

**FAMILY CARE COUNCIL
APD AREA 13
June 14, 2010**

IN ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS: Betty Kay Clements, Tina Renwick, Isabel S deMartinez, Eileen Reidy, Karen Huscher, Phyllis Novak, Anna Brynild, Michael Payne,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sandy Dayton, Sandy Shorey, Caryn Jones,

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Stephanie Hopper, Don Taylor, Virginia Taylor,

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APD STAFF: Brenda Stevens, David Johnston

VISITORS: Self advocates- Ashley Middleton, Adam Coons and Victor Sanchez

Meeting called to order at 10 AM by Chairperson Isabel S deMartinez. She welcomed Ashley, Adam and Vitor, self advocates, as visitors accompanying Anna today. Isabel announced that Norm Price and Jennifer and Eva Knowles have resigned for personal family health reasons. They will be sent a note of thanks for their service and encouragement to attend meetings as able and consideration of returning in the future. She also reminded all that there would be no meeting in July.

Isabel discussed the Arbor Day programs and hopes to see this occur at the schools. Groups of 10 at an outdoor meeting would work best she noted.

Isabel announced the resignation of Norm Price and Jennifer Knowles due to family health issues. A motion to accept their resignations was made by Tina and seconded by Eileen, passed by consensus. A note will be sent of acceptance with regrets and a welcome back in the future.

MINUTES REVIEW/APPROVAL:

Review of May minutes, with a motion to accept as written by Anna Brynild and seconded by Eileen Reidy. Minutes approved by consensus.

BUDGET REPORT/BUDGET REVIEW:

Betty Kay explained that there was a sweep by APD of not yet expended Area 13 APD funds by the Central office. The FCC funds were also included and there is now a deficit of \$1,408 instead of the \$4,000 plus that should remain. She has had conference calls with Central Office Financial Services and the FCC can continue to spend and payments will be made for CAFÉ etc. She also asked that it be noted that in a future audit this deficit showing will not be considered as such. The cutoff dates for most purchasing has passed, but CAFÉ will be sent as

certified forward. It is expected also that there will be procedures considered to assist FCC's to have consistency in their budget implementations across the State that will improve access. Discussion ensued and it was decided to consider purchases earlier in the year, such as a new laptop computer, FCC banner etc. Budgeting will be a main topic at the August meeting.

AREA ADMINISTRATOR REPORT/UPDATE:

David Johnston AA reported that Area staff are completing and reviewing cost plans for July 1, 2010. They are almost complete. They have reviewed appx. 180 tiers with emails from Central office. If reconsideration is requested, the AA in each Area will meet with individual/family to see if resolution can be made without going forward to appeal. This will be an ongoing process. The hearing process will change as of July 1 to DCF with a hearing officer. 2 individuals from each APD office will be appointed to attend all hearings, the DOAH hearings till completed and then forthcoming DCF hearings. If the person requesting a hearing has a lawyer, APD will also have one. If the person requesting appeal does not have a lawyer, APD staff will conduct case with no lawyer. This is expected to provide a more level playing field than in the past and expense will also be less. Training for APD staff will take place in mid July, as it is a new process.

David said that the provider rate cut was vetoed by Governor Crist, but he was not able to veto the tiers on a technical issue with the bill. Of concern is that the money taken out for cuts was not restored and that will have to be worked out.

David announced his retirement, stating that July 8 will be his last day. He plans to relocate to Pensacola in time. Members expressed their deepest thanks for the contribution he has made to them and their loved ones. They gave him their best wishes while saying how much they will miss working with him. He stated that the APD Director would name a temporary AA until hiring process, interviews etc. completed and a new AA announced. No specific time frame known.

FCCF REPORT:

Betty Kay spoke to the Legislative activity and wrap-up as David reported, regarding providers and tiers. FCCF legislative initiative continues with a very active year expected. Area FCC members are being strongly urged to visit legislators and those running for office during the summer. She stated that the iBudget work continues and she will continue on that stakeholder group. Betty Kay reported she will also continue on the FCCF Executive Board as Past Chairperson with some responsibilities added to Bylaws for that position, particularly a mentoring role. Isabel told members of the very nice reception, plaques, etc. Betty Kay received at FCCF meeting in May. Director DeBeaugrine and Deputy Director for Operations Pedro Moreno, surprised Betty Kay with their attendance at the meeting, thanking her for her role as Chairperson during a very busy time for APD and critical issues FACING the DD community.

AQL REPORT:

No AQL business to report at this time. Brenda was asked about the Lens program outcome called UFO. It is now called Umbrella for Opportunity of Florida. They had a setback on obtaining the 501c3 due to a member moving to Miami. They will be continuing as the member is returning the money and steps that he had taken toward formation of the organization. They expect to move forward. When that occurs, they will be getting with Wildwood for an event at the community center. She will continue to keep FCC members posted on the progress of this group.

DISCUSSION OF 3rd QUARTERLY WAITLIST/FAMILY FORUM:

There was much discussion of locations, tentative dates and conflicts that might affect scheduling. There are no definitive plans in place at this time with AA retiring. It is expected it will be late August, early September. Anna recommended that the waitlist meeting be held by Webcast. That will be explored. Discussion and planning will take place at the August meeting in order to finalize, budget, and schedule event with APD Area office.

CAFÉ DISCUSSION:

Final arrangements for those attending CAFÉ and instructions for vouchers etc. were decided. With no immediate plans for Forum, budget changes to be arranged to cover travel and hotel for attendees approved at prior meeting. It still covers the amt. formally approved by the members even with changes made. Reminder of information needed and deadline emphasized to ensure reimbursement for travel expenses.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE:

Eileen reported that the slate is not finalized and she will continue to work on it for the August meeting. Isabel announced that the elections will be held at the August meeting. Some members expressed positions they were interested in.

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES:

Karen reported she will check on when updates/review of Bylaws are due.

Phyllis asked Isabel to read at wits end by Erma Bombeck. (See Attached) Very moving.

Isabel requested members email her regarding therapeutic riding local programs. Also, she gave website for family resource kit free to download:

<http://www.arborday.org/explore/families/>

Workshops <http://www.arborday.org/explore/workshops/schedule.cfm>

Isabel provided the following contact information regarding Arbor Day programs: Joey Friedman/Client Services Representative johannaf@dimensionsfoundation.org
Dimension Nature Explore/collaboration with Arbor Day Foundation contact.

Karen gave information on Therapeutic Horseback riding in Hernando County. They have a \$5.00 rate donation for those with a disability. She will email more information to Isabel

VISITOR INPUT:

The self-advocates, Victor, Adam and Ashley, expressed that they were happy to be at the meeting and enjoyed the trip, though it was a long one.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am. No meeting in July. The next FCC meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2010 at the APD office from 10:00 am–12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Betty Kay Clements
Area 13 FCC Secretary**