

**Family Care Council Minutes
February 3, 2010**

Members Present:

Tracy Stewart, Chairperson via phone
Nan Stewart (arrived late.)
Lou Ogburn, Secretary
Jennifer Morgan-Byrd via phone

Members Absent:

Janet Graham (family illness)

Others in Attendance:

Kristina Holmen-Mohr – Applying member to Council
Beth Burr – Applying member to Council
Lynne Daw, Area 2 Administrator
Eldalee Cook and daughter, Jo – visitors
Danny Root and his mother Charlotte - visitors

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 p.m. by Tracy Stewart, Chairperson. The minutes of the meeting of January 6 were approved with a motion by Lou Ogburn, seconded by Jennifer Morgan-Byrd.

Old Business

Tracy Stewart reported that two of the three reports due to the state have been sent the By-Laws and the Area 2 Family Support Plan. The final report is the one which reports the accomplishments of the FCC. The group listed the following which Lynne Daw will compile into a report and send on to the central office.

- 3 trips for the Chairman to attend the FCC bi-monthly meeting
- Paid travel for self- advocate to attend the Family Cafe
- Sponsored two workshops on” how to talk with your Legislators”
- Two new members were appointed by the Governor
- Held 8 FCC meetings

Lynne Daw reported on the iBudget meeting held in Panama City on January 29. APD Director Jim DeBeaugrine spoke. At least 35 people attended. The draft plan was submitted to the Legislature by the deadline of February 1. It will be discussed during the session and is now on the APD web site.

The Woodbury distribution of incontinent supplies for waitlist families is underway. Fifty families in Area 2 have availed themselves of this opportunity. Tracy will send a thank you note to Woodbury for doing this.

Tracy Stewart said she was unable to go to the FCC state meeting in January, but will try to get to the March meeting. Beth Burr asked if a representative could be named to go to the state meeting when the Chairman cannot go. The Chairman is still working on her letter to waiver recipients and wait list families and will try to get this out prior to the end of the quarter. Members will be able to review the letters prior to mail out.

New Business

There was a discussion by Eldalee Cook about her concern with some of the elements on the QSI assessment instrument which serves as the client needs assessment. Her specific concerns were that she did not feel the questions accurately captured the needs of her son. Ms. Cook is concerned that if the QSI is used as part of the formula to determine the amount of money allocated to a person if the iBudget concept is approved by the Legislature, this could incorrectly allocate funds to the individual. Ms. Stewart reminded Ms. Cook that the QSI looks at the person's current situation- if the person has a significant change in their abilities, an updated QSI can be completed at that time. Currently QSI's are scheduled to be provided every three years. Ms. Cook asked that the Family Care Council recommend a process for families who disagree with how a particular element is scored on the QSI to have an ability to have a re-look at the assessment without having to go through a due process hearing.

Tracy Stewart agreed that more clarification on what will specifically be used in the formula to calculate iBudget amounts needs to be clarified. This will be discussed next month.

Tracy reported on the budget recommendations for APD for this coming year. Governor Crist is proposing a \$1.6 billion for the FY 10-11 budget. This is an increase from the 1.08 billion dollar budget for FY 2009-2010. Some of the recommendations include \$3 billion to add dental to individuals served on Tier IV, \$12.7 million to serve individuals on the waitlist and an additional \$100 million for the Medicaid waiver in primarily non-recurring money to eliminate the projected deficit over the current and upcoming fiscal year.

Lynne reported that a U.S. District Judge had just ruled that the Agency for Health Care Administration will be responsible to pay for incontinent supplies for children who have a medical condition that results in incontinence. This ruling was announced earlier this week and the Agency for Health Care Administration is considering their options regarding this ruling.

Lou Ogburn asked the committee to agree that Danny Root be asked to join the FCC. As a self-advocate, his nomination is critical as we currently have no self-

advocates as committee members. There as a unanimous agreement by all members present in recommending his nomination to the Governor's office. Eldalee Cook stated that she had submitted her application to the Governor's office last November. The Area 2 by-laws state that all individuals wishing to be considered for nomination to the Council, submit their application to the Council for consideration by the members. Ms. Cook was asked to provide the Council with a copy of her submitted application for review and consideration.

Tracy Stewart announced that Rish Park will be reopening February 18 at 4:30 p.m. after completing extensive renovations over the past couple of years. This is a facility with accessibility to the pool and the beach and there are family cabins available for rent at a reasonable cost. Rish park is located at Cape San Blas in Gulf County.

Tracey Stewart recommended that the Family Care Council consider making recommendations to the Area office about specific protocols to ensure the IFS dollars (individual and Family Support dollars) are distributed fairly to the families on the waitlist and asked that this be discussed at a future meeting.

The next meeting will be March 3 at 4:30 p.m. at Cedars Executive Center.

Jennifer Morgan-Byrd moved adjournment at 6:00 p.m., seconded by Lou Ogburn. Motion passed.