

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION
Developmental Disabilities Committee Meeting

LOCATION

Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference

Meeting Date
August 1, 2011
2:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Art Delaune
Kathy Fitzgerald, Chair
Kaleene Lamb
Ric Nelson, Chair
Lucy Odden
Sean O'Brien
Steve Williams

Staff:

Teresa Holt
Carrie Predeger

Guests:

Marcy Rein

Prepared by:

Paula DiPaolo, Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call

INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS OR GOOD NEWS

Kathy Fitzgerald announced that her daughter-in-law and grandbaby are up visiting from Texas.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ric Nelson added a discussion of the long-term care stakeholder group and the SDS stakeholder group under new business on the agenda.

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that she wants to add a report on intensive active treatment to the agenda.

Lucy Odden added a discussion on the face-to-face meeting.

Ric Nelson **MOVED** to approve the agenda as amended. The motion **PASSED**.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Lucy Odden **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2011 meeting. The motion was **APPROVED**.

CORRESPONDENCE

Kathy Fitzgerald reported that they received a letter from a TSA representative asking for feedback on screening people with disabilities.

REPORTS

Chair's Report/Executive Committee

Kathy Fitzgerald reported that they had two Executive Committee meetings since the last time the DD Committee met.

She stated that Eric Gebhart has asked that all committees begin their meetings by reviewing the Council mission to keep focus on what they

are doing.

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that a meeting has been scheduled between the Council, Disability Law Center, and the Center for Human Development regarding intensive active treatment.

Senior and Disability Services

In Missy Williams' absence, Teresa Holt provided the following statistics from the DD registry report:

- 882 people actively on the waiting list
- Average age is 18
- Majority of those are in the Anchorage/Southcentral region
- The score range is 0 to 106
- The mean score was 21

AADD

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that John Cannon was not available for this DD Committee meeting. She stated that AADD is having their face-to-face meeting later this fall.

Council

Teresa Holt reported that they put the Five-Year State Plan out for public comment. They only received 30 comments and the majority were regarding topics that had already been covered in the State Plan. Teresa stated that they will finish up with the plan by the 15th.

Teresa stated that the Executive Committee met face to face and developed the Trust budget recommendations. She stated that they include:

- \$350,000 Complex Behavior Collaborative – Hub
- \$150,000 Council operations
- \$100,000 Project SEARCH
- \$150,000 Deaf advocate
- \$150,000 employment initiative specifically for people with

- developmental disabilities
- \$100,000 for rural transition services through ATOP project.

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

Steve Williams stated that the finance committee meeting next week at the Trust is a big thing going on right now. He stated that in the first and second weeks of September they will hold the full board meeting and finalize all of the FY'13 budget recommendations.

Kathy Fitzgerald asked Steve Williams to talk to Nancy Burke regarding the loss of disability beds to senior beds at Marlow Manor and whether or not disability beds were going to be made available somewhere else. She would also like to know if Nancy thinks this is a trend they will continue to see in the future.

OLD BUSINESS

Five-Year Plan Update

In addition to the information Teresa Holt previously provided in her Council report, she stated that the final version of the State Plan will be forwarded to the Executive Committee for review. They will also be putting out a public version of the plan which will be in a much more user-friendly format.

Waiver Cost Study

Carrie Predeger stated that she put out a small survey to service providing agencies regarding their high dollar amount waivers. She received a reply from the larger organizations. Kathy Fitzgerald commented that those organizations that replied showed a justification for their high dollar waivers, be it a significant medical issue or a significant emotional or behavioral issue. She also noted that overall the number of people on these high dollar waivers was fairly low. Kathy felt this would be good information to be able to share with the Department and the commissioner, who has expressed some concerns over these higher dollar waivers.

Carrie Predeger is going to compile the information in a confidential

manor for those that need access to the information.

Intensive Active Treatment

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that the Council, Center for Human Development and Disability Law Center will be meeting to discuss the issue of denial for activities under intensive active treatment. She commented that a concern regarding discontinuation of IAT for people with developmental disabilities is that they no longer meet level of care with IAT, and then regress after IAT is removed but then meet level of care. Kathy felt that these are symptoms of what they will continue to see as people begin cracking down on budgets.

Long-Term Care Stakeholder Group and SDS Stakeholder Group

Ric Nelson reported that he met with Duane Mayes about the long-term care stakeholders group. Ric noted that there are two groups, the long-term care stakeholders group and the SDS stakeholder group. The long-term care group is now a planning committee comprised of program and organization directors to sit at the “big table” to help steer decisions on new regulations, etc.

Ric’s concern is that they don’t have an end user sitting on this stakeholder group. He stated that Duane Mayes told him that end users may not understand all the financial information and how funding works, and Duane also stated that he didn’t want to grow the committee too large because there are already 12 people on it. Duane also noted that Millie Ryan is sitting on the group as a representative of the Council.

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that the Council is about promoting self-determination, self-involvement and advocacy. A Council member, not staff should be able to participate in the group, and they will be advocating to have consumer representation on those committees.

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaws

Teresa Holt commented that the only change she could see was the areas that state that the Council will serve as a forum by which to benefit

regarding current and potential services to people with developmental disabilities or students in special ed may be discussed. She felt that they should also add children receiving early intervention.

Teresa also noted other small formatting discrepancies between the bylaws for the different committees and how they would be changed to be consistent.

Teresa stated that one area that Eric Gebhart wanted the committees to reflect their current practices is how public members become appointed to committees, either by approval of the chair of the Council or the chair of the committee. Kathy Fitzgerald suggested polling committee members between now and the next meeting.

Teresa Holt stated that another issue that is being questioned by Council members is the fact that the chair of the DD Committee is appointed by the Council but not through elections. People feel that it should be an election, not an appointment. She also noted that chairs for different committees have different lengths of term. The DD Committee is the only committee where the chair is elected for one year instead of two, but they have mistakenly been acting on two.

Teresa will e-mail the bylaws questions out to all committee members for their input.

Marcy Rein Presentation

Marcy Rein stated that she is finishing her master's degree in public health at UAA. She is working on her thesis practicum, and her focus is promoting community inclusion for people with developmental disabilities, primarily with family-focused recreation activities. She is focusing on Anchorage right now. She will be looking at the principals of universal design and cultural competence.

Marcy stated that she will be working with Millie Ryan and the Council now through October, and they are looking at how Marcy's thesis fits in with the Council's State Plan goal of health promotion and wellness activities. She stated they have discussed an ad hoc committee on health promotion and disabilities and trying to gather a fairly broad group of stakeholders. She will also be looking at how other states have

approached this area.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next DD Committee teleconference will take place on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

Due to budgetary restrictions, the DD Committee face-to-face meeting locations will be either Anchorage or Fairbanks. They will come up with a potential budget for the meeting and submit it to Millie Ryan for approval. The potential dates are September 14, 15, and 16.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.