

Disabilities Network of Eastern CT
19 Ohio Ave.
Norwich, CT 06360

Nov 14, 2023
5:30 PM - 7:00PM
Virtual meeting via Zoom

Minutes

On screen:

E. Petrik, Vice President
S. Baecker, Secretary
R. Toper, Board member
S. Heddle, Exec Director
B. Varas, DNEC Staff
E. McBride, Prospective Board member

Absent: K. Pellerin, President

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by E. Petrik.

II. Public Comment:

None

III. Beth Varas provided an update on her work researching and applying for grants as well as her new role as the DNEC's Consumer Services Advocate. As part of the \$30,000 grant funding received in September from the Lourde's Foundation to support consumers who need home modifications, Beth is creating a DNEC a flier to distribute to area social service agencies promoting the *Welcoming Home* program.

IV. Approval of minutes:

On a motion made by S. Baecker and seconded by R. Topper the minutes of the Sept 12, 2023 meeting were approved. Approval of the minutes of the Oct 10, 2023 meeting is delayed until the January 9, 2024 meeting.

V. Proposed 2024 budget (Oct 1, 2023 - Sept 30, 2024)

On a motion made by S. Baecker and seconded by R. Toper, the proposed FY 2024 budget as presented by our accountant Greg DeFrank at the Oct 10 meeting was approved.

VI. Executive Director Report: Highlights

- A. Amy resigned her staff position for medical reasons.
- B. Sharon now plans to post job openings for two full time staff positions Jan/Feb 2024
- C. Staff attended Ct Assoc of the Deaf annual conference/ networking event at the New London Library/presentation with Big Brothers Big Sisters/ conference on supported decision-making.
- D. Sharon sent out 120 appeal letters.
- E. Sharon invested \$75,000 in a 13-month CD at Bank of America. Another 7-month \$50,000 CD is pending.
- F. The new contract (for FY 2024) with state Dept of Aging & Disabilities is pending.
- G. Sharon has an adequate supply of gift cards to assist consumers in financial need during the winter.
- H. Met with K. Pellerin to discuss my BOD performance review.
- I. The Corporate Resolution has been updated.
- J. Next Meeting is Jan 9,2024.

Sharon's report was included with material sent in prep for the meeting.

VII. President's Report: None

VIII: New Business: None

IX: Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM

S. Baecker - Secretary_____ **Date**_____