

LOUISIANA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

October 18, 2018

MEETING SUMMARY

Embassy Suites
Baton Rouge, LA

8:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Melissa Bayham
Kim Basile
Michael Billings
Hilary Bordelon
Randall Brown Jr.
Carmen Cetnar
Alan Coulter, HDC
Lillian DeJean
Jill Demeritt
April Dunn
Julie Foster-Hagan, OCDD
Michelle Guillory, GOEA
Jill Hano
Mitch Iddins
Enrice Jones
Tara LeBlanc, OAAS
Hyacinth McKee
Susan Meyers, Advocacy Center
Steven Nguyen
Robert Paddy
Bambi Polotzola, GODA
Tara Smith
Mary Tarver
Crystal White

MEMBERS ABSENT

Patti Barovechio, OPH/CSHS
Dee Budgewater, BHSF
Roslyn Hymel
Jamie Wong, LDOE

GUESTS PRESENT

Karen Artus, LaCAN Region 9
Laura Brackin, Community Provider
Association
Donna Breaux
Wesley Cagle, South Central LA HSA
Katie Corkern, Northshore FHF
Debra Fontenot, FHF Acadiana
Liz Gary, Partners in Policymaking
Coordinator
Ryan Gremillion, LDOE
Corlis Gremillion, Capital Area HSD
Lynsey Hebert, Transcriptionist
Ashley McReynolds, LaCAN Region 2
Charles Michel, Bayou Land FHF
Kelly Monroe, Arc of LA
Laci Polotzola, FHF Acadiana
Fiona Ritchey, OPH/CSHS
Chris Rodriguez, Advocacy Center
Matthew Rovira, Leading Health Care
James Sprinkle, FHF Crossroads
LeAngela Washington, FHF GBR

STAFF PRESENT

Brenton Andrus
Halie Belin
Shawn Fleming
Kourtney Gaines
Ebony Haven
Courtney Ryland
Sandee Winchell

April Dunn called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed new members Melissa Bayham and Michelle Guillory to their first Council meeting.

SUMMARY OF JULY MEETING

MOTION PASSED. Motion to accept the [Summary of the July 2018 Council meeting](#) made by Jill Hano, seconded by Susan Meyers, passed without objection; no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – April Dunn

Ms. Dunn announced appointments of the following members to Council Committees:

- Self-Determination/Community Inclusion Committee: Michelle Guillory
- Education/Employment Committee: Enrice Jones, Hyacinth McKee, and Melissa Bayham
- Act 378 Sub-Committee: Kim Basile
- Act 833 Ad Hoc Committee: Hilary Bordelon, Alan Coulter, April Dunn, Liz Gary, Hyacinth McKee, Ashley McReynolds, Susan Meyers, Robert Paddy (Chair) Mary Tarver, Crystal White, and Jamie Wong
- Employment Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee: Hilary Bordelon, Randall Brown, Jill Demeritt (Chair), April Dunn, David Gallegos, Enrice Jones, Kelly Monroe, Angela Montgomery, Rosemary Morales, Bambi Polotzola, and Crystal White
- Partners Selection Committee: Kim Basille, Michael Billings, Hilary Bordelon, Randall Brown, Carmen Cetnar, April Dunn, and Bambi Polotzola
- Individual and Family Support/Consumer Care Resources Workgroup: Kim Basile, Wesley Cagle, Carmen Cetnar, April Dunn, Liz Gary, Ashley Jefferson, Ashley McReynolds, Susan Meyers, Kelly Monroe, Tanya Murphy, Nicole Sullivan-Green, and Crystal White

The Executive Committee developed recommendations related to Council meetings and format. Wednesday night dinner has been used for continuing education for council members and as an opportunity for round table discussions around issues of interest for our members. Feedback indicated the evening following a long day of committee meetings was not the best time for presenting new information.

MOTION PASSED. The Executive Committee's recommendation to have dinner be limited to informal discussion with no formal presentation except on an as needed basis passed without objection; no abstentions.

For the past several years there has been a designated time on the Council meeting agenda for council members representing a state agency to solicit input on policy

issues. Unfortunately, few state agency representatives have taken advantage of this opportunity.

MOTION PASSED. The Executive Committee's recommendation for the Council to eliminate the designated time on the agenda for agencies to solicit input and allow any agency representative to request extra time during their report if they want to solicit input from the Council passed without objection; no abstentions.

Following a review of the recommendations made by our LaCAN leaders and Families Helping Families directors, who had solicited input from their members, the Executive Committee developed a recommendation for the Council's 2019 Legislative Advocacy Agenda.

MOTION PASSED. The Executive Committee's recommendation for the Council to adopt the following for its 2019 legislative agenda:

- Funding of \$600,000 to expand the State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS) program to serve those on the waiting list
- Funding and Implementation of TEFRA
- Funding of \$7.34 Million to bring the two lowest funded Local Governing Entities (LGEs) per capita (NW & Florida Parishes) to \$24 per capita
- Require cameras and microphones in special education self-contained classrooms
- Education public reporting
 - Require complaint reports to be publicly available
 - Require findings of on-site monitoring visits to be publicly available

passed without objection; no abstentions.

Activity 5.1.5 in the plan is designed to offer intensive online training in customized employment. The Council has discovered the web-based training from Virginia Commonwealth University is intended to be a refresher course for employment specialists who are already trained and certified. This training will not meet Louisiana's needs since there is not a cadre of employment providers who have completed the initial training in customized employment. The funding for this initiative is recommended for use in the Council's other customized employment training and certification project.

MOTION PASSED. The Executive Committee's recommendation for the Council to make the following amendments to the Council's FY2019 Action Plan:

- Delete Activity 5.1.5 Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment through intensive web-based training. Approximate FFY 2019 Cost: \$2,700

- Amend Activity 5.1.3 Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment through a competency-based certification program.

Approximate FFY 2019 Cost: ~~\$53,000~~ \$55,700

passed without objection; no abstentions.

The State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) voted on October 11th to recommend that OCDD discontinue family cost participation in EarlySteps for fiscal year 2020 without changing the eligibility criteria for the program. The limited amount of income family cost participation provides to the EarlySteps' budget is not enough to justify the hardship to individual families of infants and toddlers with disabilities. SICC members reporting knowing families who limit the number of therapies children receive due to an inability to cover their share of costs. Members also expressed concern over the number of families who have had outstanding payments due.

MOTION PASSED. The Executive Committee's recommendation for the Council to join the State Interagency Coordinating Council in recommending that the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) discontinue family cost participation (FCP) in EarlySteps for FY20 without changing eligibility criteria for the program passed without objection; Julie Foster-Hagan abstained.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Sandee Winchell

Ms. Winchell welcomed the new Council members, Melissa Bayham and Michelle Guillory and introduced new Council staff members: Ebony Haven, Courtney Ryland and Halie Belin.

Ms. Winchell discussed the importance of the Council Legislative Visit teams, comprised of Council members, the Regional LaCAN leader and Families Helping Families Director. She encouraged Council members to review the regional legislative information in their packets and anticipate the Fact Sheets staff will develop and share in the near future.

The Council staff participated in their annual retreat in late August. One issue discussed was the need to celebrate Council successes more. Ms. Winchell shared a few recent successful outcomes, such as the complex care service is about to come to fruition, and people receiving waiver offers as a result of funding received for waiver slots and the new tiered waiver system. She also pointed out two collaborative efforts with OCDD: three joint training sessions covering Act 378 of 1989 for the staff of the Human Services Districts/Authorities and OCDD creating a flow chart to explain the waiver process at the Council's request.

BUDGET REPORT – Shawn Fleming

Mr. Fleming shared details from the End-of-Year [budget report for State Fiscal Year 2018 \(SFY18\)](#) and the [SFY19 Budget Report through September](#).

A discussion of whether the Council could employ someone with a disability ensued.

MOTION. Hilary Bordelon made a motion, seconded by Stephen Nguyen, to convene an Ad Hoc Committee to research options for the Council to hire, employ or contract with a person with a developmental disability.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION PASSED. A substitute motion made by Bambi Polotzola, seconded by Tara Nunez-Smith, to direct Council staff to evaluate opportunities to employ someone with a developmental disability passed without objection, no abstentions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACT 378 SUB-COMMITTEE – Bambi Polotzola

The Sub-Committee received an update from the Individual and Family Support (IFS) and Consumer Care Resource(CCR) Workgroup. The workgroup consisted of parents and self-advocates from around the state, and representatives from Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, Office of Behavioral Health, the Advocacy Center, Arc of Louisiana, Jefferson Parish and South Central Louisiana Human Services Authorities. The workgroup completed an extensive line-by-line review of the policies and procedures on implementing IFS and CCR and noted two major concerns. The districts and authorities or LGEs were inconsistent with their interpretation and implementation of state policies and many areas within policy both state and regional were not aligned with the guiding principles of Act 378. Multiple recommendations were developed to address these concerns.

MOTION PASSED. The Act 378 Subcommittee’s recommendation for the Council to endorse the following changes to the Individual and Family Support (IFS) and Consumer Care Resources (CCR) programs to address policy and practice concerns and recommend they be implemented by the LA Department of Health (LDH):

- Include a section on the Act 378 guiding principles in the policy manuals
- Redefine the programs’ purpose to include a focus on improving or enhancing the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families
- Allow infants and toddlers who were determined to meet EarlySteps criteria be eligible for IFS services

- Allow for reimbursement of expenditures for services previously rendered with justification
- Replace all references to “payer of last resort” in the policy manuals with the following: “a home and community-based waiver, Medicaid State Plan services if the participant is a Medicaid recipient, EarlySteps, Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, or Medicaid funded behavioral health services.” Also note that IFS funds should not supplant supports from these sources
- Delete several references to “ineligible supports” in the policy manual
- Specify additional information to be provided to the Regional Advisory Committee at least quarterly in policy manuals
- Allow for continuation of services throughout the appeal process
- Require the individual and/or family making a request for IFS services be notified of their opportunity to present their request to the IFS Committee during development of the Plan of Support. This notification must be documented in the case file.
- Include this language: “Any LGE with an internal IFS policy shall submit this policy to state office for review and determination of compliance with state policy.”
- Ensure CCR policies aligned with IFS policies be updated to reflect these recommended changes passed without objection; no abstentions.

SELF DETERMINATION/COMMUNITY INCLUSION COMMITTEE – Randall Brown

Mr. Brown announced there were 39 applications for the 2019 Partners in Policymaking class! The selection committee selected 28 participants and five alternates.

The Committee discussed the current waiver provider and support coordination rates. Providers have experienced significant difficulties in hiring and maintaining sufficient staff. Rates were cut during the Jindal administration and despite 17 percent inflation, the rates have yet to be restored. The direct support professional (DSP) turnover rate is over 40 percent. Restoring rates is expected to drive DSP wages up as agencies will need to align their DSP hourly wages with other competing agencies in the area or risk losing staff. There is money available in the NOW fund which can be used to fund the rate restoration to 2008 levels in this current fiscal year. LaCAN leaders and Families Helping Families Directors recommended the Council support this use of funds and Louisiana Department of Health supports this action as well.

MOTION PASSED. The Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee’s recommendation for the Council to support using all but \$1 Million of the money currently in the New Opportunities Waiver Fund (approximately \$6.7 Million) to restore waiver provider and support coordination rates to 2008 levels passed without objection; no abstentions.

The Committee next discussed the current waiver rule which prevents individuals residing in the home of the waiver recipient from serving as the individual's DSP. Other adult relatives living in the home must work even though they could serve as individual's DSP, but since this is prohibited they must seek employment outside the home and the individual must hire a stranger. OCDD indicated it plans to consider this change in 2020 as part of their consolidated waiver; however, members felt the issue needed to be addressed now.

MOTION PASSED. The Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee's recommendation for the Council to request the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) move forward on rule promulgation to allow all individuals including parents and spouses living in the home of the waiver recipient to serve as their Direct Support Professional (DSP) passed without objection; Julie Foster-Hagan abstained.

Members developed the following ideas on how the Council could better support People First of Louisiana and their involvement in systems change advocacy: Include self-advocates and parents of children with disabilities on school boards, possibly as at large members; Establish mentoring opportunities where experienced self-advocates could mentor new or less-experienced self-advocates; Host gatherings to educate self-advocates on the basics of advocacy.

Lastly, the committee received an update on Bayou Land Families Helping Families (FHF). A report summarizing the progress and success of Bayou Land FHF addressing the previous concerns was discussed. The new director of Bayou Land FHF, Charlie Michel, provided a brief explanation of the strategies the Center has engaged in to address the issues.

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE – Hilary Bordelon

At the July meeting the Council voted to have an Ad Hoc Committee develop recommendations related to employment advocacy.

MOTION PASSED. The Education and Employment Committee's recommendation for the Council to adopt the following four recommendations developed by the Employment Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee:

- Recommend that LA Rehabilitation Services (LRS) change the certification for Employment Support Professionals to competency based
- Explore with LRS and OCDD making Supported Employment waiver providers be LRS vendors
- Recommend that LRS explore a higher rate for rural/underserved areas

- Recommend that OCDD include transportation as a service in the new consolidated waiver

passed without objection; no abstentions.

In July, the Council also voted to form an Ad Hoc Committee to review and make recommendations related to the implementation of Act 833 of 2014. The Act 833 of 2014 Ad Hoc Committee met three times since the July meeting. Data from LA Department of Education (LDOE) was reviewed and additional data were requested. We have identified needs for further information. One main concern discussed was students' access to courses that would give them the Carnegie units needed for graduation. Another concern is that Act 833 implementation may vary across the state and be different from one school district to another. There appears to be a lack of understanding of Act 833 and how to implement it, such as how to write IEP goals for students working towards an Act 833 diploma. This lack of understanding exists despite the training provided by the Department of Ed. There are two motions that were made in yesterday's committee meeting regarding the Act 833 Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations.

MOTION PASSED. The Education and Employment Committee's recommendation for the Council to send a letter to LDOE requesting a contact list of Superintendents and special education supervisors/directors of every publicly funded local education agency (i.e., traditional parish and city school systems and charter school systems) passed without objection; no abstentions.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION (FAILED). A substitute motion by Tara Nunez-Smith, seconded by Alan Coulter, to use data provided to Ms. Smith by the Louisiana Department of Education on 10/17/18 containing a contact list of local education agency (LEA) superintendents and direct staff to build a data base of all LEA special education directors on an annual basis failed by a vote of fifteen nays to seven yeas; Jill Hano abstained.

MOTION PASSED. The Education and Employment Committee's recommendation for the Council to direct the Act 833 Ad Hoc Committee to determine a list of resources on Act 833 and the contents of letters to send to local education agencies passed without objection, no abstentions.

Another follow-up discussion was related to a letter the Council sent to LDOE regarding the vast shortage of certified special education teachers and vacancies in school psychologist positions and the end of the TIERS program geared at helping schools with behavioral interventions. The LDOE response described some initiatives for new teacher residency programs, tuition programs for teachers and a mental health grant;

however, none of these are focused on addressing the shortages in special education personnel. The Committee discussed information regarding plans to address shortages in teachers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields. According to Department of Ed data special education teachers in out-of-field classrooms occurs at twice the rate as teachers in STEM fields teaching out-of-field.

MOTION PASSED. The Education and Employment Committee's recommendation for the Council to send a letter requesting Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) allocate a proportionate, or more, amount of funding for initiatives to address shortages of special education teachers and related service personnel than is allocated to fund initiatives for STEM teacher shortages passed without objection, no abstentions.

- The letter should focus on the differences in shortages and teachers in out-of-field areas between special education and STEM fields shared at the Minimum Foundation Program Task Force on October 17, 2018 and secondly, information related to performance gaps of students with disabilities relative to students without disabilities.

The Committee also followed up with ongoing concerns regarding funding in the Minimum Foundation Program to charter schools. The distribution of the local share of funds to charter schools continues to use an average rate for every student, whereas the funding formula for traditional public schools is weighted by student needs for the state and local shares in the first two levels of the Minimum Foundation Program. A result of schools serving very different rates of certain types of students, such as those with disabilities, and using different funding formula results in funding initially allocated to serve the needs of students in some schools being redistributed to schools that have students with less needs.

MOTION PASSED. The Education and Employment Committee's recommendation for the Council to solicit an opinion from the Attorney General on whether the distribution of local funding in the Minimum Foundation Program to Type 2 and 5 charter schools is performed in accordance with state law (R.S. 17:3995) passed without objection, no abstentions.

Next, The Committee discussed issues regarding implementation of Act 696 of 2018, which requires local school districts to allow private behavior therapists to serve students at school if requested by the student's parent. Parents are having some issues with local school boards crafting policy language related to this law. Some issues discovered seem to restrict the intent of the law from being implemented.

MOTION PASSED. The Education and Employment Committee's recommendation for the Council to convene an Ad Hoc Committee to review issues with and develop

recommendations relative to implementation of Act 696 of 2018 passed without objection; no abstentions.

Volunteers to serve on the Act 696 of 2018 Ad Hoc Committee included: Karen Artus, Kim Basile, Hilary Bordelon, Alan Coulter, April Dunn, Liz Gary, Michelle Lapin, Ashley McReynolds, Hyacinth McKee, Robert Paddy, Bambi Polotzola, and Crystal White.

Finally, the Committee expressed concerns over proposed changes to the accountability system for alternative schools. The Executive Committee had voted to sign a letter in collaboration with other groups over these concerns. BESE approved to pass these rule changes and the proposed rule changes are expected to be submitted for promulgation. The primary issue discussed was the lack of stakeholder input regarding this rule change.

MOTION PASSED. A motion made by Robert Paddy, seconded by Hilary Bordelon for the Council to take a position to disagree with the rules passed by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) on October 17, 2018 regarding alternative schools and programs relative to accountability and standards due to lack of adequate stakeholder input passed without objection; no abstentions.

COUNCIL AGENCY REPORTS

LOUISIANA REHABILITATION SERVICES (LRS) – Melissa Bayham

Ms. Bayham indicated the additional funding LRS received from the Legislature allowed LRS to open the order of selection for group three on October 1st. She expressed commitment to making changes necessary to improve LRS services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

ADVOCACY CENTER (AC) – Susan Meyers

Chris Rodriguez, the new executive director of the Advocacy Center, briefly introduced himself and shared his commitment to contributing to and collaborating with the Council. Ms. Meyers encouraged Council members to encourage people to vote and shared efforts by the AC Community Ombudsman in assist people with registering to vote.

The AC continues monitoring the settlement of the Chisholm case and the Wells Case. The Chisholm case resulted in a court order for LDH to provide psychological and behavioral services necessary for individuals aged 0-21 years, who are eligible for Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EBSDT). The Wells case relates to LDH failure to provide adequate notice of denials of prior authorization of requested Medicaid services. Ms. Meyers requested Council members to inform anyone to contact the AC if they receive a denial of services when it is not clear why the services were

denied. The AC offers to assist the person with understanding the reason for the denial or assist the provider in submitting appropriate information for the request.

Ms. Meyers highlighted two recent cases. First, the AC filed a lawsuit against Louisiana Tech University over accessibility barriers. Second, was an individual case resulting in a settlement requiring the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office to receive training in rights of people with disabilities and to provide sign language interpreters.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS (GOEA) – Michelle Guillory

Ms. Guillory provided a brief description of the GOEA, including how their services are free to anyone over the age of sixty. Common services include home delivered meals, transportation, personal care, respite and home-makers services. GOEA runs the Long Term Care Ombudsman program and Elderly Protective Services (EPS), which moved from OAAS. In FY18, EPS received 5,800 calls resulting in 5,500 cases being investigated, ten of which were high priority. Ms. Guillory reported results of a federal grant to provide education, outreach and enrollment assistance to people eligible for Medicare.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS (GODA) – Bambi Polotzola

Ms. Polotzola shared some of GODA's employment initiatives, highlighting work related to the State as a Model Employer. She announced self-advocates or parents may participate in the Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Employment First Policy Symposium at no cost. Ms. Polotzola encouraged anyone to share possible disability advocacy agenda items for the Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs (GACDA) to consider. Council members were encouraged to submit nominations for the 2018 Governor's Outstanding Leadership in Disabilities (GOLD) Awards and artwork for the Inclusive Arts Contest.

OFFICE OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES (OAAS) – Tara LeBlanc

Ms. LeBlanc shared information related to the initiative My Choice Louisiana, resulting from a settlement agreement between LDH and the Department of Justice (DOJ) to address issues with the delivery of services for people with mental illness who reside in nursing homes. Below are links related to the DOJ complaint, findings and agreement with LDH:

- [Department of Justice homepage for Louisiana's case](#)
- [Findings Letter](#)
- [Agreement](#)
- [Complaint](#)

ADA Olmstead Enforcement:

https://www.ada.gov/olmstead/olmstead_cases_list2.htm

OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH (OPH) – Fiona Ritchey

Ms. Ritchey shared results of the biannual Resource Information Workshop meetings held last month. Children Special Health Services (CSHS), in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), recently evaluated the Developmental Screening Program. This program has been primarily in Region 4 and CSHS is determining the best way to expand across the state. She shared information on the Family Resource Center and how Louisiana has not had any live births with maternal Zika exposure. The CSHS Transportation Assistance Program experienced a brief gap in funding which was resolved as of September 17th. Recently CSHS received grants for genetic screening, lead poisoning prevention, and child environmental health. Finally, Ms. Ritchey shared recent hires and training of people to serve as Deaf and Hard of Hearing Guides and a Deaf Mentor program in the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CENTER (HDC) – Alan Coulter

Dr. Coulter shared the successful outcome of a young man with autism as a result of efforts by participants of the Louisiana Autism Spectrum and Related Disabilities Project (LASARD).

BUREAU OF HEALTH SERVICES FINANCING (BHSF) – none

Ms. Budgewater was absent due to a death in her family.

OFFICE FOR CITIZENS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (OCDD) – Julie Foster- Hagan

Ms. Foster Hagan shared how OCDD worked with the Council to determine the best presentation of data reflecting waiver activities for people with developmental disabilities. She also highlighted the Residential Options Waiver pilot which will involve stakeholder input to identify and address barriers to people transitioning out of a facility. OCDD is also working to create eligibility criteria for children below the age of three to be referred for screening for waiver services. Currently, children under the age of three who are hospitalized for 90 days or longer are offered a waiver through the Money Follows the Person (MFP) grant; however, the MFP grant will expire at the end of December 2018. OCDD is also working on the timing of conducting the Screening for Urgency of Need (SUN) for waiver services to ensure a smooth transition for children transitioning out of EarlySteps.

Ms. Foster-Hagan explained codes and changes to the Individual and Family Support (IFS) night rate in the OCDD report. Information about the policy creating a complex care rate for people who have complex medical or behavioral needs was also shared.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (LDOE) – Ryan Gremillion

Mr. Gremillion reported LDOE named a new interim special school district superintendent, Dr. Pat Cooper. LDOE will host a series of listening sessions in Alexandria and Baton Rouge to solicit public feedback about the vision and framework of that system.

Mr. Gremillion indicated proposed rule changes to Bulletin 111 pertaining to Alternative Education accountability will be published in the November 20th Louisiana Register with an opportunity to provide public comment through December 9th or 10th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A request was made for the Council summary to be distributed soon after the meeting. Staff indicated they will share a preliminary version of the meeting summary with all the motions within a few days after the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Laura Brackin with the Community Provider Association thanked the Council for its support of using money out of the NOW fund to restore the rates for waiver services and support coordination.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Winchell encouraged Council members to submit pictures with the sign indicating their strength and #HireMyStrengths for the Council to post on social media as part of its Disability Employment Month Campaign.

The next Council meeting will be January 16-17, 2019 at the Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge.

ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING

MOTION PASSED. A motion to adjourn by Lillian DeJean, seconded by Steven Nguyen, passed without objection.