

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Council Members

Kristine Dreckman – Chair
Elyn Holton-Dean – At large
Al Fagerlund – At large
Brady Werger – At large

Staff

Brooke Lovelace
Bill Kallestad
Lindsay Leonetti

A meeting of the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) Executive Committee (EC) was held on June 11, 2020 at 9:03 a.m. via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Vice Chair Holton-Dean

[Agenda Item / ACL Grant Guidance with obligations under COVID-19](#) Since organizations and the DD Councils have had to cancel or postpone events due to COVID-19 the Administration for Community Living has released new guidance for spending of grants.

- The 2018 grant award guidelines have not changed except that Council's may pay invoices after that September 30, 2020.
- The 2019 grant award guidelines have been changed to allow the Council's one more year to obligate (have legal agreements to spend). Iowa DD Council has obligated the majority of the funds. The 2020 grant award guidelines have been changed to allow the Council one more year to obligate.

[Agenda Item / Council Support Budget Status -](#) Because of COVID-19, there will be some contracts that will have unspent funds. The Talent Bank contract (\$20,000) will not be spent. Also, there will funds that were designated for staff travel that will not be spent because of COVID-19.

[Agenda Item/COVID-19 Relief Grants](#) – We awarded just over \$30,000 in COVID-19 grants. Lovelace discussed how the organizations used the money. Kallestad shared that it was encouraging to see organizations use the money for things that were really needed. Fagerlund commented that it would be beneficial to have funds used in this way that didn't require a global emergency to activate. The

council could put some parameters on a grant like this and show that the funds would benefit individuals with disabilities. Lovelace stated that the Council can discuss the option of having a project like this at the September meeting when we discuss and approve the 2021 budget.

Agenda Item/Make Your Mark! Conference plans: The Make Your Mark! conference will be held virtually this year. Currently there is a survey on the Iowans with Disabilities in Action Facebook to collect information about how people would like to have the conference. There are two options for holding the MYM! 2020 Conference. Our first option is to hold the virtual conference on same dates September 24-25, all sessions would be held similar to the in-person conference, except virtual. The second option is to spread the sessions over the month of September and hold one session per week. Fagerlund said that stretching it out might provide the most benefit. Werger had no preference. Holton-Dean says it may be easier for providers and people in group homes to have one speaker per day as opposed to having a daylong event. DD Council will also be proving grants to help organizations for technology, such as tablets or Wi-Fi or other items. Kayla McKeon, a lobbyist with the National Down Syndrome Association, the first lobbyist with Down Syndrome, will be our feature keynote speaker.

Agenda Item/Council Appointments We have had 6-7 people who have applied for open positions on the Council. Warth and Willard reapplied. The new agency representative for Medicaid is the Bureau Chief. Holton-Dean inquired about the individual who applied from Burlington area. Lovelace to get that information. The council we will having an orientation session (virtually) in August.

Agenda Item/Other events and Council Opportunities – Discussion about having the September Council meeting virtually or in-person. Werger and Holton-Dean would like to wait and see before making a decision about the type of meeting. Council Staff is exploring the option of getting a web camera and utilize Microsoft teams to allow people to participate virtually. Fagerlund said that may need explore other locations to accommodate social distancing guidelines because the Council office is too small. The EC will have a meeting on July 9th at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the September meeting and how that will take place.

