



**Maryland Developmental  
Disabilities Council**

**Council Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 22, 2022**

**Present:**

- Angie Auldrige
- Richard Bauernschub
- Damon Briggs
- Carmen Brown
- Kalani Brown
- Jamal Cannady
- Meeka Caldwell
- Scott Dennis
- Harold Gomes
- Kay Han
- Elizabeth Hall  
(Designee for Carol Beatty)
- Karenn Jones
- Meghan Jones
- Tiffany Joseph
- Rebecca Oliver
- Dr. Sohail Qarni
- Dee Sapp
- Bernie Simons
- Teri Sparks
- Maureen van Stone
- Elizabeth Weintraub
- Liz Woodward
- Russell Young

**Absent:**

- Laura – Sun Cefaratti
- Staci Forrest
- Kathy Hargett
- Jarred Jones

**Staff:**

- Anastasia Collins
- Christy Russell
- Rachel London
- Shawan Pearson
- Zachary Hands

**Guest:**

- Cait Gardner
- Deena Kilmon, The Arc  
Central Chesapeake
- Susan Sugrue, Public  
Partnerships (PPL)
- Senator Craig Zucker

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Dee Sapp, Council Chairperson.

### **Welcome and Introductions – Meghan Jones**

- Meghan Jones welcomed everyone, and introductions of Council Members and Staff to new members and visitors.

### **Public Comments**

- No public comments

### **Approval of Minutes – Dee Sapp**

- M/S/P to approve the June 23, 2022 minutes.

### **Council Chair Report – Dee Sapp**

- Provided an overview of her meeting expectations and Ground Rules.
- December 8, 2022, Council meeting is the retreat and will be in person. Location to be determined.

### **Executive Director Report – Rachel London**

- FFY 2022 ends September 30, 2022. We received an additional \$5,000 which increases the overall budget to \$1,206,492.
- Congress has not passed an FFY 2023 budget and is operating under a continuing resolution. We expect to receive the same amount as we did in FFY 2022.

### **Council Communications - Zach Hands**

- The annual Photo Contest ended in August.
- Fall Newsletter will be distributed in October.

We are soliciting stories for National Employment Awareness month. There is a form that is available on social media and our website that can be used to submit the stories.

### **Guest Speaker: Senator Craig Zucker, District 14**

- Senator Zucker provided an overview of the new budget process for an election year and reminded us that the General Assembly will have the ability to add operating money to the budget for the first time.

### **Presentation: Project Learn – Deena Kilmon, The Arc Central Chesapeake**

- She provided an overview of the project the Council funded. Students with developmental disabilities are trained about the IEP process and advocacy so they can take control of their educational needs. . Project Learn also created and provided county-specific resources to families on the Eastern Shore.

### **Discussion: Statewide Inclusive Playground Framework: Rachel London**

- The Council partnered with the MD Department of Disabilities to develop a statewide inclusive playground framework. The Council funded a researcher to research best practices, what exists in Maryland, and other specifics, so recommendations can be made. Council members provided information about inclusive parks and playgrounds in their communities and made suggestions about what features make them inclusive.

### **3rd Quarter FFY 2022 Budget Report – Christy Russell**

- Quarterly budget reviewed. No questions, comments, or concerns.

### **FFY 2023 Budget Overview – Christy Russell**

- The Council's FFY 2023 budget was approved by the Executive Committee already. Christy reviewed the budget. No questions, comments, or concerns.

**Meeting Adjourn @ 5:42 p.m.**