

Maine Developmental Disabilities Council

November 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes



Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM

	Handouts	Highlights	Motions
Welcome, Introductions	Agenda	Abbott started the meeting with a brief review of the meeting rules. An ice breaker ZOOM poll was presented for a quick vote. The question was “Which would you prefer, a mullet or a mustache?” Mullet was the preferred option!	
Council Business		Roll Call took place and a quorum of 18 were present. 2 others joined later in the meeting for a total of 20 members present.	
Meeting Minutes	07/09/25 Meeting Minutes Draft & 09/10/25 Meeting Minutes draft	Both meeting minutes were reviewed by Council Members. Jennifer M. brought up that that she was Parent of an Adult and she is a Parent of a child/children. She asked for a friendly amendment to correct the list. Jon M. approved the amendment.	A motion to accept 07/09 & 09/10 meeting minutes was made by Jon M. 2 nd by Marc R. Roll call 16 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain. Motion passed to accept meeting minutes for July and September.
Nominations Committee Report		Jon M., chair, gave the report. Members Jon McGovern - Chair Marc Roix Jen Marks Maryann Preble Membership Flyer Posted on Facebook and Instagram October 3, 2025, 1164 views October 14, 2025, 1898 views	

		<p>Hand out at September 9th Council Meeting We received 4 applications. Fiscal Year 2026 Membership Audit results Citizen Membership 1 vacancy by resignation 1 vacancy by completed terms 1 vacancy due to ineligibility 2 vacancies due to lack of attendance for 1 year Total: 5 Vacancies 3 seats for a Parent of child (under 18) with a Developmental Disability OR Parent, Guardian, or immediate relative of adult with DD who cannot advocate for themselves 2 seats for an Individual with a Developmental Disability or Parent of child (under 18) with a Developmental Disability OR Parent, Guardian, or immediate relative of adult with DD who cannot advocate for themselves. Agencies and Organizations Total: 1 Vacancy 1 vacancy due to retirement for seat filled by The Older Americans Act of 1965 (Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Aging and Disability Services) Commissioner appointment needed Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organizations No vacancies unless individuals choose to name a replacement Both seats need to be appointed by the Governor. November 5th, 2025, Meeting The committee reviewed the 4 applications received and will begin interviewing those that can fill the seats currently available.</p>	
Executive Committee Meeting minutes	Minutes from October meeting	No discussion	
Finance Committee Report	Budget versus actual and balance sheet through 09/30/2025	Treasurer Regina B. gave the Finance report: The Balance Sheet through 09/30/2025 and the Budget Tracking through 09/30/2025 were included in the reminder email sent out on 11/05/2025. The pages have a dollar sign in the upper right corner.	

		<p>I would like to point out that additional revenue was collected throughout Fiscal Year 2025. Including the Maine Parent Federation sublease and two grants from DHHS to provide funding for special projects.</p> <p>Operational costs were lower than expected due to expenses like Staff Travel coming in way under the budgeted amount compensating for additional payments in other areas including taxes for Paid Family Medical Leave required by the State and the Office of Information Technology having a larger than expected increase for services on 07/01/2025.</p> <p>Overall, the Council has increased the Operating Reserve account by more than \$12,000 from administration of DHHS microgrants for DHHS by Rachel, Nancy's participation as a Subject Matter Expert with LEND and interest earned on new Money Market account and Certificate of Deposit.</p>	
Requests for Agenda Items for next meeting		<p>Jennifer M. would like a discussion about medical portal access for children over the age of 13. She finds it very difficult to check medical records at all facilities without having to go through a stack of paperwork.</p> <p>A refresher on where the Paid Parent Caregivers that was signed into law in November 2024, that has not been able to set up a payment system.</p> <p>Abbott suggested a viewing of the video made about a ay in the life of a person with autism.</p>	
State Plan Areas of Emphasis Priorities		<p>Rachel began her presentation on the priorities for areas of emphasis that were voted on at the September meeting.</p>	
DHHS presentation about DOJ Settlement process		<p>Kristen McAuley, Karen Sax McLoughlin, and Dean Bugaj from DHHS gave a presentation of the process now being worked on outlined in the agreement with the DOJ. Council members had the opportunity to ask questions and get deeper answers to what the timeline of action will be. The following link was provided: The Children's Behavioral Health Settlement Agreement Department of Health and Human Services</p>	
Break		<p>The Council had a short break 10 minute break</p>	
Priorities for Areas of Emphasis for State Plan 27-32		<p>Rachel asked for any questions and concerns for priorities. Kris A. wanted to make sure services were included.</p>	<p>Jon M. made a motion to give permission to staff to write up the areas of emphasis report.</p>



			Discussion included Kris A's comment. Maryann P. 2 nd the motion. Kile P did rollcall. 20 Yes, 0 No, 0 abstain Motion passed.
Membership Committees Options for the Council		<p>Nancy gave a presentation on options the Membership Committee must do the work stated in the By Laws 2025. Staff does not have available admin time to do some of the contacts and scheduling that a Council member can do. She gave options of what to do with handling the support of membership; 1. Recommit to serving on the committee and have a chair to manage the committee activities. 2 Change By Laws and follow the basic points needed. 3. Eliminate the Membership Committee and disperse the support to the Executive Com. The Council agreed that the Membership Committee could meet immediately following the Council Meeting, Jen M. agreed to be the chair and schedule regular meetings.</p> <p>Kris A. stated that she was not clear on how committees work.</p>	
Executive Director's Report		<p>Federal Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shut Down Continues• FFY25 funds• FFY26 doesn't exist• Operating Reserve Account• Lack of clarity of our reports• Threat: If reports or federal staffing is interrupted – could funding be held?• SNAP (food stamps)• Potential cuts• Education• Partisanship <p>New focus to Keep Problems Visible to keep the I/DD community in the front of the public as laws and regulations are being made going forward.</p>	



		She told the Council about the Children with Special Healthcare Needs project she is working on.	
Public Comment		None	
	Meeting Evaluation	6 responses using Google form.	
Adjourn			The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM

Attendance: Abbott Philson, Kile Pelletier, Jon McGovern, Stacy Smart, Shaun Nixon, Stacy Atter, Jessica Creedon, Andrea Dole, Maryann Preble, Alan Cobo-Lewis, Barrett Littlefield for DRM, Monique Stairs, Regina Bowie, Marc Riox, Jennifer Marks, Maria Cameron, Stacey LaFlamme, Kristine Adams

Members absent: Cheryl Hathaway, Courtney Schadtl, Stephanie Vinson, Katelyn Johansen

Staff: Nancy Cronin, Rachel Dyer, Brenda Charneski, Toni Wall

Quorum present? Yes (18 present)

Public: None

Guests: Stephanie Pelletier, Susan Farwell

Next meeting date and time: February 11, 2025, on ZOOM 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM



	YES		Attend	Meeting minutes from: 07.10.2025	Meeting minutes from: 09.10.2025	Areas of Emphasis Report		
	NO							
	Abstain							
01	VACANT	OADS (DHHS)						
02	Leigh Lardieri	DOE						
03	Shaun Nixon	DOL						
04	Jon McGovern	self advocate						
05	Stacy Smart	self advocate						
06	Stacy Atter	self advocate						
07	Kile Pelletier	self advocate						
08	Jessica Creedon	Parent of Child						
09	Andrea Dole	Parent of Child						
10	Jennifer Marks	Parent of Child						
11	Tracey Webb	Parent of Child						
12	Courtney Schattle	Parent of Child	X					
13	Stephanie Vinson	Parent of Child	X					
14	Kaitlyn Johanson	self advocate	X					
15	Maryann Preble	self advocate						
16	Alan Cobo-Lewis	UMO CCIDS						
17	Staci Converse	DRM	Barrett					
18								
19	Maria Cameron	NGA VOA NNE						
20	Monique Stairs	NGA SUFU						
21	Regina Bowie	self advocate						



22	Nicole Achey	Parent of Child	X					
23	Abbott Philson	self advocate						
24								
25	VACANT	IDEA						
26	Stacy LaFlamme	OCFS (DHHS)						
27	Cheryl Hathaway	CSHN (DHHS)	X					
28	Marc Riox	self advocate						
29	Kristine Adams	Parent of Adult						

Current 26

16 needed for
Quorum

20	20	20	20
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