

## Family Care Council Area 15 – February 10, 2010 Regularly Scheduled Meeting Minutes Draft

In attendance: Chairman Nancy Moody, Vice Chairman/Secretary Ruth Wingate, members Sonja Bielecki and Lisa McGlone, Refreshment Chairman Patricia Moody, APD Liaison Beatrice Dejoie, Cathy Allore, Pat Decambre, Chantai Snellgrove, Karen Nystrom and Candy Dingle. Brian Boulahanis' absence was excused.

Meeting called to order at 10:08 a.m.

The January 13, 2010 meeting minutes were moved for approval by Ms. Bielecki, and seconded by Ms. McGlone with the amendments of acknowledging Walgreens for donation of bottled water for the February 18 wait list meeting, and local information added for the Autism Speaks Walk: Jensen Beach High School, 2875 N.W. Goldenrod Road, Jensen Beach, registration at 11:00 a.m. and Walk starting at Noon. Minutes approved as amended.

Chairman Moody encouraged visitors to consider the value of membership in the Family Care Council, and Ms. Wingate presented applications to Ms. Decambre, Ms. Snellgrove and Ms. Dingle, who, prior to relocating, represented another area of the state on the Council.

Ms. Moody noted that both Brian Boulahanis and Lisa McGlone were recently appointed by the Governor's office to serve as members of the Council. The chairman also noted that the next teleconference with the Family Care Council Florida will include conversation regarding the impression that applicants are denied membership to Councils due to their employment status.

Members concurred that the Florida Atlantic University campus meeting room meets the Council's requirements, and appreciate its use without charge. Ms. Allore indicated that she would assist the Council in periodically renewing the reservation for the room, with the modification of telephone accessibility for absent members.

Ms. Bielecki noted receipt of the final room rental fee from Morningside Library. Ms. Wingate moved, and Ms. Bielecki seconded payment of the invoice by Ms. Dejoie. Motion approved.

Chairman Moody requested that Council members attend the February 18 wait list meeting held at Indian River State College in Fort Pierce. Along with a speaker sponsored by APD, the Council has invited Dixie Sansom to speak on legislative issues and process. Chairman Moody will also speak on membership opportunities with the Family Care Council. The event will have an information table manned by Ms. McGlone, who will also manage raffle tickets and sign in sheets, along with Ms. Snellgrove. Ms. Wingate will take meeting notes. The information committee will also pass out a pre-application form for FCC membership, along with an interest survey to gauge community choice to guide the Council. Ms. Bielecki will also supply wait list resources information, also available at [www.floridawaitlist.org](http://www.floridawaitlist.org).

Ms. Bielecki noted that the Family Care Council Florida acknowledges sign-in sheets acquired by APD at wait list meetings are public information, and can be accessed by the Council.

Ms. Wingate asked if there had been discussion on the Councils participation at next wait list meeting. It was decided that it could be considered at the March Council meeting.

Ms. Wingate also noted that the Council's computer spacebar was not functioning. It was moved by Ms. Bielecki and seconded by Ms. Wingate that repair be investigated and an estimate be presented to the Council at the next meeting. Motion approved.

A national advocacy group, [www.leftbehindinflorida.org](http://www.leftbehindinflorida.org), has been aggressively pursuing the wait list issue, but is considered having controversial viewpoints. Families are encouraged to examine any initiatives closely to determine if it is the right path for them to chose to move the issue forward. It was agreed that families need to coalesce as a unit in addressing all disability issues, including wait list.

As noted in the minutes amendment above, the local Walk for Autism Speaks local information will be held in Jensen Beach. Ms Nystrom will liaise with the organization to obtain a table at the event to pass out Council information, with Ms. McGlone assisting.

Ms. Wingate noted that she has had no success in contacting the President of the Treasure Coast Advocacy Council, but would contact Mr. Karlan of APD who was instrumental in arranging the Council's attendance at the last Legislative Breakfast. She will ask his assistance in facilitating communication with Ms. Olds and the Council regarding application and membership in that organization. Ms. McGlone moved and Ms. Bielecki seconded acquiring membership in the Treasure Coast Advocacy Council and approved funding for that membership. Motion approved.

Ms. Dejoie reported for Agency for Persons with Disabilities that the website is secure when users are accessing the automated central record, which will be replacing the paper records used previously. Pilot sites for this automated central record are currently in place. Ms. Dejoie also indicated that the local

APD office continues to work on rebasing of cost plans for waiver participants. New assessments will begin shortly for individuals whose tier status was reassigned, and those with pending hearings. She also noted that on Friday, February 12 from 9-1 at Indian River State College Building B, and from 4-6 p.m. at the Benton Building Room 104, a meeting with providers and Delmarva will be held, and is open to the public. This training meeting will teach providers the new quality assurance tools, eliminating the Personal Outcome Measures methodology and replacing it with National Core Indicators.

Chairman Moody investigated a telecommunication device known as a spider phone for members and the community to access Council meetings off-site. Ms. Dejoie also brought in an estimate of expenditure for this spider phone, and it was moved by Ms. Bielecki, and seconded by Ms. Wingate that the Council approve purchase of this equipment, with maximum purchase price of \$629 for Council use. Discussion brought up the fact that skype could also be a means of off-site communication, but it was noted that not all community members, nor even all Council members accessed computers, nor necessarily had computer speed higher than dial-up to use the skype process. Motion approved.

Ms. Bielecki attended the Family Care Council Florida January meeting. She indicated that J.R. Harding recommended that applicants for Council membership not selected wait for 8 months, and then reapply. Ms. Wingate noted that Mr. Harding had indicated to Ms. Moody, when Ms. Wingate and Mr. Boulahanis inquired, that there was no appeals process for unconfirmed members. Ms. Nystrom, however indicated that she had spoken to Director of the Governor's Appointment Office, Michael Yaworski, and he stated that there was no record of a denial of application for either Ms. Adrienne Dissis or Ms. Diane Ciccarelli.

Ms. Bielecki also noted the powerpoint presentation on I-budget, available on the APD website. She also indicated that members are encouraged to reach out to potential members on a personal level during public presentations. [Kent\\_Carroll@apd.state.fl.us](mailto:Kent_Carroll@apd.state.fl.us) is addressing transportation issues by identifying a funding source through car registration check off box that secures \$1.50 each to fund transportation accessibility for people with special needs.

Ms. Snellgrove offered to place the Family Care Council Area 15 meeting dates in her e-publication [parentingspecialneeds.org](http://parentingspecialneeds.org). She also offered to email the magazine to Family Care Council members and contacts. The Council agreed to this partnership with Ms. Snellgrove's enterprise.

Ms. Patricia Moody noted that on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. a concert will be held to benefit the Indian River County Abilities Resource Center.

Chairman Moody indicated her absence for the March Council meeting and asked Vice Chairman Wingate to fill in for that date.

The Family Care Council Area 15 meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 10 a.m. to Noon at the Florida Atlantic University Treasure Coast Campus at 500 N.W. California Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida. Upcoming meeting dates are March 10, April 14, May 12 and June 9.

Meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Ruth Wingate, Secretary FCC-15