

Membership Committee

Friday, October 6, 2023
5615 Corporate Blvd., Ste. 500B
Baton Rouge, La 70808
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

SUMMARY

Members Present: Nicole Banks, Jill Hano (Chair), Tory Rocca, Brooke Stewart, Lauren Womack

Members Absent: Christi Gonzales, Erick Taylor

Staff: Brenton Andrus, Stephanie Carmona, Ebony Haven

Guests: None Present

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 11:10 AM. Due to technical difficulties the meeting was not live-streamed.

Review of Council Membership Requirements

Council staff reviewed Council Membership requirements according to *The Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000*. Council staff also reviewed the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (LaDDC) demographics compared to the State of Louisiana demographics and discussed areas where improvements can be made in LaDDC membership in regards to demographics and geographic location.

The committee reviewed the seven (7) seats to be filled which included the institutional/facility seat, non-profit representative seat and five (5) parents or guardians of children with developmental disabilities or immediate relatives or guardians of adults with mentally impairing conditions and who cannot advocate for themselves seats. The committee also considered applicants to fill seats for members whose terms are upcoming in November 2023 and February 2024.

Review of Applicants

Six (6) applicants applied for the non-profit seat, fourteen (14) applicants applied for parent, guardian and immediate relative seats and two (2) applicants applied for the institutional/facility seat. The committee was able to interview and consider four (4) of the six (6) applicants for the non-profit seat, seven (7) of the fourteen (14) applicants for the parent, guardian and immediate relative seats and both applicants for the institutional/facility seat. Ratings for applicants were submitted by interviewers prior to the meeting and shared. Due to the sensitive nature and personal health information contained within the applications and discussion the committee decided to enter Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:35 AM, a motion by Brooke Stewart, seconded by Nicole Banks to enter into executive session to discuss the applicants for Council membership passed without objections or abstentions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONCLUDED

At 12:55 PM, the committee ended its Executive Session and the public meeting was called to order at 12:56 PM. A quorum was established.

MOTION PASSED

A motion by Nicole Banks, seconded by Lauren Womack to recommend Cherie Aduli to fill the Non-profit representative seat on the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council passed by roll call vote. 3 Ayes and 1 Nay.

MOTION PASSED

A motion by Nicole Banks, seconded by Lauren Womack to recommend Christinna Beckett to fill the institutional/facility seat on the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council passed with no objections or abstentions.

The committee then discussed one of the parent applicants who was not interviewed due to unexpected and extenuating circumstances. He is a former Council member and his previous involvement and leadership was discussed. The committee decided to recommend him for the Council based on these previous experiences and the need for more male representatives on the Council. He was the only male applicant.

MOTION PASSED

A motion by Nicole Banks, seconded by Lauren Womack to recommend Pasqueal Nguyen, Missey Moore, Samantha Singletary, Melinda Perrodin and Michael Billings to fill the parents/immediate relatives' seats on the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council passed with no objections or abstentions.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM by unanimous consent.