**Virginia Board for People with Disabilities**

**Policy, Research and Evaluation Meeting Minutes**

***June 13, 2018***

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**:

Summer Sage (Chair)

Teri Morgan

Melissa Gibson

Phillip Caldwell

Jean Bender

Donna Gilles

John Eisenberg

Maya Simmons

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Angela Yong-West

Felicia Hamilton

Angela Sadsad

**VBPD STAFF PRESENT**:

John Cimino

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Chair, Ms. Summer Sage, called the meeting to order at 9:15.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Chair called the committee’s attention to the Minutes from the March 2018 meeting. There was no discussion. Phil Caldwell made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes. Melissa Gibson **SECONDED** that motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:** The Chair summarized the Executive Committee discussions and the Committee discussed the new federal guidance on Council’s obligation and liquidation requirements as well as grant review process. There was discussion of how the Administration on Community Living’s new interpretation of Councils’ obligation and liquidation requirements would affect the work of the Board, and the steps that may be necessary to come into full compliance with the new interpretation.

**BOARD POLICY UPDATE:** Mr.John Cimino, Deputy Director, provided a brief update on recent policy developments, and staff work, including formal public comments made during this state plan period, and the outcomes of those comments. The Board has made twelve formal public comments since October 1, 2016. Recommendations in two of these comments have been implemented. Steps have been taken towards implementation of recommendations in two others. The recommendations in four of them were not implemented. And it is too soon to determine whether the recommendations in four of these comments will be implemented or not.

**ASSESSMENT UPDATE/STRUCTURE:** Mr. Cimino updated the Committee on the dissemination of the Housing and Transportation Assessments and discussed and received feedback on the structure of the Assessments that will be completed in 2019: Community Supports; Institutional Supports; and Early Intervention. Discussion of the Housing and Transportation Assessments was limited, because John Cimino will present on these to the full board this afternoon. The structure, content, and recommendations from the relevant chapters of the 2014 Disability Assessment were reviewed, and possible changes from these chapters to the 2019 Assessments were discussed. Mr. John Eisenberg noted that early intervention may be a priority within the Northam Administration. Ms. Donna Gilles noted that there may be insufficient screening for autism; and Ms. Melissa Gibson noted that the disAbility Law Center of Virginia dLCV may be looking into access to EPSDT services for children with autism. Ms. Sage suggested that there is an ongoing issue with the implementation of best practices in various settings and that this might be an issue addressed in some way in the Institutional Supports Assessment. There was a lengthy discussion about the Community Living Assessment, what it should cover, and how it should be structured. Mr. Cimino noted the breadth of topics covered in the Community Living chapter of the 2014 Assessment, and noted that if the chapter is altered consistent with earlier discussions much of the information previously covered may not be addressed in any of the assessments. There was some discussion about whether the chapter ought to address minimum standards for what services and supports should be available in every community, or whether the Assessment should determine benchmarks for community access.

**COMMITTEE FEEDBACK/FUTURE MEETINGS:** The committee discussed future meeting content and possible speakers for the next Board Meeting in September. Mr. Eisenberg suggested Kathy Glazer may be a good person to reach out to for information about early intervention and possibly to speak to the committee.

**ADJOURN:** The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:15