# MSCOD Executive Committee Minutes

**Location: Minnesota State Council on Disability office**

**121 East 7th Place, Suite 107, St. Paul, MN 55101**

**November 14, 2012 (Approved)**

## Attendance

Mark Hughes, council member (in person)

Bob Johnson, council member (via phone)

Joan Willshire, Executive Director (in person)

Tricia Drury, MSCOD staff (in person)

Dave Schwartzkopf, Committee chair (via phone)

### Absent

Kathy Peterson, council member

Barb Stensland, council member

## Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Schwartzkopf at 2:09 p.m.

Hughes motioned to approve the agenda. Seconded by Johnson. Approved by voice vote.

Hughes motioned to approve minutes from August 14, 2012 meeting. Seconded by Johnson. Approved by voice vote.

## Discussion on Council Members’ appointments expiration in January, 2013.

* Nine Members are up for expiration (Nathan Aalgaard, Robert Johnson, Kim Tyler, Mark Hughes, Michelle Trapp, Laurie Hassert, David Sams, Dean Ascheman, Barb Stensland, Joani Werner)
* Executive Joan Willshire shared her knowledge of which council members have expressed interest in reapplying for membership on the council. She said she would speak with the Governor’s office to encourage continued membership for members.
* Discussion of the process needed to reapply.
* Committee discussed issues and geographic areas that we should recruit new members from. Possible names were mentioned.
* Committee agreed it would be a good idea to run an ad in the December edition of Access Press calling on people to apply for council membership.

## ExOfficio discussion

Hughes motioned to approve MSCOD adding a position for an ExOfficio member from the Social Security Administration. Seconded by Johnson. Approved by voice vote.

## Legislative Forum Discussion

Executive Director Joan Willshire shared her hopes for the Forum, which is planned for Monday, Jan. 7, 2013. That is the day before Session begins, which is new for MSCOD. The committee discussed who we would invite to speak including:

* Chairs of the Health and Human Services Committees (To Be Named)
* Executive Directors of disability agencies, such as MN-CCD, MN Board on Aging, The ARC of Minnesota, Courage Center, NAMI, etc.
* Tricia and Joan will work with new Legislative Specialist when hired to invite speakers and to create the day’s agenda.

## 2013 Legislative Session Strategy

MSCOD plans to meet with all new/freshmen legislators and give them our “MSCOD Disability Resources” book, which is a three-ring binder filled with our mission, initiatives and policies, as well as listings of all the disability organizations in Minnesota.

## Legislative wish list:

* Increased appropriations for emergency preparedness
* Executive order on employment for PWD
* Moving Assistive Technology Bill forward
* Pushing for changes to code in following areas:
* Minimum Vehicle Access Requirements
* Remove language for movable disability parking signs
* Change Language to allow more flexibility when/if no accessible parking is available
* Remove language that apartments are not required to have elevators

## Plans for 40th Anniversary Celebration

Joan Willshire suggested that we reestablish talks with Mixed Blood Theater about creating a play or vignette about people with disabilities in places of employment and the “funny” or crude situations they face, with the hope of it becoming a traveling show that would visit places of employment and act as training session.

Hughes motioned to approve MSCOD cosponsoring with Mixed Blood Theater to Legacy Funds to create “disability employment training” vignettes. Seconded by Johnson. Approved by voice vote.

## Discussion and Wrap up of Annual Awards Event

* Staff member Tricia Drury delivered PowerPoint presentation survey results.
* Members discussed different ways to schedule the agenda of the event to maximize attendance and keep program moving along
* Conversation went back to how these changes and suggestions could be implemented into 40th Anniversary celebration, which members agreed should be held in October, 2013

## Conference Attendance

Hughes motioned to approve Pathways to Employment funds as payment for MSCOD sending Colin Stemper, Joan Willshire and Mark Hughes to the Autism Employment Conference on October 9, 2012.

## Discussion on open staff position

Joan Willshire reported that the position for a temporary hire for the open Legislative Specialist position was posted on the State of Minnesota Jobs board. She expressed the hope to have someone hired before the Christmas holiday.

## Upcoming Full Council Meeting

* Tricia read the draft version of the Agenda for the meeting which will be held via video conference facilities at DHS on Dec. 11, 2012.
* Hughes suggested adding Susan Haight from Met Council to the agenda, with the hopes of her speaking on the MetCouncil’s 2040 Initiative.

## Encumbrance Discussion:

* Hughes motioned to approve MSCOD encumbrances of $4912.81 from Sept 6.-Dec. 1. Seconded by Johnson. Approved by voice vote.
* Hughes motioned to approve PTE encumbrances for $7490.47. Seconded by Johnson. Approved by voice vote.

## Other Business

* Discussion of whether MSCOD had interest in joining Empower Access Program that would involve exchange of international visitors group. No consensus was reached.
* Johnson motioned to approve MSCOD staff members assisting Council Members with filling out expense forms as the State of Minnesota has yet to provide reimbursement forms in accessible format. Seconded by Hughes. Approved by voice vote.

## Discussion of future meeting schedule

Motion to adjourn by Hughes. Meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tricia Drury