

Cape Fear Disability Commission General Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2018

Members Present:

John Edge (CFDC), Vanessa Lacer (Wave Transit), David Schultz (UNCW), Hayley Sink (ACCESS of Wilmington), Dustin Robinson (Town of Kure Beach), Billy Eno (Peer Mentor, Advocated for dRC), Patrick Lockamy (NHRMC – Rehab Center), Yasin Holland (Rape Crisis Center), Christina Bauman (Center for DHHS), Tiffany Lesley (Special Olympics, City of Wilmington), Jennifer Bell (Easterseals UCP), Ellis Pinder (NHC Veterans Services)

I. Call to Order

- John Edge called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM.
- General Announcements – John Edge:
 - Anyone wishing to speak during the meeting please raise your hand and provide name and organization for the benefit of all members and the sign language interpreters.

II. Approval of August 2018 Minutes

- No amendments. Motion for approval made by Dustin Robinson, seconded by Vanessa Lacer.

III. Reports

- RP1: City of Wilmington Report – Tiffany Lesley for Jonathan Batts
 - Special Olympics took 70 New Hanover County Athletes to compete in State Games in Charlotte, North Carolina on November 10th and 11th!
 - Polar Plunge is February 23, 2019 in Kure Beach.
 - Tree Lighting – November 23rd, Waterfront Park, 5:30 PM
 - Movie in the Park – November 30th, Greenfield Lake Park Amphitheater, 6 PM
 - Holiday Parade – December 2nd, Downtown Wilmington, 6 PM
- RP2: Wave Transportation Report – Vanessa Lacer
 - Reminder that Wave Bus and DART passes are available to attend CFDC meetings. Contact Vanessa at (910) 202-2045 or vlacer@wavetransit.com for a pass or pick a pass up at CFDC meetings.

- Wave Transit has installed 20 new shelters this year – All to ADA standards! Several major improvements made a Monkey Junction stop, including sidewalk cuts, sidewalks, and 2 shelters.
- Ground Breaking at new Wave Transit Downtown facility is on November 15th at 1:30 PM – Facility to be located at North 3rd and Campbell. Summer 2019 completion date.
- RP3: Membership – Hayley Sink
 - Intended to be a time to recognize new members and CFDC members who have received voting rights after attending two (2) consecutive meetings. Reminder that voting rights are lost after missing three (3) consecutive meetings.
 - All members introduce themselves, their affiliation, and if new, how they heard about CFDC. We are thrilled to have all members and guests!

IV. Old Business

- CFDC Mailing List: Please sign up with your email address and contact Hayley Sink if you are not getting our updates and meeting information.

V. New Business

- CFDC Officer Nominations: Accepted at February 20, 2019 Meeting – Eligible to serve if you have attended at least six (6) meetings. Executive Committee transfer in July 17, 2019 and would assume officer role in August 2019.
- Elections will take place on May 15, 2019. You may vote if you have attended at least two (2) consecutive meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Reminder that members that you are allowed to bring flyers and advertise upcoming events during this time.
- Christina Baumann – Working with Wilmington Fire Department to do a fire safety education day at a local fire station this December. Stay tuned!
- Visit the CFDC Facebook for all announcements in between quarterly meetings. Go to www.facebook.com/CFDCILM. Send Vanessa all announcements, fliers, etc., that would be of interest to members to vlacer@wavetransit.com and she will post them to the CFDC Facebook page.

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER PANEL: ACCOMODATIONS, ACCESSIBILITY, and ADVOCACY

- Christi Pagulo – Assistant Regional Director, The Arc of North Carolina
Contact: admin_wil@arcnc.org | (910) 791-9022

- About: The Arc has grassroots in advocacy with lobbyist that they contract out at the state level and advocate with Arc national to lobby in Washington, DC.
- Services: One-on-One Direct Services funded by Trillium; Supportive Employment through Vocational Rehabilitation; Housing through HUD; Guardianship through DSS and an advocate in Raleigh, NC that works closely with the Wilmington Office; Therapeutic Foster Care training and accepts referrals to match from DSS; Resource Advocates as a link from providers, MCO, and community to help get individuals resources they need and find them!
- First in Families is a nonprofit through Arc: Trillium now oversees and helps to approve expenditures for items that are unable to be covered by Medicaid. Fill out an application, proof of diagnosis, and a quote and then First in Families helps to secure this item.
 - Christmas Shoppe on December 7th from 12-6 PM: Only requirement is to sign up and prove IDD diagnosis.
- **Ellis Pinder, Veteran Services Officer, New Hanover County Veteran Services**
Contact: epinder@nhcgov.com | (910) 798-7611
 - About: Disability compensations is a monthly stipend for veterans that are diagnosed with a disability following service that is applied for through the NHC Veterans Services office. The stipend is focused on earning capacity of the veteran. Allows for help with VA from home modifications to accessible transportation to improve daily living.
 - Other State Benefits: Disabled Veteran or Partially Disabled Veteran License Plates are now available. PDV is less than 100% disability rating – Does not allow for Accessible Parking access.
 - Right to Services: You must apply for services and may not be accepted. Just because you served honorably does not mean you will be accepted – It is income based for health care enrollment if the veteran does not have service-connected disability.
 - County versus Federal Veterans Affairs: Veterans start at the local level and then are referred to Federal Agency – The NHC office is essentially the in between to assist veterans at the local.
- **Jennifer Bell, Program Manager of Individual and Community Supports, Easterseals UCP of North Carolina and Virginia**
Contact: jennifer.bell@eastersealsucp.org | (910) 790-5921
 - About: Serves individuals and families with Intellectual Disabilities and Mental Health diagnoses by making positive, profound differences in people's lives every day.

- Services: Provide One-on-One support for children and adults to assist with activities of daily living and integration goals to connect in the community like Special Olympics and ACCESS of Wilmington.
- Programs: Provide from birth to older adults
 - ABA Therapy
 - Early Childhood Development
 - Employment Services
 - Foster Care
 - After School and Summer Camp Program (Empower)
 - Coming Spring 2019: Adult Day Program without Innovations Waiver
- Access and Cost: Funded through Trillium, but could qualify even without Medicaid through Third Party Insurance.

Questions and Answers:

Q: Can you elaborate on an individual's right to service? – Vanessa Lacer

A: For an individual needing services, best option is an Innovations Waiver, but there is a waiting list for this at the moment. Personal Assistance and Individual Supports (IDD/Mental Health Dual Diagnosis) are open at the moment. Innovations Waiver is a 10+ year waitlist. State Funded Respite and Developmental Therapy. This is why advocacy is so important! Innovations Waiver services are more intense in duration of hours with an individual anywhere from 20-80 hours a week, where state funded is 4-10 hours a week. – Christi Pagulo and Jennifer Bell

Q: Can you explain more about the Arc Holiday Shoppe? – Christina Bauman

A: Food Pantry, Tuesday and Thursday from 9-3 through First in Families for the Holiday Shoppe, mid-November through early-December to collect items for all ages – Electronics, Games, Household Items. Just need proof of diagnosis – IDD diagnosis by Doctor – Just call number on the flyer and get information to them prior to the event. Drinks, snacks, Santa. Need volunteers to help individuals and families shop. Collect items for this all year – So feel free to donate! Management Team meeting monthly to discuss fundraising needs, opportunities. This year at Brookfield Church of God, 131 Elliott Drive, Wilmington, North Carolina (Off of Gordon Road). – Christi Pagulo

Q: What is the registration and cost for the Adult Day Program? – Vanessa Lacer

A: No cost related to the program funded through state funds and Medicaid. Age is 21+ no cap at the moment on age, but 25 is the target goal. – Jennifer Bell

Q: What are the similarities and differences between the Arc and Easterseals UCP. – Vanessa Lacer

A: MCO locally is Trillum they all have a network of provider agencies because individuals living with a disability have the right to choose. One provider may offer a specific service and best fit with the family. Individuals can have multiple providers. To

access services, go straight to Trillium to receive a list of providers or go directly to the provider. – Jennifer Bell and Christi Pagulo

Comment: You all did a great job speaking! Thank you! – Dustin Robinson

VI. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn made by Dustin Robinson at 11:25 AM. Seconded by Vanessa Lacer.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: January 16th, 2019 at 10:30 AM

Next General Meeting: February 20th, 2019 at 10:30 AM

Executive Committee Meetings held at Bitty and Beau's Coffee; General Meetings held at New Hanover County Government Center Human Resources Suite 135