

Background:

Minutes of the August 4, 2016, Project Development Committee meeting are included for your review.

Project Development Committee — Agenda Item 3

Expected Action:

The Committee will review, revise as appropriate, and approve.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING August 4, 2016 — MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Gladys Cortez, Chair
Kimberly Blackmon
Kristen Cox
Mateo Delgado
Mary Durham, Council Chair
Ivy Goldstein, DSHS Alternate
Rachel Jew, DSHS
Jennifer Kaut, DARS
Scott McAvoy
Ron Roberts, TEA
David Taylor
John Thomas
Rick Tisch

Committee Member Absent

Dana Perry

Guests Present

Isabel Evans

Staff Present

Martha Cantu
Joanna Cordry
Cynthia Ellison
Danny Fikac
Fernando Rodriguez
Josh Ryf
Beth Stalvey

Call To Order

The Project Development Committee met on Thursday, August 4, 2016, at the Horseshoe Bay Resort, 200 Hi Circle North, Horseshoe Bay, Texas 78657. Chair Gladys Cortez called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. Introductions

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

3. Consideration of Minutes

The Committee reviewed minutes of the May 5, 2016, Project Development Committee meeting. It was noted that there was an error in the report that member Scott McAvoy attended a seminar that he did not attend. The sentence will be struck from the minutes.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the August 4, 2016, Project Development Committee with the removal of the sentence stating that Scott McAvoy attended a public policy seminar.

MADE BY: Scott McAvoy

SECOND: Mateo Delgado

The motion **passed** unanimously as amended.

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Cortez announced that Dana Perry is on vacation and unable to attend the meeting. It was also noted that Ron Roberts and Rachel Jew are non-voting members until they complete orientation. Council Chair Mary Durham addressed issues about appointments to the Council and referenced the attendance report. The Council has asked the governor's office to replace the members who are not up for reappointment.

5. Member Updates

No member updates were offered.

6. Staff Reports

A. Status of New/Approved Projects

Cynthia Ellison, Grants Management Director, reported that two new leadership and advocacy projects began last quarter - Family to Family and Paso Del Norte. The start date for Easter Seals Central Texas is pending. No additional updates.

B. Projected Available Funds

Martha Cantu, Operations Director, reported that TCDD still has funds for FY16 that are available for assignment to future projects. Chair Cortez commented positively on the new format for the budget documents. There were no additional updates from Cantu.

C. Other Updates

Joanna Cordry, Planning Director, reported on the Executive Committee's review of proposals received in response to Requests for Proposals (RFPs). The Executive Committee approved three grant proposals for funding: EveryChild, Inc. for TCDD Policy Fellows, Texas A&M University for Higher Education Collaborative, and Imagine Enterprises for Outreach and Development. Cordry also noted that TCDD Planning staff will attend the Health and Human Services Center for Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities conference, which will be held in San Marcos in two weeks.

7. Future Activities for State Plan Implementation

A. State Plan Projects List

Cordry presented the State Plan Project list and the Committee discussed the issues related to the objectives.

B. Executive Summaries

The Committee discussed the TCDD Policy Fellows Executive Summary.

The RFP would be open year around, and the Executive Committee would review proposals twice per year. Up to two two-year fellowships would be funded each year for five years. Because each fellowship would last two years, TCDD would be providing funding for projects for six years. Each project would cost \$65,000 per year.

The past TCDD Policy Fellow grants are ending. Cordry shared that the fellow at the Arc of Texas accepted a job at SAFE prior to the end of the grant. The fellow contributed a significant amount of work on guardianship alternatives, but is not pursuing a career in policy. The Committee discussed the difficulty in measuring the outcomes of the policy fellows. The Committee would like the policy fellows to update the Council on their activities.

MOTION: To fund two new two-year TCDD Policy Fellowships each year for five years, for up to \$135,000 for year one, \$270,000 for years three through five, and \$135,000 for year six, with the expectation that the organizations would give hiring preference to individuals with developmental disabilities.

MADE BY: Rick Tisch

SECOND: Mateo Delgado

The motion **passed** unanimously.

C. Discussion of Sibling Network Project

Danny Fikac, Planning Specialist, presented information about sibling networks. He noted that Lauren Yeldell, a sibling to a person with a disability, set up an online Texas Sibling Leadership Network in April of 2016. Currently, Ms. Yeldell's work is the only sibling network in Texas of which TCDD is aware, and it is an informal network.

The Committee discussed the barriers to sibling support and involvement, different ways to support the building of sibling network, and the different resources that may already be available. The Committee further discussed developing a tool kit for siblings to be able to use in the event that the sibling becomes the primary advocate for their brother or sister who has a disability. Such a tool kit would highlight the importance of knowing the needs and issues even if the sibling is not responsible for the future needs. Currently, siblings are encouraged to utilize natural supports, but

additional provider supports are lacking.

Chair Cortez added additional information about the complexity of issues and the role of educating siblings about transitioning responsibility from an aging parent to a sibling. The Committee noted that siblings are the also part of the next generation of advocates. The Committee requested an Executive Summary for the funding of a sibling network.

8. Future Project Funding Priorities

The Committee reviewed and discussed the current list of projects and added the TCDD Policy Fellow to the list of priorities. All priorities remained unchanged, except the following changes:

- TCDD Policy Fellow was inserted as #5
- Partnership with African American Clergy to Support Families was moved to #10

MOTION: To recommend approval of the future project funding priorities list with the addition of the TCDD Policy Fellow project as the fifth priority and moving Partnership with African American Clergy to Support Families to the tenth priority.

MADE BY: Rick Tisch

SECOND: Scott McAvoy

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Chair Cortez, adjourned the meeting at 03:43 p.m.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date