**Olmstead Consumer Taskforce Meeting**

**July 12, 2013**

**Pleasant Hill Public Library, Pleasant Hill**

**Minutes**

Handouts

Agenda

Minutes of the Previous Meeting – May 10, 2013

Executive Committee Minutes – May 22, 2013; June 24, 2013; July 3, 2013

Proposed ByLaws Revision Regarding Standing Committees

Nominations Committee Minutes – June 13, 2013

Housing & Transportation Committee Minutes – May 30, 2013

Power point

**Taskforce Members Present:** Joan Bruhn;Roxanne Cogil; Paula Connolly; Lynsie Crawford; Randy Davis; Carrie England; Dawn Francis; Michele Meadors; Kathleen O’Leary; Len Sandler; Rik Shannon; Casey Westhoff; Jennifer Wolff

**Members Present by Phone:** Alice Holdiman;Linda Moore; Bruce Teague

**State Agency Representatives Present:** Theresa Armstrong andBecky Flores (DHS – MHDS); Pat Dworkin, Liz Matney, Andria Seip and Deb Johnson (IME); Karin Ford (IDPH); Kristin Haar (IDOT); Ljerka Vasiljevic (DPS)

**Staff:** Liz O’Hara

**Guests:**  Bob Bacon (CDD); Teresa Bomhoff (MH Planning Council, NAMI); Gerry Bruhn; Mazie Johnson (Arc of Iowa); Jule Reynolds (Senator Harkin’s Office); Jennie Salvato (DRI)

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

In the absence of the Chair, Dawn Francis opened the meeting at 10:05 with a welcome and introductions.

**II. Approval of the Agenda**

Dawn noted that Andria Seip will be presenting information to the Taskforce about the Health Exchange and Medicaid Expansion. The agenda incorrectly refers to Tammie Amsbaugh as Tammie Armstrong, reporting on state employment initiatives. Moved by Len Sandler and supported by Carrie England to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**III. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting on May 10, 2013**

Moved by Len Sandler and supported by Randy Davis to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on May 10, 2013. Motion carried.

**III. Executive Committee Report**

A. Update on Medicaid Expansion. Dawn noted that this was one of the biggest issues for the Taskforce this Legislative Session, involving significant advocacy effort with legislators. An important compromise was reached between the Governor’s Office, which was promoting its Healthy Iowans Plan, and the Senate Democratic proposal, which would expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), for individuals earning up to 138% of federal poverty level (FPL). The compromise will cover everyone up to 138% FPL and will take advantage of the ACA’s provision for 100% federal funding of Medicaid expansion. There are still concerns about the compromise, and further advocacy may be needed. Andria Seip will provide further information on the compromise agreement later in the agenda.

B. DHS Appropriations. There are two important issues coming out of the Legislature’s appropriations decisions: (1) Funding for redesign; and (2) the Governor’s veto of appropriations to reduce the waiting lists for HCBS services.

Rik Shannon provided information on redesign funding. The biggest concern is the Governors’ veto of $13 million set aside to address the needs of 45 counties in financial crisis, primarily due to their unpaid Medicaid bills. The basis for the Governor’s decision was that counties can be expected to incur savings in service costs due to expanded Medicaid, as more individuals become eligible for mental health services previously funded with property tax revenues. Rik quoted counties as saying that the Governor has over-estimated the positive impact of Medicaid expansion on local revenues. If counties cannot provide the non-federal payment due on Medicaid expenditures for their residents, and the state requires that payment, those counties will be faced with the choice to cut services or start waiting lists. Not all counties are affected, but this is a critical issue for some. An additional issue is the potential impact on urban, service-rich counties of the end of legal settlement, as residents