

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

March 5, 2012  
2:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Kathy Fitzgerald, Chair  
Ric Nelson, Chair  
Art Delaune  
Kelly Donnelly  
Emily Ennis  
Kaleene Lamb  
Steve Lesko  
Sean O'Brien

Guests:

Bryan Knight  
Dayna McGuire  
Summer Wheeler

Staff:

Josie Boggs  
Teresa Holt  
Carrie Predeger

Prepared by:

Jeannette Rice, Peninsula Reporting

**Call to Order – 2:00 p.m.**  
**Roll Call**

**READING OF THE COUNCIL MISSION**

Bryan Knight read the Council's mission statement: Creating change that improves the lives of people with disabilities.

**INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS OR GOOD NEWS**

None were reported.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as written.

**APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Steve Lesko **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the February 6th, 2012 meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Teresa Holt stated that the Council has been asked to write a letter of support for CSSB 151, a bill that allows FASD to be a mitigating factor in sentencing, and Jasmine is planning to do that.

Teresa also stated that representatives have been receiving many pieces of correspondence about Senate Bill 74, the autism insurance bill.

**OLD BUSINESS**

***Discussion of HCBS Proposed Regulations***

Teresa Holt stated that she has been working on gathering the stakeholders' comments on the proposed regulations and now has 11 pages. Teresa will send out a copy by Friday to committee members and everyone who attended the drafting session. Teresa will send out a Doodle to schedule a meeting the last week of March to go over the comments and

changes.

Teresa noted that Jeff Jessee told her that he heard from the commissioner that SDS would like to hear a unified voice from organizations such as the Council, AADD, Hope, and AGENET. Teresa said Jeff mentioned possibly sponsoring legal help in drafting suggested regulations, but there are difficulties in writing a contract to represent everyone equally, so it may not happen. Kathy Fitzgerald suggested asking Steve Williams what the Trust is going to do about the regulations.

Emily Ennis added that Duane Mayes had asked her if she could get the most important concerns from AADD to him right away, today or tomorrow, because he is trying to do a comprehensive review this week. Kathy Fitzgerald replied that the DD Committee had not been asked for that, and that with all the work of preparing comments, people want to be assured that there will be dialogue about the comments.

Teresa Holt informed committee members that the technical assistance and guidance manual that is used to draft the regulations is available on the SDS website. Teresa printed it out because it's difficult to read online, so if anyone wants to see it, it is on Teresa's desk. Teresa printed the IDD waiver, too, and it is also pretty thick; the other waivers are also available online.

### Key Campaign/AADD Meeting

Kathy Fitzgerald remarked that she thought this was the greatest Key Campaign ever, with good advocacy and great support from the legislature.

Emily Ennis described the AADD meeting as two very full days, with the first spent mostly on the regulations, and the official meeting the second day having representatives and presentations from various agencies and providers. Rick Rios of the Career and Technical Education Health Care Academy came to talk to AADD about recruiting graduates from that program. Emily reported that the afternoon of the second day was spent with the commissioner and representatives from SDS and Jack Neilson of the Office of Rate Review, and there seems to be some confusion about the timeline on the new regulations.

Steve Lesko added that he agrees that it was one of the greatest Key Campaigns ever. Steve said that Hope is now planning to give the State examples of people who will be negatively affected by each regulation and challenge the State to explain if the regulation is being misinterpreted or misrepresented. Kathy Fitzgerald added that providers should take a partner approach in seeking better solutions to the issues driving the changes to the regulations.

### TSA

Teresa Holt reported that not a single person came to the TSA training thing, so it will have to be done on an individual basis.

### Legislative Updates

Autism insurance: Kathy Fitzgerald stated that 15 representatives have cross-sponsored Senate Bill 74, and urged committee members to continue to target legislators who haven't yet signed on. Kaleene Lamb commented that she has sent Saint Patrick's Day cards to the legislators she talked with, and Kathy added that Amory in Senator Ellis's office said that many legislators and staff are really excited about all the cards and thank-yous they've been receiving.

SESA: Teresa Holt stated that the SESA bill has had a hearing but hasn't moved yet.

Complex Behavior Collaborative: Teresa Holt stated that the last she heard on the Complex Behavior Collaborative is that Jeff Jessee and the Trust are working with Representative Joule to influence Representative Thomas to allow something into the budget.

### Peer Power

Josie Boggs reported that Peer Power had their first meeting on February 15<sup>th</sup>, and discussed the three focus areas that members selected: Employment First legislation; job clubs and mentor peer support; and job fairs. The next meeting will be within the next couple of weeks and they will focus on bylaws and voting for officers.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *Schedule meetings to discuss HCBS regulations*

Carrie will send out a Doodle.

### *Face-to Face Meeting Dates*

After a brief discussion, the committee decided to have the face-to-face meeting in late May. Teresa or Carrie will send out a Doodle to schedule it.

### *Date and Time of Next Meeting*

The next DD Committee teleconference is scheduled for Monday, April 2nd, 2012, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

## **Reports**

### *From the Chair*

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that the Governor's Council is partnering with Partners in Policymaking and the Disability Law Center in I Vote, I Count, and suggested that AADD and Key might also like to be partners. Peer Power is planning to translate the official election booklet into plain language to help people understand the issues and be informed voters. Kathy Fitzgerald also urged everyone to contact provider agencies and make sure that the people they provide services to and their direct care workers are registered to vote, because this is an important election year.

### *Developmental Disability Program Updates*

Summer Wheeler, filling in for Missy Williams, reviewed the registry report update that was e-mailed to committee members this morning. Summer reported that 70 people were drawn in January and 20 additional slots opened up by other means, reducing the wait list by 90. Committee members questioned the 31 percent unknown, and Summer said she did not know what that meant but would try to find out.

Kathy Fitzgerald inquired if they still do emergency draws if someone needs services immediately, and Summer replied that there is a means to do that, but it hasn't happened in the couple of years she has worked for the State.

### AADD

Emily Ennis commented that she would like for AADD to be involved in the I Vote, I Count effort, and asked Kathy to send something about it in writing before their teleconference on Thursday. Emily stated that other than that, AADD has been consumed with the regulations and facing the seasonal rush of grant proposals. Kathy and Emily briefly discussed the committee on direct service workers' salaries that they are both on, and the need for standard job descriptions and titles. Emily Ennis said that she is monitoring that issue.

### Key Coalition

Steve Lesko stated that Key Coalition is never over until the legislative session is over, and then they start preparing for the next year. Key is currently preoccupied with the regulations as everyone is.

### Executive Committee Update

Kathy Fitzgerald stated that she and Ric don't have anything to report, since the Executive Committee is not meeting until next week. Ric will report on that at the next DD Committee meeting.

### Council

Teresa Holt reported that Ric will be on TV in a commercial about early intervention sponsored by the Trust as part of DD Awareness Month. Teresa noted that the Council is working on getting a newsletter out by the end of this month, and a public version of the five-year plan before the May meeting.

### Upcoming Meetings

- Governor's Council, May 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>, Girdwood
- Full Lives, April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>
- Disability Policy Seminar, April 23<sup>rd</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup>, Washington, D.C.
- The Governor's Council Executive Committee meets June 4<sup>th</sup> to make budget recommendations to the Trust; a survey will be distributed by e-mail asking what people think the Trust should recommend for FY 14 and 15.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.