

**ODR Stakeholder Council Meeting
December 20, 2018
Meeting Minutes
Office for Dispute Resolution
6340 Flank Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112**

Participants

Cindy Duch
Janice Estabrook
Betsy Gustafson
Jill Hrinda-Patten
Kevin Kane
Jim Salem
Gina Scala
Edward Titterton, Esquire
Julie Trbovich
Jane Williams, Esquire

ODR

Kerry V. Smith, Esquire, Director
Samantha Pudloski, Program Manager
Heather Doyle, Administrative and Technical Specialist

Minutes

The September 20, 2018 Stakeholder Council (SC) meeting minutes were adopted as written and will be published on the ODR website in both English and Spanish.

Welcome and Introductions

The SC welcomed two new members, Kevin Kane and Jim Salem. Kevin is the Assistant to the Executive Director for Student Services at the Delaware County Intermediate Unit and Jim has been one of ODR's mediators since 1987.

Mediation Update (Jim Salem)

Jim Salem provided some insight of his background as a mediator, including experiences and challenges he has faced throughout the years. Conversation amongst SC members included the mediation divide throughout the state of PA and ways to increase mediation awareness and usage.

Stakeholder Council Composition (Kerry Smith)

Survey results regarding SC composition were relayed to SC members. The SC voted to have two openings filled by parent advocacy organizations. SC members were asked to send any suggestions regarding additional openings to ODR.

ODR Updates (Kerry Smith)

In order to streamline decision outcomes, hearing officers will now be writing decisions using simplified decision categories.

The meeting concluded at 11:20am. The next quarterly meeting of the Stakeholder Council will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2019.