Deborah Marks Williams

MEETING DOCUMENTS

Meeting Agenda

September Meeting Minutes

Legislative and Public Policy Committee Procedure

HCPF Waiver Implementation Council (WIC) Update

Waiver Redesign Plan and Schedule

HB 15-1318 Waiver Redesign Implementation

Federal Policy Updates