



Council Executive Committee

Location: Conference call
Date: Thursday, June 28, 2018
Time: 11:00 A.M. CDT/ 12:00 P.M. EDT

Present: Tecia Puckett Pryor, Lisa Johnson, Serina Gilbert, Evan Espey

Absent: Steve Sheegog

Staff: Wanda Willis, Lynette Porter, JoEllen Fowler

1) **Call to Order**

After ascertaining there was a quorum, Tecia Puckett Pryor, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

2) **Consent Agenda: Approve Executive Committee Agenda and June 5 Minutes**

Lisa moved to approve the Executive Committee Agenda and the June 5th minutes as written. Serina seconded. Approved.

3) **DD Network & SILC grant proposals**

Wanda reminded everyone that the Office of Government Management (OGM) is implementing a new interpretation of the timeframe Councils have to obligate and spend their federal awards. Historically we have had 2 years to obligate an allotment and one additional year to spend the obligated dollars. The new interpretation is that we will have 2 years to obligate and spend the allotments, with 1 additional year for close-out, and with no additional expenditures in the third year. We believe the federal government will allow us to ease in to this new spending timeframe.

We have about \$150,000 that we need to obligate by September 30th of this year or it will revert back to the federal government. We have natural partners in the DD network for projects that match up with the Councils 5 year plan. They have submitted proposals and Alicia is working on their budgets and work plans. We also approached the SILC (Statewide Independent Living Council). We have been working more closely with them and the Independent Living programs have been moved under our federal administering agency so they are also natural partners. All four agencies submitted proposals. All are budgeted at a level that the Executive Committee can approve.

Wanda reviewed the five (5) new proposed Council grant projects for fiscal year (FY) 19.

- Disability Rights TN – Has a voter rights program and their proposal would allow them



purchase software to assess accessibility of voter sites and send directly to the Election Commission. They will be able to register people to vote on iPads and develop a voter registration toolkit for local agencies. The toolkit will come with a training video.

Evan moved to approve the Disability Rights TN Voter accessibility project as written. Serina seconded. Approved.

- Statewide Independent Living Council – Will host Community Conversations about Independent Living. It will include a needs assessment and they will write a report on the current status of Independent Living in the state. They have chosen several rural counties. Staff will follow up with the SILC to be sure they do not duplicate the community conversations that Empower TN held last year in Middle TN counties. Three of the counties listed include 3 counties in the Middle TN region (Maury, Putnam, & Sumner).

Serina moved to approve the Statewide Independent Living Council Status of Independent Living in TN report and IL Community Conversations project as written. Evan seconded. Approved.

- University of TN Boling Center - Has a long history of supporting the Hispanic community and pulling families together around disability. They will enhance the independence, productivity, integration, and inclusion of Latino individuals with disabilities and their families in the community through a number of activities. Staff will request baseline data and number of increased attendance at the Latino Clinic.

Evan moved to approve the University of TN Boling Center Leadership Development and Disability Services for the Latino Community project as written. Lisa seconded. Approved.

- The Vanderbilt Kennedy Center – The Council requested a proposal from them to increase awareness of Pathfinder and the Council in rural counties, creating a replicable marketing and outreach program that could be used throughout the state.

Serina moved to approve the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Outreach to Rural Areas project as written. Evan seconded. Approved.

- The Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Outreach to Multicultural Groups – Will increase outreach to, and awareness of, Pathfinder in multicultural communities in South Central TN by creating a replicable program. There is a large multicultural community concentration there. This project reaches a new goal in our state plan targeting disparity that further marginalizes. Staff will request that the Kennedy Center provide data on the various multicultural communities in South Central TN – how many people from which multicultural population live there, and after the project report back to us what needs were identified.



Evan moved to approve the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Outreach to Multicultural Groups project as written. Serina seconded. Approved.

Staff will follow up with questions for projects, get contracts written and through the system, and fully executed by September 30. The agencies have 1 year to accomplish these projects.

4) **Audit Update**

Lynette mentioned that staff are still getting a number of follow up questions as the auditors work on the report. We still expect the lead auditor to be on the next Executive Committee call and will let the Committee know as soon as it is confirmed.

5) **Federal and State Budget Update**

Federal: Wanda and Lynette have been solely focused on proposed changes for how we obligate and spend Council dollars. In two weeks they will travel to the Technical Assistance conference in DC to discuss this for two days.

State: tomorrow is the last day of the state fiscal year. No issues are anticipated. The Council looks good in terms state of spending.

6) **Other Business - Appointments Update**

The Governor's office has appointed a replacement for Doug Hall. She is Alicia Hall, the parent of young son who is losing his sight.

Jackie Bruce who represented TCAD has retired. Jim Schulman has named Anne Lea Cothron as his new designee.

Plans for retreat are coming along nicely and we will look at the draft agenda on the next call.

7) **Motion to Adjourn**

At 12:04 a.m. Evan moved for adjournment. Serina seconded. Approved.

Next call: Tuesday, August 7, 2018 at 11 a.m. Central/12 noon Eastern

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 3 p.m. Central/4 p.m. Eastern @ Embassy Suites Nashville Airport

Prepared by: JoEllen Fowler, Administrative Assistant

Approved by: Wanda Willis, Executive Director