



*Personal Care Attendant Quality
Home Care Workforce Council
600 Washington Street, 7th Floor
Boston, MA 02111*

DEVAL L. PATRICK
Governor

Tel.: 617-210-5715
www.mass.gov/pca

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
Lieutenant Governor

JUDYANN BIGBY, M.D.
Secretary

*Personal Care Attendant Quality Home Care Workforce Council
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108*

Council Meeting

Minutes August 9, 2011 2:00 P.M. 21st floor, 1 Ashburton Place

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE	Stan Eichner, Tony Williams, Paul Spooner, Joe Bellil and Denise Harvey
COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE	Jennifer James Price, Liz Casey, Joe Tringali
STAFF ATTENDING	Jack Boesen, Michelle Byrd
CHAIR	Stan Eichner
NOTE TAKER	Michelle Byrd
AGENDA SETTING	No issues were added to previously-issued agenda

Stan Eichner called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m.

1. Council organizational matters

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Joe Bellil made a motion to approve both the general and executive session minutes from June. Denise Harvey seconded the motion and council members unanimously approved the motion.

Council Appointments

Jack Boesen informed the council that council member Jennifer James Price is on parental leave and that Rebekah Lashman of Commonwealth Corporation will be her interim replacement on the Council. The vacancy created when Larry Braman resigned from the Council in 2009 remains vacant. Joe Bellil made a motion that the Council send a letter to the Attorney General's office as well as the Massachusetts Council on Aging, asking them to put through nominations as soon as possible. Paul Spooner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with Stan Eichner abstaining from the vote.

National Participant Network (NPN)

Council members reviewed NPN materials and Rebecca Shuman joined the council meeting by phone, providing the council with an overview of the organization. The NPN mission is to expand

and strengthen the role participants have in consumer-directed services. The network is linked to the National Resource Center on Participant-Directed Services. The NPN is currently working on a Report Card Action project that will be used to judge participant-directed programs.

Jack asked Rebecca about the role of state delegates to the NPN. Rebecca informed the council that the network consists of three delegates from each state. Currently, there are delegates missing from 13 states and she will inform council members on the status and names of the current delegates from Massachusetts. Tony Williams asked how many current members the NPN has. Rebecca replied there are 300 members. Stan wanted to know if the NPN accepts individual or organization memberships. Rebecca indicated that NPN membership is open to individuals, however the National Resource Center accommodates organizational memberships.

Stan thanked Rebecca for her presentation. After the phone call, council members discussed NPN membership. Paul Spooner questioned whether the services promoted by NPN are similar to consumer directed PCA services. Joe Bellil wanted to know the names of the delegates representing Massachusetts. Jack will investigate further and provide an update at the October meeting.

Before moving on the next agenda item, Stan announced that Christine Griffin has been appointed the new Assistant Secretary for Disability Policies and Programs, effective August 29, 2011. In this position, she will serve as chair of the Council.

Open Meeting Law – Remote Access regulations

Council members reviewed the proposed regulations. The council will support testimony addressing ADA issues including the unique challenges posed by physical disabilities and geography in complying with the current law especially pertaining to the rule requiring physically present quorums. Paul Spooner made a motion to submit written testimony for the September 6th public hearing. Denise Harvey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

2. PCA Recruitment & Training

Update on the PCA referral directory

Jack Boesen reported on the outreach and training provided to Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in July. Spaulding may sign a Memorandum of Understanding for organizational membership.

MRC/SILC Conference workshop

Jack Boesen's presentation at the workshop outlined the Council's current outreach activities to consumers. Liz Casey covered collective bargaining with the union and Elenore Parker reviewed expanded features of the Council's Directory. Jack reported that participants provided positive feedback on the workshop content.

2011 Paul Kahn Awards for PCA Service

Jack reported that over 40 nominations have been received and that the committee has selected five tentative awardees. Currently, these nominees are being vetted. He announced that the date for the ceremony will be September 15th and that Senator Pat Jehlen and Representative Kay Khan will co-host the event. Announcements have been posted on the Council's website as well as other affiliated sites. Paul Spooner asked that an electronic version be sent to Council members to use for additional outreach.

PHCAST grant

The curriculum for the pilot course was finalized. Twenty students are currently enrolled in the first class, seven of whom currently work as PCAs.

3. PCA program developments

Timely payment initiative

Lois Aldrich reported to the Council that the Attorney General's office has contacted her with fifty cases regarding complaints of late payments to PCAs. The key issues seem to concern the timeframe surrounding submission of timesheets as well as availability of approved units. Prior to her meetings with both the Fiscal Intermediaries and Personal Care Management agencies to address these issues, Lois asked the council for their input.

Paul Spooner expressed his belief that consumers should be held accountable for non-payment of wages as any other employer would be. He also argued that not enough training is available to consumers and their surrogates surrounding issues of employer/employee obligations and suggested providing more intensive skills training and materials.

Several Council members expressed their position that consumer/employers be held accountable as any other employer in the Commonwealth. Consumer/employers not in compliance with the law and should be prosecuted for non-payment of wages.

4. Labor matters

Implementing labor contract

Stan Eichner informed the Council that he is waiting for a signed contract from the Union. A separate authorization from the legislature will be required to release the training funds to 1199SEIU.

Labor Management Committee

Jack Boesen provided council members with the proposed agenda items for the next meeting for their review (see below).

Option 2 consumers

Jack Boesen discussed the current union security issues pertaining to PCAs employed by Option 2 consumers. 1199SEIU reports that union dues are not being collected from these employees. Jack is preparing a letter to be sent to Option 2 consumers about their obligation to submit union dues to the union on behalf of their workers.

5. Council Budget matters

FY12 Council budget

Council members reviewed the proposed budget. Joe Bellil made a motion for the council to accept the current budget. Paul Spooner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with Stan Eichner abstaining (see below).

With no other general meeting agenda items open for discussion, Stan Eichner asked the council to move to Executive Session. The motion passed after the following roll-call vote:

Paul Spooner – aye
Joe Bellil - aye
Denise Harvey – aye
Tony Williams - aye
Stan Eichner - abstained

The general meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m. to executive session.

The council came out of executive session and the motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The general session adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Byrd

AGENDA FOR LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. \$1 million training money

-TUF presentation on needs assessment

-Scope of training courses

-Next steps on training

2. Schedule future meeting topics

-timely payment

-presentation on taft-hartley health insurance plan

-presentation on insurance options offered by Connector & MassHealth

FY12 Council Budget

4000-0050 PCA Workforce Council		FY12 Budget	FY12 Budget **Showing RWR contract
AA	Staff Compensation	158,634	158,634
BB	Employee Expenses- Travel	350	350
DD	Employee Fringe	3,155	3,155
EE	Administrative Expenses	1,775	1,775
HH	Consultant Services	0	0
JJ	Operational Services	2,593	2,593
UU	Information Technology Expenditures	1,200	64,180
	Total Expenses	167,707	230,687