

PAIMI Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

The PAIMI Advisory Council met at 9:30 a.m. on April 2, 2013 at the Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities.

Present: Jerilyn Newson, Jill Hall, Kirk Lowry, Tom Behrendt, Deron Drumm, Joseph Laliberte, and Wallace Peterson via telephone

Excused Absence: Marissa Walls

Staff: Bruce Garrison, PAIMI Assistant Program Director, James McGaughey, Executive Director, Gretchen Knauff, Assistant Director, Beth Leslie, Legislative Liaison, Wiley Rutledge, PAIMI Advocate, Jessica Rival PAIMI Advocate, and Nancy Alisberg, Managing Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

The PAIMI Advisory Council Meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m. by Jerilyn Newson. The minutes from February 5, 2013 were reviewed and corrected. Approval was unnecessary as the prior meeting did not have a quorum present.

Elections

Wallace Peterson made a motion to accept the membership of Jill Hall to the Council. Kirk Lowry seconded the motion. After some discussion, Jerilyn Newson called for a vote. The council voted to approve the membership of Jill Hall.

New Business

P&A Steering Committee – The P&A Steering Committee, that is looking at the structure of the agency and any changes that will make it less vulnerable, is meeting later today. The Committee Chair, Art Quirk, will be reaching out to National Disability Rights Network to discuss other states and structures.

It was also mentioned that DAI will be the newly designated P&A in New York. They had previously been a contractor for the former New York P&A. This will help New York create an identity for the P&A.

Beth Leslie - Legislative Liaison's Report

- Beth L. noted that all the bills in her Legislative Update are listed topically. She discussed with the Council HB 5298 An Act Concerning Involuntary Shock Therapy, and the proposed nuances of the bill. The bill has undergone significant changes since it was originally written. Deron Drumm expressed disappointment because the changes take away choice of the person with the disability.
- Beth L. also discussed what she called "Sandy Hook" bills. Firearms legislation currently proposed, includes adding a mental health professional to the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners and provisions that ban an individual with a voluntary psychiatric admission to a hospital from obtaining a firearm for 6 months, and that bans an individual with an involuntary admission from obtaining a firearm for 5 years.

James McGaughey – Executive Director's Report

- James McG. discussed the possible ramifications of the sequestration with the Council. During the next fiscal year, PAIMI will likely lose one full time staff person who will have to be reassigned. This will potentially affect the goals and priorities for the program in the future.
- James McG. communicated that there was no update on the consolidated board, and that the steering committee is meeting later today.

Nancy Alisberg – Managing Attorney's Report

Tabled until next meeting.

Bruce Garrison – PAIMI Assistant Program Director's Report

- Bruce G. summarized the results of the Farm Hill School report issued by P&A in collaboration with the Office of the Child Advocate.
- Bruce G. briefly discussed the upcoming Interagency Symposium on reducing and eliminating restraint and seclusion. Central Connecticut State University has been identified as the venue.

ADJOURNMENT

The PAIMI Advisory Council Meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m. The next scheduled meeting is June 4, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Garrison