

# Employment First Maine Coalition

**MEETING MINUTES**

**DRAFT VERSION**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>November 8, 2013</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>10am-noon</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>DHHS, 41 Anthony Avenue, Augusta</b>
<b>Facilitator</b>	<b>Karen Fraser</b>

**Present**

<b>Name/Affiliation</b>	<b>Name/Affiliation</b>
Lisa Sturtevant, DHHS	Gail Fanjoy, KFI
Debbie Gilmer, APSE/Syntiro	Karen Fraser, BRS/DOL
Rick Langley, DRC	Kim Moody, DRC
Christine McKenzie, MMC	Janet May, CCIDS
Jeanie Coltart, CDE	Kathy Despres, Cares, Inc./SILC
Pete Phair, NAMI	Leticia Huttman, DHHS
John Allen, Iris Network	Beth _____, Career Opportunities/Mobius
Lisa Soucie, High Hopes Clubhouse	Janine Collins, VR SRC
Linda Larue-Keniston, MACSP	Ann Long, Maine Parent Federation
Richard Brown, Charlotte White Center	Betsy Hopkins, DVR
Tyler Ingalls, SUFU	Mel Clarrage, CDE
Brad Strause, Alpha One	Simmone Maline, CCSM
Avery Olmstead	

**Discussion and Issues**

<b>Topic 1. Membership update</b>
After the Coalition reviewed the October meeting minutes and voted

unanimously to accept them, Rick reported on the roster of members (18 spots filled of 21 designated in statute) and it was agreed the official membership roster when finalized would be posted on the Employment First Maine website.

## **Topic 2. Bylaws review**

After discussion about whether or not to proceed or to hold off on elections and bylaws review, the bylaws were considered with amendments by the Coalition and accepted, with one opposing vote and no abstentions. It was noted that while the bylaw language is not explicit on this, for purposes of elections of chairs, it was the intention of the Coalition that work group chairs be members of the Coalition, while co-chairs and work group members need not be Coalition members.

## **Topic 3. Elections of New Members/Officers/Work Group chairs**

Kim presented the slate of candidates developed by the nominating committee, and invited nominations from the floor for elected positions.

A motion was made to first elect as Coalition members: Kim Moody, Karen Fraser, Jeanie Coltart, Chris Robinson, Christine McKenzie and Avery Olmstead. This slate was unanimously approved.

A motion was made to place in nomination the slate of officers: Betsy as Coalition chair, Brad as co-chair, Rick as secretary. This motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

A motion was made to place in nomination the slate of invited members and work group chairs, with Gail as certified rehabilitation provider, Bari-Sue McKenzie and John Allen as parents of a person with a disability, and as Work Group chairs: Karen as Communication group chair, Rachel as Data group chair, Kim as Legislation/Policy group chair, Debbie as Capacity Building group chair, Jan as Transition group chair, and Lisa as Business/Employer group chair. This motion was seconded and accepted unanimously.

## **Topic 4. Work Group discussion**

It was agreed that Debbie would lead a discussion on work group scope, focus and planning of next steps at the next Coalition meeting. Also, it was agreed that work groups would begin to schedule meetings as agreed either for 9am – 11am on the day of the December meeting, or on another day if agreed. People interested in joining a work group should contact Rick or the group chair. Contact information for work group chairs will be posted on the Employment First Maine website.

**Topic 5. Future Meetings and Video Conferencing Options**

It was agreed that the Coalition would meet at 41 Anthony Avenue in December, but in January would relocate to the Frances Perkins Conference Room at DOL in Augusta where we could access the video conferencing device. We'll have more information prior to the January meeting.

**Topic 6. ODEP Vision Quest Project**

Gail reported on the availability of ODEP sponsored technical assistance for which state EF projects can apply. The Coalition considered the 5 categories of potential consulting and technical assistance support available to states participating in the community of practice: 1. Aligning policy and support to effectuate integrated employment, 2. Infusing integrated employment into Medicaid waivers in state plan options, 3. Prioritizing employment people with mental health disabilities, 4. Developing sustainable wrap-around services and supports for people with significant disabilities, and 5. Promoting economic advancement. A motion was put forward that EFM should seek consultation/technical assistance on policy issues related to areas 1, 4, or 5. This is time sensitive and a quick turn-around is required. Gail will proceed with this and report back to the Coalition.

**Next Meeting**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	December 13, 2013
<b>Time</b>	11am – 1pm
<b>Location</b>	DHHS 41 Anthony Avenue, Augusta