



Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council  
Council Meeting Minutes  
January 24, 2018



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**AGENDA:**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Meaningful Roles
3. Minutes November 27, 2017 Council Meeting
4. Executive director report
5. Voting Item- Executive session for interviews
6. Conflict of Interest Policy
7. Executive director search committee update
8. SRO training Update
9. Budget update
10. Planning Grants update
11. Legislative and Public Policy Committee Update
12. Open/ Public Comment
13. Complete Evaluations
14. Adjournment

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**DISCUSSION:**

1. Shannon Secrest called the meeting to order at 12:08.
2. Meaningful Roles: Melissa Mannix shared a story about her friend. Alicia shared about kids with disabilities in East Africa. Julie Voltaire Schleusenur shared about the new assistant at the University of Denver- College of Business with down syndrome
3. Amended on the agenda section number five- the date should have been January 24, 2018 and not February 9, 2018. Melissa made motion to approve minutes and Jeanette seconded.
4. Executive Director Report: Exploring ways to use social media to provide trainings. Marcia met with Drew Hacker and discussed ways to use social media for social justice change. John Ferrugia retweeted our original tweet on his PBS special regarding host homes. Our goal is to get our strategies in line with social media. Marcia also provided a copy of the Designated State Agency (DSA) report for Council to review and remember. This is administrative and the entire Council does not need to memorize but she wants everyone to be aware. Marcia will review the DSA and MOU when the new executive director is hired. Marcia also reminded the Council that they have a relationship with the press and can go directly to the contact regarding a report.
5. Voting Item discussed: The Council received guidance from the Attorney General about open meetings law. If a candidate requests executive session for their interview, two thirds of the entire Council must approve. Voting item was given to the Council to review. Jeanette explained what executive session looks like for the Council. If the Council approves executive session no one from the community can be present if a candidate requests. This voting item was put on hold because two thirds of the entire Council was not present. Jeanette emailed the voting item to the entire Council with complete details and requested that questions and votes be done through email, which was sent January 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - a. Motion made by Jeanette Cordova. Seconded by Hal Wright

1. Hal Wright
  2. Melissa Mannix
  3. Sarah Metsch
  4. Senator Irene Aguilar
  5. Willie Wade
  6. Paulette Steinhoff
  7. Jessica Howard
  8. Alicia Eakins
  9. Kristen Erby
  10. Julie Voltaire Schleusener
  11. Gina Herrera
  12. Patricia Henke
  13. Rob Buzogany
  14. Jessica Howard
  15. Sandra Friedman
  16. Jennie Menthali
  17. Deon Gillespie
6. Jeanette presented the Conflict of Interest Policy and gave examples. Council members were given the COI policy and asked to sign if there were no questions or concerns. Vanessa collected the signed forms from members present and emailed the Council to ask that members not present review and turn in the policy as well. Jeanette also discussed a leave of absence from the Council and that a member serving a leave does not have a vote, receives minimal emails (example: excluded from grant emails if member is serving a leave due to a grant), and a member can attend meeting but only speak during the public comment allotted time.
  7. Executive director search committee update: Jeanette shared the time line with the Council and that the search committee has been meeting every Friday. She also stated the names of the top executive director candidate's will be posted on the Council's social media sites for public viewing. Meeting with the top candidate's and Council will be held on Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday March 7<sup>th</sup> from 10am until 4pm.
  8. SRO training Update: Peggy Spaulding shared her experience on the School Resource Office (SRO) training with Jeff. It is a three day training and well-liked by the attendees but the biggest complaint was the length of time being three days. It is difficult for SROs to step away from duties. She highly suggests Council members attend trainings from Jeff Santelli or any of the trainings the Council funds. It is beneficial will get a chance to see how the grants are being used.
  9. Budget update: Mackenzie provided a budget and procurement update. Same projects are going on but exact dollar amounts not given at this time but he will provide at the upcoming Council meeting. \$135,000 DQ was put out but only \$90,000 has been awarded; \$45,000 is funding Sewell and \$45,000 funding ACCO and the remainder \$45,000 would be used as an inter department transfer to help the Youth Leadership Forum (YLF). Federal Fiscal Year 2018 grant is \$880,000. Approximately \$185,000 given from the federal government in the first disbursement. Second disbursement will be around March, and final in June.
  10. Planning and Grants- Emergency Preparedness Training grant phone conference discussed. Melissa gave dates of upcoming trainings. Julia is going to provide training for devices that are used to communicate as a Council activity. Melissa gave her experience on the emergency preparedness training and how beneficial she thought it was.

11. Legislative Public Policy update given by Bob: He gave Council a handout that was released Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup> on upcoming bills. This is ongoing as bills are still being introduced. Bob has been working on a bill that will make Employment First recommendations when working with individuals with disabilities. The bill numbers will hopefully be dropped Friday. The bill includes:
  - a. Tracking data on where people are served daily. Goal is for all services to move in to all integrated services.
  - b. Involves both HCPF and CDLE- DVR- develop standards to ensure job coaches get proper training.
  - c. CDLE- DVR implemented the discovery process to work with individuals on customize employment. Get training out for employment first, hope this will raise expectations on individuals with disabilities- A national trainer would teach this basic introduction to employment first and accessibility. This is a private public partnership.
12. Bob gave update from committee: Committee will meet twice a month during General Assembly session on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Reason being things move too fast during Assembly and want to stay up to date so committee will meet more frequent.
13. Open/ Public Comment: Mark Wester, director of CDHS
  - a. Asked to be included in the search committee for the executive director. Was involved in the hiring of Bob Lawhead (sat in with no input) and would like to build a relationship with the new director.
  - b. Communication and Collaboration
  - c. IE engagement with ELE
  - d. ED engages with DSA so it's appropriate
  - e. Regional director of IDD services. Direct services provider. NEXUS, again another provider
  - f. Lobbying as a state employees- State employees cannot lobby, although CDDC is a type 1 transfer agency- state employees cannot lobby. This was brought up because a political email was sent to a state employee incorrectly from the Public Policy employee. Also, former staff member complaints.
  - g. Media issue- CDHS has specific protocols but the DD Council does their own media.
  - h. Advocate is different than a Direct provider.
14. The Council meeting adjourned at 4:04 PM.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: March 7, 2018**  
**LOCATION: Fellowship Hall, Christ Church United Methodist Church**  
**690 Colorado Blvd., Denver CO**

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*Action Items:*

1. Reviewed and approved minutes from November Council meeting.

*Those in attendance:* Shannon Secrest, Jeanette Cordova, Jennifer Martinez, Deon Gillespie, Margaret (Peggy) Spaulding, Alicia Eakins, Melissa Mannix, Rob Buzogany, Julie Voltaire Schleusener, Jessica Howard

*Those absent:* Sen. Irene Aguilar, Deborah Marks Willams, Willie Wade, Sandra Friedman, Jennifer Munthali, Corey Mineo, Kristen Erby, Gina Herrera, Hal Wright, Patricia Heinke, Paulette Steinhoff

*Staff Present:* Marcia Tewell, Mackenzie Helton, Susan Fager, Robert Lawhead, Vanessa Hernandez

*Guests:* Adam Tucker , Mark Wester, Millie Segura (with the ARC of Adams Colorado and a parent of an eight year old with Autism), Paula Christina (With the ARC of Adams County)