



Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Commission

March 2025 Meeting Minutes

Date: March 20, 2025

Time: 5pm – 6:30pm

Location: Zoom

Guest Speakers(s): Ramona Buck and Beth Pierce (Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County Facilitators), Dr. Lolita Weedon and Samuel Frushour (Office of Human Resources, Montgomery County), Melanie Moore (Director of the Academy at Jubilee)

Chair Riley called the meeting to order at 5:02pm

- The chair welcomed guests, commissioners and the public and performed the attendance roll call.
- The chair read the purpose of the Commission.
- The County Executive has nominated three people, (Miles Cox, Lisa Klem, and Swapnika Madhavaram) They will join the April meeting subject to a vote by the County Council.
- Lisa Lorraine announced the availability of a Spanish translator line on Zoom
- The minutes of February 27, 2025 Commission Meeting and the Closed Session Meeting Minutes from the January 16, 2025 Commission Meeting were approved. Motioned by Jake D. Seconded by Carmen Z.
- Call for additional agenda items. Commissioners approved adding to items to the agenda:
 - Issue with Providers not paying bills to PCR
- Ratify the vote for the Letter to the County Executive and send to County Council
 - Motioned by Sue H. Seconded by Carmen S.

New Business

- MCPIP Program and employment by Montgomery County Government for people with IDD, Dr. Lolita Weedon and Samuel Frushour (OHR, Montgomery County)
 - Mr. Frushour briefed the Commission on the four current programs in the county aimed at hiring people with IDD. The programs are:
 - Leap4MCG: Leveraging Employment Abilities Program: replaced the public intern program (MCPIP)
 - Project SEARCH,
 - Hiring Preference for People with Disabilities, and
 - Non-Competitive Hiring for People with Disabilities.

- The County does not track how many people with IDD have been incorporated in these programs. The County does not mandate hiring of people with disabilities and does not manage the positions.
 - Action: The OHR will send a memo to County departments reminding them of these programs and IDDC with partner with OHR by issuing an IDDC memo of support.
 - Action: The IDDC Program and Policies committee will work with the OHR in follow up to this briefing.
 - Action: Karla Nabors noted that Montgomery College would like to be a host site for Project Search and will share the Montgomery College Human Resource Team contact information with OHR.
- Briefing by Melanie Moore, Director of the Academy at Jubilee, Direct Service Provider (DSP) Training
 - Ms. Moore provided an overview of the training programs offered by Jubilee. Training is available for people with IDD, caregivers, and direct service providers. There is a fee for the training. At the IDDC's suggestion, Jubilee will consider an advocacy class as well as a safe engagement with law enforcement class.
 - c. Committee Updates
- Community Engagement, Jake Didinsky, Chair (Engage Plan attached)
 - The commission approved the community engagement plan as presented. Members of the Commission are invited to the next committee meeting. Additionally, the committee requests that Dr. McGhee attend their committee meeting.
- Policies and Programs, Lisa Lorraine, Chair
 - The committee selected a chair and secretary. They will identify priorities and define their scope of work at their April 9th meeting.
- Special Education, Yvonne VanLowe, Chair (Letter to BOE attached)
 - The Commission approved the letter to the BOE and MCPS superintendent with the requirement that it the letter is formatted correctly and includes a link to the IDDC website in the first paragraph. Steve Riley and Yvonne VanLowe will sign the letter.
- Robert's Rules Briefer Project, Steve Riley and Jake Didinsky
 - Jake will prepare and circulate a Robert's Rule one pager for the use in IDDC meeting in advance of the April Commission meeting. Yvonne VanLowe volunteered to assist.

Old Business

- Status of Maryland State Budget (DDA Updates), Sue Hartung
 - Rick Callahan shared that the FY25 funding had been restored and \$292M had been restored for FY26. Final budget vote is pending. Rick will share updates with Crystel for distribution to the IDDC.
- DD Supplement: The IDDC voted in favor of sending the letter to the County Council at the beginning of the meeting.

- Response to the IDDC CRCMC Report, Steve Riley and Crystel Britto
 - The Commission agreed that Crystel will circulate their draft response to members for written response and further discussion at the April Commission meeting.

Commissioners' Open Forum

- Jenn Lynn raised a concern about providers not paying their bills for services rendered. Jenn will contract Onesta Duke for additional support and guidance with this issue.

Public Comments

- No public comments

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jillian C., Seconded by Karla N.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26pm.

Attendees:

Commissioners Present:

Rick Callahan, Jillian Copeland, Tracy Craig, Jake Didinsky, Onesta Duke, Justin Hack, Susan Hartung, Dorne Hill, Lisa Lorraine, Jenn Lynn, Karla Nabors, Margie Parrott, Steve Riley, Carmen Zahra, Carmen Smith, Najla Wortham, Yvonne VanLowe, John Whittle

Staff Present: Crystel Britto, Rosemary DiPietro, Kim Mayo, Samuel Frushour, Dr. Lolita Weedon

Commissioners not Present: Lori Mitchell-Keller, Eric Salzano, and Smil Soria

Other: Ashley Cruise, Ramona Buck, Andrea Golden, Melanie Moore, Eliazar Velasco G., Octavio Vallejo Meyer