



Executive Committee Summary

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

10:00 AM – 11:45 AM

4914 Constitution Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808

LIVE Streamed Via YouTube

You can watch the meeting here: <https://www.youtube.com/@LADDCouncil/streams>

You can view the meeting transcript [here](#)

Members Present: Jill Hano, Angela Harmon, Christi Gonzales (Chair), Brooke Stewart, Renoda Washington

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Brenton Andrus, Rekeesha Branch, Lauren Brown, Stephanie Carmona, Ebony Haven, Bridgette Talley

Others Present: Jude Boynton, Kristie Curtis, Liam Doyle, Mylinda Elliott, Nicole Flores, Marilyn Goodwin, April Hampton, Lynsey Hebert (Transcriptionist), Chanel Jackson, Nicole Learson (Parliamentarian), Christina Martin, Lamartine Meda, Jacki Pierce, Tony Piontek, Susan Riehn, Robby Smith, Summer Stevenson, Erick Taylor, Jessica Walker, Mimi Webb, Vienne Webb, Karen Xu

Due to technical issues, Christi Gonzales called the meeting to order at 10:26 AM. A quorum was established.

The [October 16, 2024 Executive Committee Summary](#) was approved and accepted by unanimous consent.

Update of the 2025 Legislative Advocacy Agenda

In October, the Council added protecting the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) from cuts as one of its 2025 legislative advocacy agenda items due to Louisiana possibly facing a fiscal cliff with an anticipated budget deficit of \$400 – \$700 million for fiscal year 2026 (FY26). However, the legislature met in November to address tax reform and it is believed the Special session addressed the fiscal cliff.

Despite addressing the fiscal cliff in FY26, actions taken will have consequences in subsequent fiscal years. The administration is also looking at government efficiencies” which will likely result in a reduced budget for LDH. Therefore, the Council will continue to advocate for protection of disability services to ensure the legislature is aware of how important these services are and what impacts the disability community will face should services not be protected.

Consideration of LaDDC Ad Hoc Committees

The Committee discussed the Council's Ad Hoc committee list including the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee and the Grievance Ad Hoc. The DEI committee's purpose was to establish an official Council position on DEI which is now posted on the Council's website and the committee recommended DEI training for Council members and staff which was accomplished in 2024.

The Grievance Ad Hoc committee however has not met since prior to COVID-19 and never accomplished their purpose which was to establish a grievance policy. Therefore, staff recommends keeping this committee, but reestablish the membership and having the committee meet after the legislative session ends in June.

MOTION PASSED: The Executive Committee recommends discharge of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee made by Brooke Stewart, seconded by Renoda Washington passed with 4 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

Quarterly Executive Director Evaluation

According to the Council Bylaws, the Executive Committee has to perform an evaluation on a newly hired ED every quarter. The committee conducted the 3rd quarterly evaluation for the Executive Director. The feedback was very positive feedback on what a great job the ED and staff are doing especially during the Council retreat that was conducted on Tuesday, January 28th.

The Full Council will evaluate the Executive Director at the April 2025 meeting which is her anniversary date. The staff is working on updating the survey according to the new policies and procedures adopted at the October 2024 meeting for the evaluation of the Executive Director. The new survey will be sent to all Council members prior to the April meeting.

There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 AM by unanimous consent.