

Family Care Council Area 15 – April 14, 2010 Meeting Minutes Draft

In attendance: members Nancy Moody, Ruth Wingate, Brian Boulahanis, refreshment committee chair Patricia Moody, APD Liaison Beatrice Dejoie, George Boulahanis, Karen Nystrom, Andrew Magnolia and Heather Misner. Lisa McGlone absence excused due to family illness.

Meeting called to order at 10:04. Introductions were made.

March, 2010 minutes moved for approval by Ms. Wingate and seconded by Mr. Boulahanis. Motion passed.

Chairman Moody reviewed the May wait list meeting plans. The meeting has been set for Thursday, May 20th, so as not to conflict with the eve of the upcoming CAFÉ conference. Ms. Allore has volunteered herself or a staff member of the Florida Atlantic University Center for Autism and Related Disorders to present at that meeting. She will also arrange for use of the meeting room at the University, located at 500 N.W. California Boulevard in Port St. Lucie, east of the I-95 and St. Lucie West Boulevard intersection. The event will start at 6:30 p.m. Peter Karlan will be invited to act as Moderator and Mary Edwards asked to attend, along with interested APD staff. Ms. Edwards will also be contacting families to attend this informational wait list meeting.

Ms. Moody will again present the benefits of Family Care Council membership to the attendees, Ms. Wingate will post signs, pass out resource/legislator contacts and keep notes. Ms. Nystrom and Ms. McGlone will be manning the information table to greet and sign-in participants.

Chairman Moody examined the budget, and noted that there are approximately \$1,000 of debits outstanding from the handout that showed \$7,154 remaining. It was noted that the FCC intent to send families to CAFÉ may be problematic as it is so close to the end of the fiscal year. Moved by Ms. Wingate and seconded by Mr. Boulahanis that the FCC encumber through advance travel requests approximately \$6,000 of the remaining funds to send nine families to CAFÉ conference. Motion passed. Ms. Wingate will email families invitations to attend, what is covered and the documents needed to apply for advance travel and the advance travel expense requests to be returned to Ms. Dejoie by April 30. Ms. Wingate also noted that she investigated table rental at CAFÉ on the suggestion of Mr. Boulahanis and indicated the charge is \$1,200 for the duration of the conference. Alternative means of passing out Family Care Council Area 15 information were discussed, as members felt the fee is exorbitant for FCC-15.

Ms. Wingate brought a written report on activities of the Family Care Council Florida from the March meeting. She indicated highlights of the meeting, and Chairman Moody asked members to examine them later, in lieu of reading them in entirety.

Ms. Moody reintroduced Ms. Misner as an applicant for membership to the Council. Ms. Misner gave background information on herself, family and interest in becoming a participant as a Council member. Ms. Wingate moved and Mr. Boulahanis seconded presenting this application to Ms. Dejoie to forward to the Governor's appointment office in Tallahassee. Motion passed.

Chairman Moody indicated that she has not yet purchased the approved "Spider Phone" for use when members and interested families are unable to attend meetings. Ms. Nystrom offered an alternative method of accomplishing the same thing without

charge through a company that she volunteered to contact and set up capacity for use at the next FCC meeting in May. She also volunteered to examine the possibility of forming a FCC-15 501c3 to allow the organization to receive gifts and augment the current budget. Ms. Nyland also indicated that the by-laws of FCC-15 may not address all needs of the group, and volunteered to examine them and present a report. Ms. Moody agreed to postpone purchase of a "Spider Phone" and try the technology Ms. Nyland suggested. The Chairman felt that by-laws and 501c3 investigation could be examined during July when FCC does not meet. Ms. Nyland will download reports on both 501c3 and bylaws revision to members. Ms. Nyland also said she has spoken to member Todd Decker and he indicated he was no longer interested in continuing membership with FCC-15.

Ms. Dejoie indicated the process of reexamination of tier hearing applicants was continuing. Of concern is legislation moving quickly regarding privatizing Medicaid. Ms. Moody contacted the Chairman of the Family Care Council Florida to download the latest information, and will email it to all on FCC contact list. Reconciling the House Bill with the Senate may come within the next week, surely before the end of session. Ms. Moody reminded members that managed care for persons with disabilities should be a concern to all, and urged them to contact their legislators to voice their opinion.

Ms. Wingate indicated that with the potential of a Medicaid reorganization, much of the legislative action regarding changing waiver tiers to i-budget may be moot. She instead reported on information gathered from the Treasure Coast Advocacy Coalition. She stated that membership is \$150 to participate in the 4-county legislative summit where community members gather to forward suggested legislation for the following year, and the legislative breakfast where legislators receive the printed "Red Books" documenting these legislative concerns from their constituents a few weeks later. The group also plans to hold educational web-based topics on legislative process and bill writing. It was moved by Ms. Wingate and seconded by Mr. Boulahanis that the FCC-15 expend \$150 for a years membership to this group. Motion passed.

Ms. Moody indicated that she is calling for elections at the next Council meeting on May 12. She has extended her office as Chairperson, but must resign her position at the May meeting. In lieu of a formal nominating committee, nominations will be entertained from the floor.

Ms. Moody noted that FCC-Florida will be meeting in May, and will reserve two rooms for attendees. She suggested he new Chairman be one participant, and he or she will determine the other attendee from current members.

Patricia Moody passed out the brochure used at the concert highlighting her singing talents at a recent event. She indicated that almost \$3,000 was raised on behalf of the ARC of Indian River County, and enjoyed singing with her Dad during the program.

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, 500 N.W. California Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida. Upcoming meeting dates are May 12 and June 9, 2010.

Meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m. Respectfully submitted as draft for approval,
Ruth Wingate, Secretary FCC-15