# MSCOD COUNCIL MEETING

Metro Square Building

121 East 7th Place

St. Paul, MN 55101

June 5, 2014

(Approved 9/26/14)

## Agenda

* Call to order and introductions
* Approval of agenda/Approval of minutes
* Legislative update – Rebecca Covington, MNCCD
* Sub-committee reports
  + Accessibility
  + Employment
  + Events
  + ADA 25th Anniversary event
* Chair’s report
* Executive Director’s report
* Budget approval
* Other business
* Adjourn

## Call to Order/Introductions

The acting chairperson, Barb Stensland, called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m. Council members present were: Nate Aalgaard, Robert Johnson, Kim Tyler, Carlos Vasquez, Christine Versaevel, Jim Thalhuber, Kathy Wingen, and Barb Stensland. Dave Schwartzkopf, Nancy Rosemore, and Stephen Grams participated by phone. Dean Ascheman, Bryce Samuelson and Kathy Peterson were absent. Ex-officios in attendance were: Jill Keen, Linda Lingen, Lori Lippert, Barb Lundeen, and Joani Werner. Staff members attending were: Joan Willshire, Margot Imdieke Cross, Stuart Cross, Linda Gremillion, Mai Thor, Shannon Hartwig, Chad Miller, Colleen Casey, George Shardlow and Elizabeth Demski.

## Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes

Jim Thalhuber motioned for approval of the agenda. Kim Tyler seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Kim Tyler motioned for approval of the March 18, 2014 council minutes. Kathy Wingen seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

## Legislative Updates

Joan Willshire gave a brief update on MSCOD’s objectives during the past legislative session. The anti-bullying bill passed. The 5% campaign, increasing wages for community service providers, was approved. In the area of transportation, the change to disability parking was not approved and will be revisited during the next session. The bill expanding TAAC’s focus passed. The bill on LRT access passed; it provides in the future it must provide 2 accessible spaces and companion seating. MN-NET changes met death by fiscal note; it will be revisited next session. Funds were approved for Capitol restoration, making it more accessible.

Rebecca Covington, executive director of MNCCD, presented their legislative update. The 5% campaign was approved. Provision for a 10% decrease in fees for parents of children with autism was also approved. Funding for Olmstead implementation passed. Medical assistance standards were raised from 75% to 80% of Federal poverty; this will need to be revisited in the 2015 session. The time will be used to educate and raise awareness of the issues of income standards and asset limits. The anti-bullying bill passed. In the next session, besides advocating changes in MA standards and assets, MNCCD will work on CMS 2020 which will define dependency and the Workforce Investment act which will move voc/rehab from education to labor and section 511 which will transition youth from education to employment. She also advocated attending candidate forums and town hall meetings held throughout the state to question candidates on disability policy.

## Sub-committee Reports

### Access Sub-committee

Nate Aalgaard presented the report. A meeting was held on 5/23/14; because there was no quorum, this is an informational report. Transportation issues were discussed. There is preliminary planning for an Emergency Preparedness conference this fall, tentatively scheduled for September 27, 2014. The keynote speaker would be from FEMA followed by break out sessions. Please contact Margot Imdieke Cross if interested in assisting. The state park promotion is on hold; the DNR has had staffing changes. The Viking stadium has increased wheelchair and companion seating. Access issues at the State Fair were discussed.

### Employment Sub-committee

Jim Thalhuber gave a brief report. Liz Nelson, the state recruiter for MMB, discussed increasing employment by streamlining the system to make it more inclusive to disability. Colin Stemper reported on a projected state accommodation pool; this would be a pool of adaptive technologies needed by employees with disabilities and used by state agencies. Joan Willshire will continue to monitor this effort.

### Events and ADA Legacy

Mai Thor reported on the events sub-committee and the ADA Legacy committee. The events committee is planning an ADA celebration with DHS on July 25, 2014. It will be held from 10 to 12 at DHS. Dr Darlene Zangara, Olmstead director, and Rose Hollerman, a disabled sports scholar, will speak and entertainment will be provided. The budget for the Legacy project was sent to the executive committee for review.

The ADA Legacy project has several committees. The research firm that was contracted did not work out; the committee has new proposals and expects to make a decision by June 11, 2014. TPT has been contacted to make a documentary on the ADA which will have broad level conversations and could possibly broadcast the event outstate and re-air. The ADA events committee needs bids and RFPs for a location, possibly the convention center. The conference will have breakout sessions which will need speakers. On July 26, 2015, the actual anniversary date, MSCOD will partner with the History center for the ADA celebration. The communication committee will hold a poster contest, with the winning posters being printed. We should also have a graphic logo for a newsletter. The committee is working to have the governor do a proclamation for the ADA celebration and having as many cities as possible do proclamations. We would like to give funds for community celebrations.

## Executive Director’s Report

Joan Willshire gave a brief report. The council is short of members; if anyone knows eligible candidates please have them apply to the governor’s office for appointment. MSCOD needs volunteers for the state fair, so please sign up for a shift. The executive committee will meet on June 11, 2014. The director will be interviewing to fill Mai Thor’s position and Colin Stemper’s position. Members are reminded that expense reports need to be turned in before the end of the fiscal year.

David Schwartzkopf motioned for approval of the executive committee motion of 2/18/14. Jim Thalhuber seconded the motion. It was approved by roll call vote.

## Budget Approval

Kim Tyler motioned for approval of MSCOD Pos totaling $604.53. Dave Schwartzkopf seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Carlos Vasquez motioned for approval of ADA Legacy grants and contracts totally $30,755.00. Christine Versaevel seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Dave Schwartzkopf motioned for approval of MSCOD POs totaling $2,934.00. Jim Thalhuber seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Kim Tyler motioned for approval of MSCOD contracts totaling $990.00. Christine Versaevel seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Christine Versaevel motioned for approval of Legacy grant-contracts totaling $552.58. Bob Johnson seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Bob Johnson motioned for approval of a MSCOD PO conference fee of $75.00. Kathy Wingen seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

## Other Business

The next council meeting may be held September 26, 2014; this would allow members to attend the Emergency Preparedness conference. The last meeting of the year will be held the last week of November or first week of December.

## Adjournment

Dave Schwartzkopf motioned to adjourn; Christine Versaevel seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Demski