**Draft Minutes**

**CT Council on Developmental Disabilities**

**Executive Committee Meeting**

**December 12, 2023, Tuesday**

**2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Online via Teams**

**Present:** Charles Bergamo, Council Vice Chair, and Proposal Review Committee Chair; April Burke, Antonia Edwards, Membership and Support Committee Chair; Michael Finley, Shannon Jacovino, Doris Maldonado Mendez, Council Chair and Committee Chair, Kaitlynn Ramos, Advocacy, Public Information and Education Committee Interim Chair; Graziela Reis, Jennifer Switalski, Fran Traceski, Legislation, Policy and Planning Committee Chair

**Staff:** Walter Glomb, Council Executive Director

**Members of the Public:** Alan Coker, Adrianna Ramirez

**Recorder of Minutes:** Donna Devin

1. **Call to Order with Quorum:** The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Charles Bergamo, Council Vice Chair; motioned to approve the agenda. Antonia Edwards seconded the motion. The agenda was approved.
3. **Approval of Minutes from Monday, October 2, 2023:** Antonia Edwards motioned to approve the minutes. Fran Traceski seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
4. **Committee Business:** Following introductions, the Committee opened the floor to new business. In January, new Council Members, Emily Cowen and Rene Lambert will begin their first terms.

2024 will see the resuming of Council Orientations. The Council is now in the third year of their State Five-Year Plan. The deadline for new grant applications is August 31, 2024.

Walter Glomb, Council Executive Director, is working on 32 projects for the Council. He has created 13 Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs). Six organizations were not funded, including Hartford Public Schools, because the Council is not allowed to fund Individual Education Programs (IEPs). HPS is now working on a grant for self advocacy outside of IEPs.

The full-time Disability Policy Specialist position remains unfilled, and the Council has a position open for an intern.

Doris Maldonado Mendez, Council Chair and Committee Chair, spoke about Representative Gary Turco and the Connecticut Oral Health initiative (COHI).

Kaitlynn Ramos is now the Interim Chair of the Advocacy, Public Information, and Education Committee.

Ellen Andrews from Connecticut Health Policy Project has withdrawn due to personal issues. Kevin Graff from Graff Public Solutions LLC, and Fran Traceski are working on an alternative plan.

Former UCONN UCEDD Representative for the Council, Tara Viens, is the new Lead Planning Analyst for the State Office of Policy and Management (OPM). Her vast knowledge about autism and other disabilities will be an invaluable resource for the OPM and the State of Connecticut.

Walter Glomb, Council Executive Director, and Andy Cirioli attended the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities this past November.

Eleven people have expressed interest in serving on the Council. Antonia Edwards will review new applications beginning in January of 2024.

Walter Glomb, Council Executive Director, will forward his PowerPoint on Legislative Advocacy to Council members.

Charles Bergamo, Council Vice Chair, noted that the State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), has their own statutes when dealing with the Bill of Rights.

Regarding “legally responsible guardians”, Charles Bergamo, Council Vice Chair, is in contact with Krista Ostaszewski, Health Management Administrator for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS).

1. **Enter Executive Session:** Doris Maldonado Mendez, Council Chair and Committee Chair, made a motion to enter Executive Session. Chuck Bergamo, Council Vice Chair, seconded the motion. The Committee entered Executive Session at 3:00 p.m., and staff members along with members of the public exited the meeting.