

July 20, 2023
Meeting Summary – Motions Only

8:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nicole Banks
Kim Basile
Melissa Bayham, LRS
Cheri Crain, GOEA
Julie Foster Hagan, OCDD
Jill Hano
Angela Harmon
Meredith Jordan, LDOE
Bambi Polotzola, GODA
Melinda Richard, OAAS
Tory Rocca, DRLA
Brooke Stewart
Mary Tarver
Erick Taylor
Renoda Washington

MEMBERS ABSENT

Libby Airhart
Patti Barovechio, OPH
Brenda Cosse'
Christi Gonzales
Hyacinth McKee
Roslyn Hymel
Vivienne Webb
Phil Wilson, LSU-HDC

STAFF PRESENT

Brenton Andrus
Rekeesha Branch
Amy Deaville
Ebony Haven
Lauren Brown
Stephanie Carmona

GUESTS PRESENT

Lauren Womack
Tangela Womack
April Hampton
Nicole Flores
Ashley McReynolds
Kelly Monroe
Dr. Marilyn Thornton
Charlie Michel
Christina Martin
Lynsey Hebert, Transcriptionist
Nicole Learson, Parliamentarian

Chair Nicole Banks called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. with a quorum present.

The [April 2023 Meeting Summary](#) was approved as distributed, by unanimous consent.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Motions from Executive Committee:

Passed. Motion from Erick Taylor to approve the recommendation to accept the proposal from People First/The Arc of Louisiana for the Disability Voting Rights activity in the plan (Activity 1.1.9). Seconded by Tory Rocca. Motion passed, Kim Basile abstained.

Motion from Jill Hano to approve the recommendation to accept the proposal from The Arc of Louisiana for Activity 3.1.5 (Building Capacity for advocacy regarding education and employment). Seconded by Mary Tarver.

Motion made by Erick Taylor to amend the previous motion. Seconded by Brooke Stewart.

Amendment Adopted. The amendment is to accept the proposal from the Arc of Louisiana and fund it at the full \$87,000 amount with the stipulation that Bayou Land Families Helping Families and The Arc of Louisiana collaborate on this project and The Arc of Louisiana subcontracts with Bayou Land Families Helping Families at a minimum amount of \$5,638.68.

Roll Call vote on Amended Motion: 12 yes, 0 no, 2 abstentions

Abstentions: Kim Basile, Meredith Jordan

Passed. Motion from Brooke Stewart to approve the recommendation to accept the proposal from Hustle and Grow for Activity 2.1.3 (Navigating the Developmental Disability, Behavioral Health and Medicaid/Managed Care Organization Systems). Seconded by Angela Harmon.

Motion approved by roll call vote. 6 yes, 5 no, 3 abstentions

Abstained: Kim Basile, Jill Hano, Meredith Jordan

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT & BUDGET REPORT

Both reports given by Executive Director

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating Committee Report given by Bambi Polotzola, Chair of the Nominating Ad Hoc Committee.

Nominating Committee Recommendations:

Chair – Vivienne Webb – did not accept the nomination

Vice Chair – Jill Hano

E/E Chair – Christi Gonzales

SDCI Chair – Brooke Stewart

Member at Large – Angela Harmon

Nominations from Floor for Chair

Jill Hano nominated Kim Basile for Chair who accepted the nomination.

Angela Harmon nominated Christi Gonzales who accepted the nomination.

Erick Taylor nominated Renoda Washington who did not accept the nomination.

Nominations from Floor for Education/Employment Chair

Bambi Polotzola nominated Renoda Washington who accepted the nomination.

No nominations from floor for Vice-Chair. No nominations from floor for Self-Determination/Community Inclusion Chair. No nominations from floor for Member at Large.

Roll Call Vote for Kim Basile as Chair: 3 yes, 8 no, 1 abstention (Tory Rocca)

Roll Call Vote for Christi Gonzales as Chair: 8 yes, 4 no, no abstentions

By unanimous consent, Jill Hano is Vice Chair, Renoda Washington is Employment/Education Chair, Brooke Stewart is Self-Determination/Community Inclusion Chair and Angela Harmon is Member-at-Large.

New Executive Committee:

Chair – Christi Gonzales

Vice-Chair – Jill Hano

Employment/Education Committee Chair – Renoda Washington

Self-Determination/Community Inclusion Chair – Brooke Stewart

Member at Large – Angela Harmon

Act 378 Sub Committee Report was given by Bambi Polotzola

Motion from Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee and forwarded to full council for approval:

Failed. The Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee recommends the Council continue its contract with Families Helping Families of New Orleans at its current funding level but require the following be provided:

- Quarterly report submitted to the Committee and Council staff detailing the concerns noted in their Fiscal Year 2021 and 2022 audit and actions taken to address and mitigate those concerns. Data to support those changes should also be included such as copies of updated policies and procedures, findings when completing updated analyses as recommended in the audit, any trends identified, etc.
- Leadership assessment to determine current needs within management, including all directors, assistant directors and supervisors, and a detailed and specific plan of the actions that are being taken to address all identified needs.

The committee offers this recommendation to the full Council for consideration.

Roll Call Vote: 4 yes, 8 no, 1 abstention (Kim Basile)

Passed. Motion by Brooke Stewart, seconded by Angela Harmon:

The Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee recommends the Council continue its contract with Families Helping Families of New Orleans at its current funding level but require the following be provided:

- Quarterly report submitted to the Committee and Council staff detailing the concerns noted in their Fiscal Year 2021 and 2022 audit and actions taken to address and mitigate those concerns. Data to support those changes should also be included such as copies of updated policies and procedures, findings when completing updated analyses as recommended in the audit, any trends identified, etc.
- Leadership assessment to determine current needs within management, including all directors, assistant directors and supervisors, and a detailed and specific plan of the actions that are being taken to address all identified needs.
- Non-recurring portion of their funding is to pay down debts.



SELF-DETERMINATION ♦ INDEPENDENCE ♦ PRODUCTIVITY ♦ INTEGRATION ♦ INCLUSION

Roll Call Vote: 12 yes, 2 abstentions (Kim Basile, Meredith Jordan)

Education/Employment Committee Report given by Bambi Polotzola on behalf of Dr. Hyacinth McKee

Standing Council Member Reports:

Louisiana Rehabilitation Services

Bureau of Health Services – Financing

Break for lunch at 11:59 a.m. Reconvened at 1:03 p.m.

Office of Public Health

Office of Aging and Adult Services

Department of Education

Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs

Governor's Office of Disability Affairs

Families Helping Families Centers

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

By unanimous consent, the DD Council July Quarterly meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.