

Alabama Interagency Autism Coordinating Council
Thursday, April 16, 2009
Alabama State House
Joint Briefing Room, 8th Floor

The Alabama Interagency Autism Coordinating Council met on Thursday, April 16, 2009 in the Joint Briefing Room on the 8th floor of the Alabama State House. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Representative Cam Ward. Representative Ward thanked everyone in attendance for the meeting.

The Autism Council members in attendance are as follows: Representative Cam Ward, Senator Trip Pittman, Sue Berry, Dr. Fred Biasini, Jennifer Muller, Phillip Young, Jerimie W. Goike, Dr. Bama Hager, Evan Lang Krchak, Jim Mercer, and Kathy Welch.

Representative Ward stated that the two items of most importance on this 2nd Annual Autism Day is House Bill 41 and House Bill 615. House Bill 41 has been delivered to the Governor and House Bill 615 has passed the House and a Senate Committee. A press conference/get together rally will be held at 12:15 on the State House steps with the Lt. Governor along with several other members of the Alabama Legislature.

There was a motion made by Dr. Biasini to establish an Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee. A second was made by Senator Pittman. Alice Widgeon stated anyone wanting to participate on this committee should sign the sheet that was being passed around. They need to have a preliminary report by the next meeting, and they should send out a draft prior to the meeting for everyone to look over.

Representative Ward stated that he will be going to Washington on April 26th to meet with 12 United States Senators and Congressmen regarding pushing out money from the Federal level to put more money in service oriented policy.

It was discussed that the announcement for the Autism Coordinator position has been expanded to include services with proof of Autism experience. It has also expanded further than Alabama.

Kathy Welch announced that the Easter Seals Central Alabama will be holding its ribbon cutting on their new Autism Spectrum Disorders Diagnostic Center on April 22nd at their location at 2125 E. South Boulevard in Montgomery. It will have an extensive treatment program and will be a great benefit for this area.

It was stated there are many people in Montgomery for this 2nd Annual Autism Day and it would be a wonderful day for Autism. The meeting was adjourned.

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