



## Legislative & Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2018-- 10:00 AM – 11:45 PM  
Chancery Conference Room Second Floor  
Denver, CO 80203

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### MEETING AGENDA:

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- 1) Convene, establish quorum, introductions (Hal)
- 2) Approval of April meeting minutes (Group)
- 3) New Business: Questions from the Chair: (Group)
  - a. Looking back on the year, how did we do? What did we miss?
  - b. Looking to next year, can we do better?
  - c. How can we expand the number of community participants (as opposed to general public drop-ins) next year?
  - d. Should we meet on different days of the month next year?
  - e. Plans for our July Committee meeting?

#### Comments from the chair:

I'm open to shifting our meeting days next year from the first and the third Tuesdays if easier for people to attend, particularly Jennifer from HCPF. I'm thinking of our July meeting being more of a social event to get to know each other better and our new executive director, Joelle, and to welcome possible new LPPC members from the incoming DD Council people. What this looks like is what I would like people's thoughts on. I'm open to a social involving family members if there is enthusiasm for that.

- 4) Action items (group discussion)
- 5) Public Comments (group discussion)
- 6) Adjourn

Legislative Services Building

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### DISCUSSION:

1. Hal called meeting to order at 10:12.
2. Kristen made the motion to approve April minutes. Michael seconded the motion. All members approved the provided April meeting minutes.

3. Hal would like to look back at the last year and what the committee has done and what everyone can focus on next year.
  - a. Kristen said she learned a lot last year and that just being present at the Joint Budget Committee ("the JBC") meeting was extremely beneficial. She has identified some potential committee members who are interested in our efforts but they work during the day and are unable to attend meetings during the day. One suggestion is that the committee does business or training outside of business hours so others can participate.
  - b. Hal suggested a statement should be written and agreed upon regarding community members to ensure their participation and rights are known. He also suggested developing legislative priorities to apply to the bills we follow next year. He also suggested a Public Policy educational session and suggested that a vice chair be elected for the committee.
  - c. Alicia shared that she has her footing and a good concept of the committee meetings. She feels the Committee can do a better job with new members. Maybe provide a new member training to review how state government works and the structure as well as acronyms because there are so many and hard to keep up with. She enjoyed that Hal suggested each member pick one bill and follow it from start to finish. Enjoyed having access to Colorado Capitol Watch.
  - d. Michael suggested the committee look in to funding autism projects. Alicia agreed and asked that the committee take a proactive approach on these issues before they arise. Also maybe the committee can meet with the Council's Planning and Grants committee for any funding needs to see if they are possible. We should establish a unified front on behalf of the Council and would like to have working Council meetings to meet these goals.
  - e. Bob agreed with Alicia's statement regarding committee members having one bill to focus on and following it through. Bob shared that he is responsible to help develop and share content with committee members, which is why he had separated updates between the Federal Government and the State Government. He asked for committee feedback to better support committee efforts. He wants to ensure the staff are not too influential in the direction of the Committee. He wants to assure committee members get the support they need to be involved. When he pulled bills this last session he found bills that aligned with one of the three goals in the five year plan.
  - f. Hal is concerned that Council meetings are too driven by the Five Year Plan. Part of the issue is that we get too focused on the Five Year Plan is that we get lost on the other side. Joelle responded that she leans a lot on Goal Two and said Medicaid fits under that goal. Part of the Five Year Plan is part of the DD Act so when we make the next one we need to be as thoughtful and respectful as possible to include all we can. Training new Council and committee members will be important.
4. Hal asked the committee the following:
  1. Q). Should we meet on a different day and time next year?  
A). Very anxious to find a day that works. Michael asked that if the date and times are changed that he knows at least two weeks in advance to plan his work schedule.
  2. Q). Plans for our July committee meeting?  
A). Since Council meeting has been moved to August 1st from July, Hal suggested the first committee meeting be in August after new members join. Alicia proposed a time to just hangout and get to know one another more and then having a shorter meeting before with a strategy and outline

(maybe a 30 minute meeting and social time after?). She volunteered meeting at her house, which is near a bus line and is accessible.

5. Public Comment: Benu shared that she enjoyed all the meetings and the bill updates. Did agree legislative policy education is important for new members and also bringing more awareness to advocacy groups in the community. Is optimistic about the future and is looking forward to being a part of committee.
6. Alicia made motion to adjourn at 11:48 and Kristen seconded.

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Motions/Actions:

1. Benu Amun-Ra would like to be a committee community member
  2. Joelle suggested a Podcast called Vox that discusses public policy for committee members.
  3. Joelle will gather guidance from other DD Councils nationwide to see how they have approached community member participation. The committee policy on public members needs to address issue of card requirement to give testimony for lobbying.
  4. Hal would like input from all committee members as to what they would like to see in a new committee member training. Hal would like to include Senator Irene Aguilar in the training.
  5. Hal will schedule the August meeting by sending an email and Doddle poll. Alicia opened her house for the August meeting since it will be a social event.
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Council Committee Members Present:, Hal Wright, Alicia Eakins, Kristen Erby

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), Benu Amun-Ra,

Staff Present: Vanessa Hernandez, Bob Lawhead, Joelle Brouner

Council Committee Members Absent: Sen. Irene Aguilar, Julie Schleusener, Jessica Howard

MEETING DOCUMENTS

None.

**Our next meeting will be on August 2018.**