

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
Youth Leadership Forum Committee
October 14, 2022

EBONY HAVEN: Hey, everyone. Lillian is stuck in traffic. She should be here in the next couple of minutes, I believe. And so we'll get started as soon as she gets here.

We don't have a quorum just yet. So I'm going to reach out to one of the other committee members that said that she would be able to make it and see if she's still able to come and we'll get started as soon as possible.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Hi, everyone. We now have a quorum which I'm really excited to announce. We have a pretty hefty meeting today. We're working on getting our video set up. But we have a pretty dense meeting today. Arguably the most important meeting we have had as a committee thus far because we get the honor of recommending a fiscal agent to oversee the YLF that we have been planning for so long.

But before we do that, we have some housekeeping to do. So we have some guests here today so I would like, if we could, just quickly go around and introduce ourselves briefly. Bambi, would you like to go first?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Unmute myself. Hi, I'm Bambi Polotzola. Hey, Kiera.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Vivienne.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Hi, I'm Vivienne.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you, Vivienne. Jill. Jill, can you hear me?

JILL HANO: Yeah. I couldn't unmute. I'm Jill Hano. And I'll be right back.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you, Jill. Pam.

PAM ALLEN: Hi, everybody. I'm Pam Allen. I'm really excited to be here today. Thank you.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I think Maddie hasn't quite joined us yet, but her mom April is here with us. Ms. Bayham.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I'm Melissa Bayham. I'm the director of Louisiana Rehabilitation Services.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Would you guys mind introducing yourselves.

SPEAKER: Hi. I'm (inaudible) Marks.

YOLANDA MARKS: She attends UL Lafayette, the life program.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Awesome.

YOLANDA MARKS: And I am her mom. I'm Yolanda Marks. And I was a 2022 graduate of Partners in Policymaking. So I'm excited to be here to learn a few things on how I can move forward.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: We're so excited to have you guys here. I'm Lillian, the chair of this committee. And we have been working on getting a YLF started I think for over a year now. So some more housekeeping. We actually had Nicole DeJean, Nicole Flores and Harlin Coser resign themselves from the committee because, as you guys may have noticed, Families Helping Families of Acadiana submitted a solicitation of proposals for YLF. So they wanted to avoid any conflicts of interests, so they just removed themselves from the committee. So I wanted everyone to be aware of that, so we don't have any issues moving forward as far as concerns of conflicts of interests.

We do need to approve the August meeting summary. So can I have a motion to approve the meeting summary?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: This is Bambi. I'll make the motion.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. I need a second.

SPEAKER: I'll second it.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Thank you. Any abstentions or objections? Seeing none, the motion carries. And now we can move onto the denser part of the meeting where we review the proposals for YLF. Firstly, I think I would like to open up Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge's application. We received two SOPs. One from Families Helping Families of Acadiana and one from Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge. Amy, if you could share the application from Greater Baton Rouge, that would be great.

So my first question is, did anyone have the time to review these applications? Bambi, I see you have your hand up. Anyone else?

JILL HANO: I did one and a half.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Wait. Come again, Jill.

JILL HANO: I reviewed one and a half.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. That's better than nothing. I appreciate it, Jill.

JILL HANO: Of course.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So I would like to first discuss Greater Baton Rouge's proposal. I think does anyone have any thoughts that did review the proposal before I say anything? Bambi, I see you have your hand raised.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah. I mean, first off, I just, you know, wanted to say, you know, the applicants, or I guess the submitters of these proposals are both Families Helping Families centers and are great partners with the DD Council. And so I appreciate that partnership. I did have some confusion with Greater Baton Rouge application because-- I'm sorry. My dog is coughing in the background. It didn't seem to be in line with kind of what our meetings have been discussing. Like I don't have any problems with the proposal. But like the alignment with what was, maybe the request. So I went back to the solicitation for proposal just to make sure that like there was nothing that I got confused about. And so it seems like what they have proposed is not in line with what the council wanted to fund. Which is the Youth Leadership Forum. Which I think is like pretty specific, is my understanding, pretty specific guidelines to be part of the national model. Like to be able to use that type of structure. Kind of the same way our Partners in Policymaking is part of a national structure. So that was my concern. And so when I was doing the scoring it made it a little bit difficult that like maybe it did meet the question that was being asked, but it wasn't meeting the council's overall, what I think the council's overall like mandate was for this funding. If that makes sense.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: It absolutely does make sense. Melissa, I see you have your hand raised.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Yeah. I couldn't really tell if they were proposing to do the Youth Leadership Forum and almost like an additional component. Or I was confused.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I had to sit with this one for a little while just to kind of comb through it. And I think my understanding of the proposal is that Families

Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge would be utilizing youth with disabilities to plan a behavioral health conference. That was my understanding of it. I could be mistaken. Jill, I see you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: I just concur with Bambi and Melissa. I literally called Ebony at like 12:00 and going what did I just read. Like cause I don't think that, I was thinking I missed something that we have been talking about. But I was also very confused.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you for your input, Jill. I like about this proposal is that they do reference a lot of research. I think, you know, behavioral health conference is a great idea. However, as Bambi mentioned, any Youth Leadership Forum in any state has to apply by national standards because this is a program that is monitored by AYLF which is the national organization that oversees YLFs. And there are criteria for every YLF that uses the name Youth Leadership Forum. And my concern is that this does not meet that criteria. And my concern is that AYLF will catch wind of this, and their feathers will be ruffled because while behavioral health conference is a phenomenal idea, it's not YLF, right. Because Youth Leadership Forums according to AYLF really, really focus on emphasizing education on disability history, disability culture. Cultivating that pride in yourself as a disabled person. And what I see from this proposal is instead of emphasis on, you know, that history and cultural part, there's more of an emphasis on mindfulness, exercise and nutrition to promote recovery from disability. Which is something that I don't think is in alignment with the values of a Youth Leadership Forum.

The other comment that I do have is that it doesn't really adhere to some of the committee's recommendations. For instance, there's no coordinator mentioned. Region two is selected as a location when we decided it would be region four. And one last thing is that it focuses on people with DD and the AYLF requires that we meet the ADA definition of disability. And so while I think this is a great project idea, my concern is is that it cannot be called a YLF according

to national standards. So Pam, I see you have your hand raised.

PAM ALLEN: You couldn't have said it better. Your comments and everyone's comments. I just had a question. With their submission of this proposal did they, had there been some talk about this type of a program or did they just kind of decide to go off on thinking it might be comparable? It seems so different from what the proposal is asking. I was just wondering where maybe that came from.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I wish I had more context. I think a lot of people are a little bit confused about this proposal because while it is, you know, definitely a good project idea, it doesn't seem like it's YLF, right. Doesn't seem fitting for this SOP. So yes, I wish I had an answer for you. Unfortunately, I do not. Does anyone else have any input, questions, concerns? Vivienne, Chaney, you've been quiet. I would love to hear your thoughts.

EBONY HAVEN: Can you guys hear us? Vivienne, can you hear us? Chaney, can you hear us?

CHANEY GUIDRY: Hi. I just had to get my mike to work. I pretty much, I agree with what everyone else is saying.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I don't mean to call you guys out. It really, I want to hear from everyone on the committee cause it's such a huge decision that I want to hear everyone because everyone's perspectives are so valuable. Can someone pull up Vivienne's chat so we can read it. Vivienne says yes, I agree. It does not seem to align with what we want to accomplish. Thank you, Vivienne.

Would you mind pulling up Families Helping Families of Acadiana's proposal. If anyone has anymore thoughts about Greater Baton Rouge, let's hear it. Even if it's from the public or from committee members. Thank you, Amy. Can you scroll down to project summary. Thank you. So before I say anything, did anyone have the chance to review FHFOA and did you have any thoughts? Jill, did you get a chance to look at FHFOA or was that the half one?

JILL HANO: No. FHFOA was the first one I was able to read. So I read the whole thing. And I thought it

was great and I really like it because FHFA has been to some of our YLF meetings and they kind of have more of an idea of what specific the committee and the DD Council are looking for. So I like this direction.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you, Jill.

JILL HANO: You're welcome.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Bambi, I know you had the chance to read through some of them. What did you think about FHFOA?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah, I thought it was a great proposal. I liked that it pulled in all the components. It's following the national YLF components. It is, you know, really looking at diversity and also looking at-- I read it twice just to see if you had all the partners, if they had all the partners listed here that they plan to partner with. And so I really liked that, dealing with UL Lafayette. And they mentioned LRS and the Department of Education. Yeah, so I liked all of it. It was good. And I also liked that they had some of their letters of recommendation, they had from another Families Helping Families center as well as from the Department of Education, letters of support. I liked it.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Melissa, do you have any thoughts?

MELISSA BAYHAM: The only thing I was curious about is do you think that there's enough effort in terms of the coordinator as far as how many hours, the 830 hours? Do you think that's going to be sufficient for a year for this particular position?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I think it's a difficult question.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Just knowing what...

AMY DEAVILLE: Well, I don't know for sure, but all that they can budget is the 30,000 the council (inaudible). So my assumption, but I could be wrong. My assumption was that their plan would have been to use some of the other funds given to also put towards that salary.

MELISSA BAYHAM: So this may not be the total for the salary just based on the 30,000.

AMY DEAVILLE: When I saw the number that's what I thought. But I could be wrong.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Okay.

AMY DEAVILLE: When I saw the number I thought.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I was just doing some Melissa math. Cause 830 hours-- now October's already started, obviously, you divide that by 12. That's 69 hours a month. That was just my question.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: For some context for everyone, Ms. Bayham was asking about the salary for the coordinator in this proposal. Because whenever you look at it the hours and the salary looks a little bit low, even for a part-time worker. And so the idea really is that in this proposal it states (inaudible) funding from LRS and LDOE. And we have a letter of support already from LDOE. So the idea is that this may not be the total for the salary and the coordinator may be paid more based on any other funds that come through or any other grants they may get. Which I appreciate you bringing that up because we want to make sure the coordinator is well equip. Jill, is your hand raised from earlier?

JILL HANO: Didn't I see on this proposal, unless I didn't print the whole thing. I didn't see the funding-- wait. I didn't see the disclosure of ownership or the tax form. Unless I'm missing something.

AMY DEAVILLE: What was the second form you said, Jill?

EBONY HAVEN: I think she said the tax form.

AMY DEAVILLE: Oh, yeah. I left the tax form out because it's got some private information. But I do think the board resolution was in there.

JILL HANO: I probably overlooked it.

MELISSA BAYHAM: So once we pick somebody, just say for example we pick this particular proposal. Will we be able to do means of financing swaps? In other words, if LRS, for example, can pay some of these costs would they be able to move some money around? Does that make sense? Because like take lodging for delegates. If I'm able to pay, if LRS is able to pay for lodging, but it's in this budget then we couldn't because it would be duplication of funding. Does that make sense? Just throw that out there.

AMY DEAVILLE: Yes, I don't think that would be an issue.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Okay. Because I think like supplies, I think you're going to need more for

supplies. That's probably a low number for supplies.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So this budget isn't necessary set in stone as it is today?

AMY DEAVILLE: Right. We usually base a contract off of the budget that they get, so the budget detail. But if in the actual use of funds they need to make some changes, so they need more in supplies which means they pay less in salaries because they're doing it or they're not paying lodging we can move within there. We just cannot exceed the 30,000. So some changes based off of the reality of whatever the project is is expected.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So implementation is flexible with the totals?

AMY DEAVILLE: Yes.

MELISSA BAYHAM: And, I mean, it's very understandable because I don't know all the details yet to know how to tell the council what LRS will be able to contribute at this point. And they do mention in their proposal, you know, that they're anticipating LRS funds. It's just we may have to move stuff around the budget.

EBONY HAVEN: And we had a question in the Q and A.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Will the salary increase based on the number of youth increasing. That's a great question and I'm not really sure we know the answer to it yet. Simply because for our first year I think we're projecting about 12 leaders or delegates/campers. There's a lot of different names for our youth, right. We're expecting 12 as far as the committee goes. And then the idea is with each year that YLF continues we increase the number of delegates or campers. So that's the idea that the committee has. But the idea of the salary increasing with the number of delegates I think would likely be up to the fiscal agent once this project is handed over to the fiscal agent. Well off into the future, probably 2024. Great question. I wish I had an answer for you. I don't right now. But thank you for asking.

EBONY HAVEN: And I think Jill's hand is up.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Jill, I see you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: So there was money in the budget for

lodging, but I thought LAPIE was donating that or am I like way off?

EBONY HAVEN: Who did you say was donating it?

JILL HANO: I thought UL LAPIE.

EBONY HAVEN: The life program at UL.

JILL HANO: Thank you.

EBONY HAVEN: The life program, is that something they said they would be interested in doing?

JILL HANO: Maybe. Maybe not.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So my understanding, I don't remember who was all at the meeting. My memory is terrible. But my understanding of what UL Life would be donating is not the lodging, but rather the UL Life rooms. So instead of having to rent their rooms for the daytime sessions we would be able to utilize those for free, but we would still have to pay for that lodging.

JILL HANO: Oh, okay.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Does anyone else have any thoughts, questions, concerns?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So Lillian, at the appropriate time, I don't know what the process is, but I would move that we recommend Families Helping Families of Acadiana to be, to fulfill this project for the DD Council.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. I would like to, before we make a motion, point out a couple things about this proposal. The really neat thing about this proposal is it very explicitly adheres to the best practices put out by AYLFF, the national organization. Such as, you know, representing the delegate population being representative of the race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status within our state about the celebration of disability culture. Disability defined as in the ADA. And also reflects the work of our committee such as mentioning utilizing UL. Having grades ten through 12 be delegates. And also it being a three-day residential program. I just wanted to say that and have that on record before we proceeded.

So sorry for interrupting your motion, but I did want to have that out there. So Bambi made a motion to recommend FHF--

CHANEY GUIDRY: Second.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Oh, and it's seconded by Chaney. Does anyone have any objections or abstentions to this motion? So I will answer the question after we finish with the motion. So does anyone have any objections or abstentions to our motion? Okay. Hearing none, the motion passes.

We have a question in the Q and A. It says will this project be available throughout Louisiana or just available in certain parishes. The idea of YLF is that it serves the entirety of Louisiana. With YLF it is a three day like residential program. It's almost like a summer camp for people with disabilities or youth with disabilities to become empowered members of their community. So that summer camp or residential program the committee planned to happen within region four. But the idea is that youth with disabilities would travel from across the state. There may be travel reimbursement. I can't promise that. But that would definitely be the goal so we can represent all areas of the state. So definitely not discriminatory based on the parish that you live in. Thank you for that question.

So before we move onto our next agenda item, I do want to mention that this committee's decision is not necessarily final. Our recommendation then goes to the DD Council's executive committee. Then the executive committee makes a decision. And then that decision rolls over to the full council. So there's still a little bit of a process to go through. I plan on attending executive committee virtually and full council in-person. But I would very, very deeply encourage all of you to come to both of those meetings either virtually, in-person. We need as much representation from our committee as possible. It's definitely better if it's not just me talking about YLF, right. So we can be there and really explain our decision-making process and also the process that we've been involved in over the past year, right. So we can really do our work justice and be able to create YLF in a way that is true to YLF, right. So please come to those meetings. And all this meeting information can be found on the LDDC website.

So the next agenda item would be finalizing the

schedule for YLF. I believe Amy's going to pull that up. Awesome. So I know there was a bit of a brew-ha-ha about this schedule whenever we first kind of looked at it last time because it is a very hefty schedule. I do want to preface this with the fact that whenever I was at Oklahoma's YLF I did inquire about why their schedule was so jampacked. As a chronically ill person it was very difficult not to like fall asleep because I am naturally a very tired person. But there actually is a purpose behind this, right. Because YLF is often the first time the delegates are away from home for an extended period of time. And they're also in a totally new environment with totally new people. It's a very overwhelming experience. On top of the fact that you have back-to-back sessions packed with learning, right. But the idea of having a jampacked schedule is so you don't have as much of that home sickness and so you don't have as much of that emotional fallout that comes from being away from home for the first time. Especially with people with disabilities who may be less able to adjust to new circumstances like YLF. And so really the idea is keeping everyone as happy and healthy as possible while also maximizing the experience.

With that being said, this is absolutely just a mock schedule, and I would love to hear your thoughts on this. There's a question that says has a rubric been created for deciding which youth will be a part of the first cohort. So that rubric will likely be created by the fiscal agent and the coordinator that is hired. If the coordinator is hired depending on which organization these funds go to. Cause I know Greater Baton Rouge did not list a coordinator in their SOP. But the idea is that that rubric will be created by the coordinator. But there's already templates put out by the national organization and also templates from other states as well that we can pull from and tailor to our state as well. So that's definitely a future thing. But excellent question. Thank you.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: This is Bambi. I'm just wondering like for public meetings like rules, like should we not know who's making questions? Like I can't tell this person. Maybe you guys know. It's

okay to ask questions, I just don't know for public meetings is it supposed to be the person identifying themselves?

EBONY HAVEN: We can identify them, Bambi. We can see the names. There is somebody that's on their cell phone so I'm not sure if they're able to change their name. Because they're on the cell phone I'm not sure if they're driving or not. So I know that question that Lillian just answered was from the person that was on their cell phone. I think the other person that asked the question, it was from, and please forgive if I don't say your name correctly. I think it's Yesha McFarland. She asked the previous question. But there is someone on a cell phone. It just says Samsung so I'm not sure of the name.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So whoever's on the cell phone if you're not driving if you could pop your name in the chat if you're comfortable with that, that would be great, so we know who you are.

CORHONDA CORELY: Good afternoon. This is Corhonda Corley, and I am driving. And to answer that question as it relates to open meeting laws, Robert Rules of Order, all of the individuals can participate, not just the ones that are actually typing a question or submitting a question is supposed to be reflected as being in attendance. So like if we were in-person everybody is supposed to sign in. But also all of those that are attending virtually are supposed to be reflected as being in attendance as well whether or not regardless of them asking any type of questions. Just wanted to make sure everybody knows that. Because I know I actually had a meeting today regarding that because that did not happen at a meeting that I attended recently, and it wasn't the DD Council, it was just a different meeting. But it is supposed to be that every person that is attending whether they are in-person or just on the actual call themselves actually being recorded as being in attendance.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you, Ms. Corley. All right. Do we have any comments, questions, thoughts about the agenda?

MELISSA BAYHAM: And we don't have to go through this right now, but is there a way like that I could

get a more, a little bit more explanation as to what the different things are just so I can at some point figure out which I can tie to a preemployment transition service. Like for example, emotional support how-to. Exactly what the content of that particular session will be.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Yeah. So I think this is-- actually I'm glad you brought up that block of time under the staff training. I would really like to explain this. The emotional support how-to is specifically for the staff. So before YLF actually happens we're going to have a robust staff training. Last time there was a question if we should have two days of staff training or if we should just have one. This schedule is one. We can definitely hash that out today if you guys would like. But the emotional support how-to I felt like was really important to add because one thing that I really underestimated going into OK YLF was the emotional component of YLF. Not just because of the reasons I mentioned earlier of being away from home around new people with new information, but especially whenever you have youth with disabilities who have maybe behavioral health needs or more specific emotional needs our staff really needs to understand how to support them in the best way possible to make their YLF experience as meaningful as possible. Because there are a lot of things that are brought up in YLF. So, for instance, there was a discussion among the delegates at OK YLF about what it's like to feel discriminated against as a person with a disability. And that's really hard topics to talk about. And so I think our staff needs to be really well equip about how to be sensitive to these issues and how to support the delegates in the healthiest way possible. So Jill, I see you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: Can someone send this to me because for some reason when I printed it, it only has the training day.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. I can email that to you right now.

JILL HANO: Cool.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Does anyone else have any

thoughts, questions?

YOLANDA MARKS: I have a question. Now I know that you said the conference is going to be for three days. Is it going to be like once a year? Is it going to be a couple times during the summer? Do y'all have a plan in mind on how often it's going to be? Is it going to be like a once-a-year thing or quarterly thing or something like that?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So currently the idea is that it's going to occur once a year with alumni events in between. So once someone has gone through YLF there may be events quarterly where all the people who went through YLF get to get together again and maybe do an activity. Maybe it's going to the capitol. It just kinds of depends on how the fiscal agent executes it. But once a year is the idea. Jill, as a YLF alumni, what do you think of the schedule?

JILL HANO: Go up.

AMY DEAVILLE: How far up?

JILL HANO: All the way. Yeah. Well, I mean, not as a necessary alumni, but because like y'all can probably assume I'm not going to remember much details from this, but it seems really to line up with the national YLF modules and what they kind of like suggest the topics to be. So I think it looks great.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you, Jill. Go ahead.

JILL HANO: So are we as a committee going to develop the like curriculum?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So I think it just depends on what you mean by curriculum. We can definitely approve this schedule today and hope that our fiscal agent abides and adheres to the schedule, right. But the nitty-gritty details of hiring speakers and organizing the sessions will likely be up to the fiscal agent and the coordinator. My hope would be that after this committee is finished with its work then the fiscal agent will have some sort of advisory group so there's still community input about YLF. So Chaney, I see you have your hand raised.

CHANEY GUIDRY: If we approve this agenda what if the people that are planning it need to change the time of the presentations or anything? Like what does that, how much of this is set in stone?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I don't think, I mean, I think it's tricky just because of the way our committee's set up and the fact that we're handing over this project to our fiscal agent. So my understanding of this would be that this would be our recommended schedule. So we have been working on this for over a year, we've done our research, we understand what YLF is. So we hand this over to the fiscal agent and we say here, here's what we think YLF would function best as.

So Ms. Corley asked in the QA could staff go through diversity, equity and inclusion training. That is up to the fiscal agent. And it's also tricky because of what you mean by staff, right. Because if you mean staff as in everyone who will be working at YLF, there will likely have to be some diversity training just because disability brings in a whole lot of diversity. Because we know disability doesn't discriminate against race, socioeconomic status, gender, really anything. So there's going to have to be some diversity training in order for this to happen successfully. And Jill, I see that you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: Again. So like is the fiscal agent in charge of like staffing the forum? Like I kind of want to discuss, I think we did, but unofficially. I want to discuss what the duties of the fiscal agent are going to be.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: That's a great question.

JILL HANO: Or did we talk about that?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: We can absolutely talk about that. And I think it's definitely a worthwhile subject of discussion. And so this is my understanding of the situation. Amy, please feel free to jump in if I'm incorrect on anything. So whenever this committee was first formed, I'm sure everyone on this call and everyone in this meeting understands that this is considered an ad hoc committee. So it's not a standing committee on the DD Council. Which indicates that our committee is temporary. So we were charged with, you know, laying that foundation for YLF. Planning it, getting everything lined out so we can bring this back to Louisiana. And so my understanding of this is that this will likely be our last meeting. If not our

last meeting unless something comes up and we need to get together again for any reason. But essentially my understanding is we do that prework so then we can hand over this project to a fiscal agent. And this is exactly why I have said this is our most important meeting because choosing our fiscal agent is imperative to maintaining the integrity of our YLF. We need to make sure that our fiscal agent understands YLF and is going to execute it in the way that this committee foresaw it, right. Because we've been planning this. We've been looking at national standards. We know YLF and we need to make sure that we're handing this program over to someone who will bring this to life in a way that will empower our young people with disabilities and in a way that really honors the work, this amazing work this committee has all already done. So I hope that explains things a little bit better.

And I see Brenda Cosse has her hand raised. You should be allowed to talk now. Hello, Ms. Cosse. You should be allowed to speak now.

EBONY HAVEN: If you're speaking, we can't hear you. I see that you unmuted your mike, but we can't hear you for some reason.

AMY DEAVILLE: She did put something in the Q and A.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. So Ms. Cosse is asking a couple of questions in her Q and A. She asked what dorm prep would entail. I put this into the schedule because at OK YLF there were things that needed to be done like putting the sheets on the beds and, you know, putting the pillowcases on the pillows. Little things here and there. And also like packing their backpacks for the week. So one of the things that was really important to OK YLF was each delegate had a backpack that they could carry around on campus if they had any comfort items, fidget toys or even like their water bottle for the day they could put it in their backpack that had a nametag on it. They also brought these backpacks to capitol day. So dorm prep would entail dorm prep and also packing those backpacks, getting everything ready for the arrival of the delegates.

Can there be consideration for pre-arrival conversation for attendees paired with staff and

counselor. On day one from 10:30 to 11:30 tentatively the idea is there will be introductions and what to expect at camp. But the other cool thing that I would love to see Louisiana re-create from Oklahoma is they do interviews with their delegates before camp. And so not only do the staff get to know the delegates, but the delegates get to know the staff. So everyone's familiar with each other and have seen each other's faces before they even hit that campus. Okay. So those are the two questions. Thank you for the questions.

YOLANDA MARKS: I have a question. Once it's handed off to the fiscal agent, is there going to be any oversight of them? And also, if once say Families Helping Families of Acadiana is chosen, say down the line they start going in a direction that may not meet with our goals, how long is the contract for and would they have to like reapply every year or how's that going to work?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So that's largely dependent on the council and our funders. The oversight would likely come from our funders which would be right now set in stone the DD Council. Hopefully LRS and LDOE, Louisiana Rehabilitation Services and Department of Ed. And so my understanding of the DD Council is that there will be reports on how YLF is going at full council meetings, but also was the funding for YLF put in the yearly or five-year plan?

AMY DEAVILLE: Yearly.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. So currently they have to decide again next year if YLF is still going to get the 30,000, less, more or none. The hope is is that if YLF is successful DD Council will see it as a worthwhile investment. But that would be oversight. My personal hope would be that there would be a community advisory group for input. We'll see how that plays out. But again, that's why it's so important to choose the right fiscal agent so we know they will do YLF justice. Thank you, Ms. Cosse.

Does anyone have any more thoughts, questions or concerns about the schedule? Or does anyone want to make a motion to accept it?

JILL HANO: I will.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Thank you. So Jill makes a motion to accept the schedule.

VIVIENNE WEBB: Second.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: And Vivienne seconds it. Thank you, Vivienne. Do we have any objections or abstentions? Awesome. Well, it looks like we have actually gone through our entire agenda which is record timing for any DD Council meeting ever. So congratulations. So this now is our public comment section. Do we have anything in the chat, Q & A?

EBONY HAVEN: Let's see. Nothing in the chat. Oh, wait. I see someone's hand is raised. Ms. Corley.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Ms. Corley, you should be allowed to talk now.

CORHONDA CORELY: Hi. I have another quick question in regards to the individuals with disabilities that may have (inaudible) such as autism that may need to be acquainted with the actual premises or location prior to the actual three days. (Inaudible) take into consideration and allowing the opportunity to be able to tour the premise so they can actually (inaudible).

And what is the grand total budget? Because if we're saying 30,000, 30,000 is not going to pay a nurse to actually be on the premise with the youth. So I just kind of wanted to know what would be the whole budget (inaudible) so that we can actually kind of come up with a calculation to know if that is going to be feasible as it relates to making sure that we have things covered such as diets. Because everybody with a disability don't necessarily eat the same thing. They may have dietary restrictions. I want to make sure our budget is something that's going to accommodate everything for our individuals with disabilities that our youth that will actually be in attendance. Thank you.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you for your question, Ms. Corley. So my understanding is that there are two questions to your comment. One, for individuals with disabilities like maybe someone has autism, will they have the opportunity to get acquainted with the campus before the forum. And I would assume yes because the idea that the committee has is that our forum will be

hosted on UL's campus. And the cool thing is is that's a public college campus so anyone can tour the campus at any time. So they will have that opportunity. Really just depends on their schedule.

Additionally with the budget, that's an excellent question. We don't necessarily have a set in stone budget right now. What we do know that is set in stone is that we have 30K from the DD Council. However, we are anticipating funding from LRS and LDOE. That funding is to be determined. However, the really, really cool thing about choosing a fiscal agent is that we don't have to worry about that budget. We don't have to worry about if, you know, it will be enough to put on the forum because we are handing our project over to the fiscal agent and if we choose our fiscal agent well we'll be able to trust that fiscal agent and understand that they'll be able to execute this project with the budget they have and if they don't have enough money they'll be able to get grants or other funding sources. So I think we're going to be okay. Knowing YLFs, understanding the budgetary piece, I really think we're going to be okay. But I definitely appreciate your concern and your deep interest in whether or not this will be feasible. So Jill, I see that you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: Sorry. I was emailing Amy Deaville. Thank you. That was just what I was looking for. I know you said we're basically turning everything over to FHF of Acadiana. But what about like does this committee look at the like funding budgets from the other, like funding sources if we get them?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I think that would really be up to the fiscal agent, whoever that ends up being. Because they'll be in charge of that budgetary piece. And so they'll be the hub that is receiving the DDC, and all the other organizations is my understanding of it.

JILL HANO: Okay.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Hi, Jazz.

JILL HANO: Hi, Jazz.

JAZZ: Hey.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: It's good to see you. Okay. So it doesn't seem like we have any more public comment. Does any of the members of the committee have any

comments, questions, concerns? Anything else we need to discuss? Seeing none--

JILL HANO: So is this going to, now that we are in fiscal year 23, will this be monitored by the self-determination committee?

EBONY HAVEN: Yes, Jill. It's going to the self-determination committee. It's just like partners. So yeah, you guys will get an update just like you do with partners.

JILL HANO: I was just asking.

EBONY HAVEN: No problem, Jill. Already thinking ahead huh.

JILL HANO: You know me.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: You know, after the last meeting, but before this meeting whenever I was in discussion with Amy about some things about the committee, you know, I think we both kind of realized that with this meeting our committee's work is essentially complete because we were charged with bringing YLF back to Louisiana and passing it off to someone who is going to be able to execute it. So I just want to take a moment and have everyone pat themselves on the back because we did it. And so YLF is going to be coming back to Louisiana in 2023 which is probably the most exciting news ever, right. And so unless something crazy comes up we shouldn't be meeting again as the YLF ad hoc committee under the LADDC. Maybe we'll meet again in a different capacity hopefully at a restaurant as friends casually because these meetings can be a lot sometimes. But thank you all for your participation and congratulations because we have accomplished our goal. And finished in record timing. So can I get a motion to adjourn our last meeting?

JILL HANO: Do we need a motion to dissolve the committee?

EBONY HAVEN: You have to have a motion to dissolve.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Good job, Jill. Can I have a motion to dissolve our committee?

JILL HANO: I will.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Can we have a second?

SPEAKER: I second.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I'll second it and just say how

impressed I am that Jill, like I did not even realize that. So that is a very impressive skill, Jill.

JILL HANO: Cause I actually don't think this is correct because I think we went through this in the partners ad hoc. I think there was debate because I think since the self-determination committee formed it, then only the self-determination committee could dissolve it. So not really sure it's us who dissolves it, but I don't know.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Do we have to settle this today or can we?

EBONY HAVEN: No, I mean, I think if you guys just make a motion in case you guys are the entity that needs to dissolve, we can make a motion and then if we determine that the self-determination committee is the one that needs to make the motion, they can do that at the council meeting on next week.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Can we just kind of agree we're good to go and adjourn the meeting cause Rashad is, you know--

EBONY HAVEN: The chair. Right.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: All right. So I guess we're still tied together as a committee, but can I have a motion to adjourn? Come on guys, I just need a motion to adjourn. I'm not asking for much.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I make a motion.

CHANEY GUIDRY: I motion. Second.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: We're just going to say Chaney makes the motion and Bambi seconds. Does anyone have any objections or abstentions? Seeing none, we are adjourned. Thank you, guys, very much. Appreciate it.