



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Morna A. Murray, J.D.
Commissioner

Council on Developmental Services

Jordan A. Scheff
Deputy Commissioner

Minutes of Monday, April 21, 2016

Location: Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Central Office, Conference Room A

In attendance: Adrienne Benjamin, Chair; Lisa Weisinger-Roland, Vice Chair; Jamie Lazaroff; Secretary; Jack Frost; Karen Hlavac; Rick Lenz; Diana Mennone; Morna A. Murray, J. D., Commissioner, Ex-officio; Patti Silva; Dr. Neil Stein; Deborah Ullman; Patrick Vingo; Kevin Zingler

Absent: Jennifer Carroll; Arlene Reith

Staff: Dianne Gill, Administrative Assistant; Christine Cooney, Legislative Liaison

Introductions

Adrienne Benjamin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05. Jack Frost mentioned this would be his last meeting.

Public Participation

Rick Rothstein, René Breton

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the March meeting were approved.

Topics for Discussion

Christine Pollio Cooney, Legislative Liaison, gave the legislative update to the Council discussing the release of the Governor's second version of the budget. Fiscal Year (FY) 16 now has a \$141 million deficit. Christine summarized the proposed DDS bills and bills being followed by DDS.

Morna A. Murray, Commissioner, updated the Council on the facility conversions. The Commissioner emphasized DDS is doing everything possible to minimize the impact the changes will have on consumers and their families. She acknowledged the hard work of the DDS staff to creatively find ways to not cut services. The Commissioner answered questions from the Council about the cost savings from the conversions. The Council discussed the timing of the announcement of the regional center closings. Commissioner Murray explained the protocol and how the announcements followed the protocol.

The Council postponed the Southbury Training School (STS) Analysis discussion until the May meeting. A handout on the analysis was given to the Council members for review.

New Business:

- Analysis of the STS recommendations
- The Council will extend an invitation to Molly Cole, Director of the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities, to speak at one of the Council meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15.