

**Maine Developmental Disabilities Council**  
November 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Handouts</b>	<b>Highlights</b>	<b>Motions</b>
Welcome, Introductions and Hot Topics		Abbott opened the meeting with a welcome and asked everyone to say their name, position, and Hot Topics. Hot Topics include: meeting more as a council, social security reform, deficits in staffing, Healthcare providers not offering preventive care – difficult to get appointments for checkups, Education in Maine for children with special needs, rollout by the State of Evergreen program and how it will be the foundation of the lifespan waiver.	
Review of 07/12/23 meeting minutes	09/13/23 Meeting Minutes	Minutes were reviewed. Roll Call vote to accept the minutes as written.	Maryann P. made motion to accept, Jon McGovern. 2 <sup>nd</sup> . No discussion, minutes excepted with 17 yay votes and 1 abstain.
Presentation		Taylor presented the National Digital Equity Center Equity program using a PowerPoint to explain what is provided to individuals who need assistance to obtain and use technology.	
Presentation		Carrie Woodcock, Executive Director of Maine Parent Federation and Cathy Dionne, Executive Director of Autism Society of Maine presented the Empower the Learner program. They included a review of a digital book completed by Carrie's daughter which contains likes, dislikes and tips on how she handles information in an education setting. Training for providers to bring Empower the Learner into all schools is taking place in FY 24.	
Executive Committee Report		The Executive Committee reported that they are working together through training on roles and responsibilities. The co-chairs also received training on how to run a council meeting.	

Membership Committee		No Membership Report – no applications received for vacant seats since last meeting. 1 seat is vacant for the Department of Labor which the Commissioner needs to appoint, 1 seat is vacant for a parent or family member of an adult with I/DD. All members have been contacted about Conflict of Interest Forms, still missing several.	
Council Business		A survey was sent out about the format of Council Meetings, preferences for meetings, assistance needed, and information distribution. Everyone is encouraged to answer the questions to help with decisions for future Council Meetings as soon as possible.	
Break		10 minute break	
Presentation		Presentation by Betsy Hopkins, Lisa Mills and Craig Patterson from the Office of Aging and Disability Services about the Lifespan Waiver proposal.	
Public Comments		No members of the public were present at this time	
Adjourn			Abbott called for adjournment, Tracey W. made motion to accept, Jon McGovern. 2 <sup>nd</sup> . all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM

Attendance: Abbott Philson, Kile Pelletier, Tracey Webb, Maryann Preble, Maggie Hoffman, Craig Patterson, Leigh Lardieri, Andrea Dole, Anita Trevian, Cheryl Stallonis-Francis, Cheryl Hathaway, Jon McGovern, Maria LaBerara-Lamb, Monique Stairs, Nicole Achey, Staci Converse, Stacy Atter, Maria Cameron, Janet May (for Sue Russell), Stacey LaFlamme (for Mary Ann Harakall)

Members absent: Candace Johnson, Mariah Murdock, Stacy Smart, Courtney Schadtler, Roberta Lucas

Staff: Rachel Dyer, Brenda Charneski, Toni Wall, **Note:** Nancy Cronin is on sabbatical

Quorum present? Yes

Next meeting date and time:

February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024