**Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee**

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**Linda Junod,** Chairperson **Eileen Brandt,** Vice-Chairperson

**Theresa Beard,** Secretary **Lori Huntington,** Treasurer

MEETING MINUTES

October 8, 2015

**Members Present:**

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| Stacy Carey  Allen Park | Aundra Bomar  Detroit | JoAnn Goree  Detroit | Linda Junod  Gibraltar |
| Eileen Brandt  Livonia | Maria Warmuth  Northville | Janice Slattery  Plymouth/Canton | Barb Wilson  Plymouth/Canton |
| Theresa Beard  Romulus | Kathy Gray  Woodhaven/Brownstown | Jennifer Padgett  Woodhaven/Brownstown |  |

**Members Excused:** Stephanie Ellis-Garden City, Dawn Howard-Grosse Ile, Marlene Werth-Huron

Darleen Boland-Wayne/Westland

**\*\*NOTE:**  The following members attempted to conference call but system was down due to technical difficulties: Tish Hasting-Grosse Pointe, Darlene Heard-Thomas-Romulus, Kimberly Schwebes-Trenton, Ann Fisher-Achieve Charter and Lori Huntington-Westwood

**Guests Present:** Jennifer Overend, Mary & Paul Sokol, Sheryl Boller, Regina Bazan, Janine Adkins,

Christina Camilli-Whisenhunt

**RESA Representatives:** Karen Howey, Dr. Randy Liepa, Larry Stemple

1. **Call to Order**

Linda Junod called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum of members was present.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

A copy of the meeting agenda was emailed and posted to the website to members in advance and made available at the meeting. A motion was made by Maria Warmuth and seconded by Janice Slattery to accept the agenda. Motion was supported by majority of members present. No objections were made.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

A copy of the September 10, 2015 minutes was mailed and posted to the website to members in advance and made available at the meeting. A motion was made by Barb Wilson and seconded by Janice Slattery to accept the minutes as noted. Motion supported by majority present. No objections were made.

1. **Presentation – Planned Financial Services –** Linda Junod welcomed DeAnna M. Olsen, Karen Markstrom May and Mark Wineski to present on Special Needs Trusts. Planned Financial Services has two of the first certified ChSNC (Chartered Special Needs Consultant) representatives in the state of Michigan. DeAnna Olsen and Mark Wineski explained that special needs trusts may be necessary for persons with disabilities to provide supplemental resources without affecting benefits i.e. SSDI/Medicare. They explained reasons to create a special needs trust and gave examples of what situations that a special needs trust maybe necessary to protect benefits. They explained the different types of special needs trusts and which ones to use based on personal circumstances. Special need trusts can be funded in various ways. For those that already have special needs trusts it was explained that you should have them reviewed by your financial and legal representatives at least every 2 – 3 years. The Letter of Intent was discussed and how it can be a valuable document for family and persons caring for your loved one when you are gone or unable to care for them. It lays out all their important information and provides input and instructions for your loved one’s wants, needs and dreams. This is a working document that should be updated regularly. Planned Financial Services has a template that is given to customers. Other templates of a letter of intent can be found online. The presenters also answered questions from those present. WCPAC members were given folders with the presentation and handout materials.

1. **Chairperson Report** – Linda Junod announced that Janice Slattery and Kathy Gray have agreed to be on the Holiday Party subcommittee. More members are needed to make this event successful. Please contact any member of the executive board if you are interested in volunteering for this committee. Linda also went over the handouts for upcoming events. October 12, Michigan Family Voices presents Parent and Educator Partnerships-Building Collaborative Communication Skills Together @ Jerry L. White Center in Detroit, MI Saturday, October 17, Macomb PAC Special Education Fair @ Macomb ISD, October 29, Jo Brighton Agency Fair at Jo Brighton Center, Wyandotte, MI (WCPAC is participating) and Michigan Alliance for Families Lunchtime Learning Webinar schedule for October – December 2015.
2. **Vice-Chairperson Report-** Eileen Brandt asked that if any new members needed WCPAC member packets to please see her at end of meeting to be given one.
3. **Secretary/Treasurer Report** – Theresa Beard gave the treasury report for Lori Huntington. The current balance is $2851.06 She also asked that all members please make sure that they sign in on the sign in sheets. The sign in sheets are used to verify attendance and mileage reports at the end of the school year. Any new members that would like business cards may fill out a form from Larry or Theresa to request them. When we have received several requests an order will be placed. Your business card can include your name and contact info that you prefer.
4. **RESA Reports** – Karen Howey reported that she and Supt. Randy Liepa have worked on a response to Lt. Governor Calley’s report and plan that he presented to the State Board of Education on Special Education in Michigan. When their statement is finalized they will share it with the WCPAC. They feel there is common ground and Wayne RESA’s plan is to work with the state Superintendent and Governor on changes.

Wayne RESA is reviewing the County Plan for Delivery of Special Education Services and would like to meet at 5:30pm on November 12 with the WCPAC County Plan subcommittee to participate.

1. **Member Reports** –Janice Slattery will be participating in the Autism Alliance 5K Run and Art Fair on Belle Isle in Detroit, Michigan on Saturday, October 10 from 10am – 3pm and invited members to come out and support the Alliance. Arrangements will be made for a representative of Caroline’s Cart to come speak to the WCPAC. Jenn Padgett reported that her employer is recognizing Disability Awareness Month for Workers. They are encouraging businesses to hire people with disabilities.

1. **Public Comment -**Rosemary Riley-Mondro asked if 504 Coordinators should be identified on school websites. A guest had a question about her personal situation with her grandson. Wayne RESA and other parents will provide her with information to help with her situation.
2. **Adjournment** – A motion was made by Janice Slattery and seconded by Aundra Bomar to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Motion passed by majority present. No objections were made.

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**The next WCPAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 6:30pm at Wayne RESA in the auditorium.**

**Presentation: How to have a Successful IEP and Tips-Presented by Rosemary Riley-Mondro, former WCPAC member and Parent Advocate**