# MSCOD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

MSCOD OFFICE

121 E. 7th Pl. Suite 107, St. Paul, MN 55101

January 13, 2016

APPROVED 2/10/2016)

## ATTENDANCE

Dean Ascheman– in office

Jim Thalhuber – in office

Robert Johnson– via phone

Kathy Peterson – via phone

Nate Aalgaard – Absent

Staff present Joan Willshire, David Fenley and Shannon Hartwig

## CALL TO ORDER

Jim Thalhuber as chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Dean Ascheman motioned for approval of the agenda; it was seconded by Kathy Peterson. It was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Dean Ascheman motioned for approval of the minutes of the November 17, 2015 meeting. Kathy Peterson seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## Committee updates

Joan Willshire provided the group with a brief re-cap for both the Access committee and the Employment committee. Both groups have been meeting on a monthly basis, and things have been going well. The Access group has been working on bringing the press releases to their local areas. The Employment group will meet on January 17, 2016 and have a guest speaker from MMB to discuss the New State of Minnesota Employment website. Now that the new committee structure is in place, the group discussed the balance of members and experience serving on each committee. Council Chair Jim Thalhuber asked if the committee chair is appointed or elected. Shannon Hartwig will review the by-laws and report back. Currently we are waiting on nine appointments to come from the Governor’s office. Once that has been confirmed the group will review the balance of the members serving on the committees, to ensure the members are serving on the committees based on interest and experience that will best reflect the council’s efforts.

## Legislative update

Staff member David Fenley presented the group a brief background on 2016 MSCOD policy agenda.doc

Legislative Forum on Feb, 9 12:30 – 4pm, MN Senate Building with tour to follow

Session begins March 8, 2016

Ends: May 23, 2016

Gives us about 5 weeks before deadlines, 10 weeks total

1. ADA Lawsuits: Discussing possible amendment to HRA that provide opportunity to allow the law to accomplish intent and get as close to universal ADA/HRA compliance as possible.
2. Disability Parking: Respond to requests from legislators and the community to look at possible changes. Right now we are developing a survey, we will then hold discussions based on results of the survey for possible alteration to disability parking rules in 2016 or 2017
3. Physical therapists want to be added to list of professionals who issue disability parking placards.
4. Emergency elections taskforce: no specific legislation yet, but most likely will be some to institutionalize a process to conduct elections in case of an emergency. Margot is on that task force to ensure any process is fully accessible to PWDs. MSCOD’s role in this task force was a result of MSCOD advocacy last session.
5. Best Life Alliance: formerly 5% campaign. Seeks increase in HCBS $90 million next year to boost pay for caregivers. Sen. Kent Eken, DFL-Twin Valley, and state Rep. Matt Dean
6. Driverless cars: They are not illegal. With many new technologies initial adaptors are the wealthy. Is there anything that can be done legislatively to get this technology to the groups that need it the most? MN could be seen as the cold weather testing ground for this technology. This tech has the potential to increase independence for people with disabilities.
7. MN Compassionate Care Act aka Right to Die or Assisted suicide: this bill (SF1880) was introduced late last session. Other states have passed this type of legislation with California being the most recent. Many disability groups are against assisted suicide because it is seen a slippery slope or a veiled form of eugenics. Here is some language from the bill that pertains to disability and qualifications.

* Subd 3b. A person is not a qualified patient under this section based solely on age,disability, or any specific illness.

Subd 5 suffering from ......., which my attending physician has determined is an incurable and irreversible medical condition that will, within reasonable medical judgment, result in death within six months

* Subd. 9. **Medical determination on competency**.
  + If, in the medical opinion of the attending physician or the consulting physician, a patient may be suffering from a psychiatric or psychological condition or depression that is causing impaired judgment, either the attending or consulting physician shall refer the patient for counseling to determine whether the patient is competent to request aid in dying.

1. Full funding for special education through age 21
2. Employment first initiatives (possibly through DHS)
3. Possible Sen. Hoffman bill to remove the term handicapped from parking signs.

Dean Ascheman motioned for approval of the MSCOD Policy Agenda with the suggested edits, this is a working document, changes are expected to arise as we approach the start date of the session, it was seconded by Kathy Peterson. It was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## MSCOD Work Plan

The group reviewed the MSCOD work plan, with a recommendation to review in six months, to ensure goals are met.

## Nominations Committee Update

Dean Ascheman reported that he has received recommendations for the Executive Committee ballot. Currently we are still awaiting the pending nine appointments from the governor’s office; once they are made we will continue on with the process. The group will review the status at the next meeting.

## Council Meeting Planning

The group reviewed the draft agenda for the next full council meeting. The meeting will be January 28, 20165 and attendance is encouraged via conference line. Materials will be sent out January 15, 2016.

## Executive Director Report

Joan Willshire reported that she is working on staff issues. She is working with an outside agency, on a non-compete issue, she expects it will be resolved and will update the group as necessary. The office is a buzz with the upcoming Legislative Forum that will be held on February 9, 2016, Details will be sent out to council members.

## ADJOURNMENT

Dean Ascheman motioned to adjourn; Bob Johnson seconded. The chair adjourned the meeting at 3:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Hartwig