

**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY  
DISABILITY SERVICES BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING NOTES**

Date: October 3, 2023  
Location: Development Services Building, Room 107 A/B  
Recorder: Laura Halo, Prince William Area Agency on Aging

**BOARD MEMBER ATTENDING:**

Teresa Belcher, Gainesville District  
Joseph Diaz, Brentsville District  
Mike Bizik, Occoquan District  
Lillian Garland, Potomac District  
Bonnie Klakowicz, Woodbridge District  
Sarah Pitkin, Coles District

- I. Call To Order 7:01 Josh Lee, Deputy Director
- II. Pledge of Allegiance Josh Lee, Deputy Director
- III. Welcome & Introductions Josh Lee, Deputy Director
- IV. Citizen's Time – Present: Bonnie Fulford
  - a. Bonnie IEC – waiver reimbursement rates going up – CCC+Medicaid Waiver Consumer Directed; Bonnie will send link to Sarah and Josh for distribution
  - b. Bonnie IEC – invited members to PW Office of E&I
  - c. Bonnie IEC – PW Health District has ARPA money for non-profit community-based organizations for COVID programs to increase vaccination rates (education, event clinic)
- V. Review of Meeting Minutes
  - a. Minutes of 6.6.23 reviewed and approved
- VI. Guest Speaker, Joe Stainsby, PRTC/OmniRide presented suite of current services and upcoming improvements
  - a. Primary facility is in Woodbridge, western expansion - second facility in Manassas
  - b. Review of OmniRide Connect Program – serves as cab like service for demand/response trips
  - c. All vehicles are ADA compliant
  - d. All local services are free in tri-jurisdictional area; reviewed on annual budget cycle becoming a matter of policy
  - e. Commuter bus services from Stafford and Spotsylvania available, no local transit services in these jurisdictions
  - f. Review of Paratransit services, reservations required
  - g. Entered into Public-Private partnership with Yellow Cab for Quantico on-base routes which link into existing route services outside the base

- h. OmniRide is “right sizing” to demand to avoid closing routes entirely, fewer buses but adding microtransit services; microtransit services are likened to Uber or Lyft and do not require a CDL
  - i. Wheels to Wellness Program is 10 years old and is a \$150k/year line-item program in the budget which provides cab service to medical appointments; there are strict eligibility requirements
  - j. Spring 2024 – overhauling eastern services
    - a. Route naming convention will change; existing routes – new nomenclature
    - b. New transfer hubs to make services more interconnected
    - c. Omniride Access points/Paratransit access points being added; west side first
  - k. 2023 – new southern proposed routes (Spotsylvania into urban cores of Pentagon & DC) which will be fare transit
  - l. Fleet has turned over and there are generally more modernizations of wheelchair lifts
  - m. Outreach strategy to get word into community about services is largely through group presentations
- VII. Old Business Josh Lee, Deputy Director  
None
- VIII. New Business Josh Lee, Deputy Director  
None
- IX. Host Agency Updates Josh Lee, Deputy Director
- a. Personal Care Program – waitlist of 41 stemming from CK & TMT staffing shortages; costs are also increasing to provide services – getting nominal increase in DARS funding for PC services in next Fiscal Year
  - b. Personnel – currently ad for Rec Specialist, closes on 10/9
  - c. Woodbridge Senior Center 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
  - d. Friends of SC’s – PW Gives event raised \$3500
  - e. Yellow Cab point to point trips program stopping – terminated last week, using the additional transportation funding
  - f. All Staff Event – Heritage Hunt on 9/15 had a great turnout
  - g. Review of New Org Chart/Structure
  - h. Discussion on how to better get information/presentations out to public
    - a. Live stream DSB presentations being explored
- X. Member Time and Announcements
- a. Teresa Belcher – homeless encampment PIT Count scheduled for January 24, 2024 at both ends of the county. Teresa to forward the live sign-up information to Sarah and Josh for distribution to Board.
  - b. Joe Diaz – hiring for an Executive Director for Alliance of PWC, a faith based non-profit; go to website to search for position information
  - c. Joe Diaz – moved from Didlake to Melwood (upper Marlboro) and working on first public private partnership for affordable housing for people with disabilities
  - d. Bonnie Klakowicz – attended Route 1 ceremony and highlighted beautification project of Route 1 corridor (transportation tie in)

- e. Mike Bizik – mother passed 7/17 and because of a challenging experience, reminded Board of importance to ensure that paperwork, having affairs in order is important and location of documents should be shared with loved ones
- f. Lillian Garland – shared that she is the first black member of Daughters of the Nile group as part of Masonic organization
- g. Sarah Pitkin – Benedictine Sisters at Linton Hall redoing grounds to make more accessible
- h. Sarah Pitkin – Rollins Ford Park opening this weekend, accessible
- i. Joe Diaz - PW Chamber golf outing 10/18
- j. Sarah Pitkin – ARC circle of support conference; virtual Nov 4, 10:00 – 12:00; hopefully live next year
  - a. Trick or Treat & Halloween Dance
  - b. Turkey Trot or Santa Run
  - c. Holiday Party tentatively Hillendale

XI. Adjournment 8:34

Josh Lee, Deputy Director