

**Iowa Autism Council**  
**Monday, November 16, 2009**  
**Facilitator: Toni Merfeld**

**Present:**

Lana Michelson, Toni Merfeld, Katherine Byers, Joshua Cobb, Dennis Dykstra, Pam Alger (for Bill Gardam), Becky Harker, Charles Levine (for Kenda Jochimsen), Steven Muller, Jim Mumford, Pamela Parker, Grace Percival, Dr. Jeanne Prickett, Danielle Sharpe, Barbara Stineman, Dr. Charles Wadle, Patrick (Casey) Westhoff, Sonia Lewis

**Absent:** Dr. Ghada Hamdan-Allen, Sue Baker, Kenda Jochimsen, Bill Gardam, John Kohles, Keith Gatrost, Dr. Debra Waldron, Cathy Young

**Speakers:** None

**Welcome/Introduction:** Josh Cobbs

Josh got started on the Iowa Autism's recommendation to the governor and the legislators. The recommendation was outlined as follows:

1. Report Breakdown
2. Reading the report
3. Early Identification
4. Seamless/Coordination of Care
5. Financing of Care

Each sub-committees' recommendation(s) had an executive summary. The council went over each sub-committee's recommendation(s) and made wording changes and other edits as necessary. This was done so that the general public and the legislators would be able to read the recommendations and have an understanding of what the council is talking about. Dennis recommended that the document have a table of content for ease of finding items within the document.

The committee then went over how the letter to the governor should be worded and prioritize three to five items that the council would like to see implemented during the upcoming legislative session. Katie told the council of two grants that the council might want to consider (working in conjunction with other entities) in getting funding for the council which is currently funding through the Department of Education.

**Council Approval:** Josh Cobbs

The council will have to have a telephone conference call to look at revisions to the recommendations, pick the top three to five items that are most important right now, and approve the Report to Governor Culver. There are still revisions that need to be done to the report. Once all wording, editing, etc has been completed then Josh will ask Sonia to schedule the conference call.

**Wrap up:** Josh Cobbs

Josh asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

**Next Meeting:**  
January 13, 2010  
Stoney Creek Inn  
Johnston IA