



Council Executive Committee

Location: Conference Call
Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019
Time: 10:30 A.M. CDT/ 11:30 A.M. EDT

Present: Tecia Puckett-Pryor, Evan Espey, Ryan Durham, Lisa Johnson

Absent: Serina Gilbert

Staff: Wanda Willis, Lynette Porter, Ashley Edwards

1) **Call to Order**

After ascertaining there was a quorum, Tecia Puckett Pryor, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

2) **Consent Agenda: Approve today's Executive Committee Agenda and January 2019 Executive Committee Minutes**

Evan suggested an edit to the spacing for agenda item #3. Ashley corrected this.

Evan abstained from voting as he was not present. Lisa moved for approval; Ryan seconded. Approved.

3) **Review March 1 Council Meeting Agenda**

Wanda reviewed the agenda. The additions from last month's draft:

- Serina Gilbert has requested to resign from her role on the Council. She will attend the March 1 Council Meeting and receive an Appreciation of Service Award. She will serve until the Governor appoints a new member for her seat.
- Related to an upcoming Agenda item, Joseph Williams will attend the March 1 meeting and give some remarks.

4) **Grants Update**

Lynette shared that over the next month, the Council invites the five core projects that we have traditionally funded each year to submit an application to continue the project. Staff will review these and will present recommendations to the Executive Committee at the February 28 Executive Committee meeting.

5) **Update on New Staff Member**

Jolene Sharpe joined staff on January 22, 2019 as the Chief Public Information Officer. She will lead our communications efforts and help implement consistent messaging in all of our work. Jolene will be supervising Emma, who will focus on disability information (scanning media,



researching, creating and publishing newsletter, and tracking data). This in response to the increase in information demands we've had as a Council and to streamline our processes to make this system even more effective. She will join the Communications Committee meeting on March 1.

6) **Reorganizing Office Space**

Lynette shared that staff met with state General Services department to work through how to maximize the use of our office space that meets the new needs of our staffing. They will come back to us with a plan for how to do this.

7) **Meeting with Governor's Staff**

Last week, Wanda met with Joseph Williams. He has a personal connection to the disability community. He will attend Disability Day on the Hill and the March Council Meeting.

8) **State Budget Update**

The Council staff will present our budget to the Tennessee House of Representatives Finance, Ways and Means Committee on March 11, 2019. We will explain our budget to them and answer questions they might have. Wanda reminded Executive Committee that we have not asked for an increase in funding, but have asked for two additional staff positions within the funding we already have. We won't know if this is approved until the Governor presents his budget to the General Assembly on March 4.

We also expect to present to the Tennessee House of Representatives Health Committee.

We will not present to any of the Tennessee Senate committees.

9) **Motion to Adjourn**

At 10:57 a.m. Evan moved for adjournment. Ryan seconded. Approved.

Next meeting: Friday, February 28, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. Central/4:00 p.m. Eastern.

Next call: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. Central/12:00 p.m. Eastern

Prepared by: Ashley Edwards, Executive Assistant

Approved by: Wanda Willis, Executive Director