

**Advisory Council Minutes**  
**May 14, 2015**

**Members Present** – Charles Bergamo, Mickey Herbst, Gil Kellersman, Lisa Schwab, Cindy Stramandinoli,  
**DDS** – Fritz Gorst

**Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

**Approval of Minutes** – *Due to attendance there was no quorum. No minutes from previous meeting.*

**Regional Director Announcements**

Fritz gave a brief overview of the status of the FY 2016 budget. There was a general discussion about grads/age-outs and the VSP program. There was also discussion about the key State Senators and State Representatives that are involved in making the key decisions on the DDS budget. A list of the Bi-Partisan committee was given out to the group. Chairman Bergamo will contact some of the key members.

**New Membership**

There was a discussion on recruiting new members to the group. Chairman Bergamo recommended that we try to find an attorney, an accountant and a person with a medical background to potentially join the Regional Advisory Council. Mickey Herbst was also meeting with an interested party. Both will be submitting names of interested people so that we can get their names and recommendations to Commissioner Murray.

The Council agreed to be more consistent with meetings and from now on they will meet at the Ella Grasso Center with all meetings starting at 4 pm. The meetings would be the third Thursday of the month with six meetings held annually. There was not a meeting scheduled in June; however, we will tentatively schedule one for Thursday, June 18, 2015 to review the DDS budget and its impact.

**Statewide Advisory Council Communication**

Mr. Bergamo requested the names of Council members from the other regions so that he can contact them to discuss the role of an Advisory Council. Fritz agreed to ask his counterparts; names will be shared with Mr. Bergamo once the information is available.

## **Present Members**

A letter will be sent from Chairman Bergamo to a current member who has not been attending the recent Advisory Council meetings to inquire if this individual is willing to remain on the Council or resign so that another member that can actively participate be recruited.

## **Resignation from Advisory Council**

Lisa Schwab announced that she has resigned from the Advisory Council.

## **New Meetings**

These are the next six meetings:

- September 17, 2015
- November 19, 2015
- January 21, 2016
- March 17, 2016
- May 19, 2016

Location: Ella Grasso

Time: 4 pm