

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

September 11, 2013  
1:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Art Delaune  
Kim Champney  
Dave Fleurant  
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus  
Maureen Harwood  
Christine King  
Kaleene Lamb  
Steve Lesko  
James Wiedle  
Kathy Fitzgerald

Staff:

Carrie Predeger  
Patrick Reinhart

Minutes prepared by: Jeannette Rice, Peninsula Reporting

## Call to Order – 1:00 p.m.

### Roll Call

## INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GOOD NEWS

Chair Art Delaune welcomed everybody, noting that it was his first meeting as chair.

Patrick Reinhart announced that the Governor's Council has a new legislative intern, Hannah Foreman.

### APPROVE THE AGENDA

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus requested that a discussion of the FASD Ad Hoc Committee be added to the meeting agenda. Carrie Predeger stated that she would add the FASD Ad Hoc Committee as a recurring item under Reports so the DD Committee will receive regular updates on it in future meetings, and they would get to it today if there was time after going over the DD Committee's work plan.

Dave Fleurant **MOVED** to approve the agenda with this addition. The motion **PASSED**.

### APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE PAST MEETINGS

Approval of the minutes from the June meeting was postponed because they were not attached to the packet for today's meeting.

Dave Fleurant **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Carrie Predeger stated that there was no new correspondence.

## **REPORTS**

### ***From the Chair***

The new DD Committee chair, Art Delaune, had nothing to report.

### ***DD Program***

Maureen Harwood reported that they are in the process of doing another draw, and there are now 671 people on the registration and review list.

Maureen noted that last week, the House Finance Committee was focusing on SDS, and the testimony pertaining to that hearing is available online.

Maureen stated that Adult Protective Services is planning some resource fairs in Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Art Delaune asked Maureen if future reports could include the number of people drawn from the wait list who are found to be ineligible for services. Maureen replied that she would report on that information next time, and at least quarterly in the future.

### ***AADD***

Kim Champney reported that the feedback she has received from providers about the new regulations that went into effect this summer indicates a sense of good communication and partnership with SDS. Kim said that SDS has been very responsive to questions, and AADD has a list of more questions prepared for tomorrow's teleconference with SDS.

Kim noted that there is another set of regulations now out for public comment that will change the way services are paid for and rates are developed. The public comment session continues through the end of September.

Kim stated that AADD is currently working on the agenda for their fall face-to-face meeting. Kim said that it is a great opportunity to share information, and she requested that someone give reports on several Governor's Council and DD Committee projects at that meeting, specifically Peer

Power, the Employment First initiative, and the Health and Disabilities Ad Hoc Committee. AADD's face-to-face meeting will be October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at Hope Community Resources.

### ***Key Coalition***

Steve Lesko stated that Key's state board is meeting on September 27th to plan the theme and priorities for Key 27, the 27<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Steve said that he will have a lot of news to report at the next DD Committee meeting.

### ***Council and Executive Committee Update***

Patrick Reinhart stated that the Employment First summit that was being planned for September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> has been postponed, although the advisory board for the Alaska Integrated Employment Initiative is still going to meet. Patrick noted that the Trust has designated employment as a new beneficiary focus area, starting with \$188,000 for FY 14, and next year they are budgeting a million dollars for employment, with the Council as the lead. This is in addition to the \$150,000 that the Trust has already agreed to give the Council to support the disability employment grant.

Patrick stated that the agenda is pretty much finished for the October full Council meeting. An orientation is planned for the first half of the first day for new members, and all Council members are invited to participate in it. The community forum will be the evening of October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30, and they hope to guide people to focus on the theme of employment services.

Patrick also explained that the Trust is planning four mini advocacy summits instead of doing one big summit as in the past. They hope to have 30 participants at each summit, five from each beneficiary group such as developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injury, seniors, and so on, to receive training on how to be effective self-advocates. The first advocacy summit will be in Fairbanks on October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the next in Mat-Su on October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. In Anchorage, a summit is planned for December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, and the Juneau dates have not yet been determined.

## ***Peer Power***

Patrick Reinhart reported on Peer Power, because Ric Nelson was in Washington, D.C. at the home and community-based conference. Patrick noted that Peer Power is still recruiting for members, and he requested that other groups that focus on similar issues invite Ric or Tracy Golly to attend their meetings to promote Peer Power. Dave Fleurant suggested that Peer Power ought to create an informational brochure that could be given to people who might be interested, such as clients of the Disability Law Center. Patrick commented that that is a good idea, and he will try to get Tracy to work on it when he gets back from his time off.

## ***Housing***

James Wiedle noted that he had sent a draft copy of AHFC's consolidated housing annual performance report to Carrie, and he invited committee members to submit comments through September 18<sup>th</sup>. James noted that another good time to provide comments is when AHFC does their plan for the next year, which comes out in November. Carrie Predeger remarked that that is when the Council usually comments.

## ***Rural Issues***

Carrie Predeger reminded everyone that the Rural Ad Hoc Committee has been discontinued under the Council's new committee structure, and each committee was asked to put rural issues on their agenda. However, there was no news to report at this meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***FY 14 Work Plan Draft***

Carrie Predeger led a discussion of the DD Committee's work plan draft for FY 14. Carrie noted that the categories identified with letters A through F are the life domains, such as health, housing, and employment, that are used in all of the different committees. The draft is organized with an A or an L beside each priority to indicate whether the DD Committee's role is to assist or lead. The committee plans activities for the priorities on which it is

the lead, and the full Council will review the work plan in October and possibly add to it.

Committee members and staff went over the work plan. Discussion ensued about Priority No. 1 under B, Community Inclusion and Supports. Committee members questioned what they are supposed to do about the direct service professional living wage. It was agreed that gathering good current data is important, and committee members suggested seeking information from the Cooperative Extension, the Department of Labor, and the Trust workforce development committee. Carrie pointed out that this priority is ongoing and will not be solved in 2014, but they will start gathering information.

Under Housing, the committee discussed what to do with the \$50,000 from the Trust to promote the use of assistive home technology. The group decided that they would like to use the money to purchase items for people to try out, and they would like to have demonstrations at something like ATLA's Midnight Sun Assistive Technology Conference, which was in August 2011. Carrie noted that under "activities", the group needs to do some more brainstorming about this, and said that she would talk to the Trust housing group about it too.

Priority No. 3 under Housing, advocate for housing for unserved and underserved groups, instigated discussion about how to advocate and to whom, as the main obstacle is not a lack of available funding, but the unwillingness of landlords to rent to people with developmental disabilities who are transitioning out of foster care or the criminal justice system. Carrie remarked that she would like some clarification from the Council, since she wasn't sure how this item became a priority for the DD Committee. The group agreed to bring it up at the October meeting.

Carrie explained that this draft will be included in the packet for the full Council meeting in October, where everyone will review it and vote on it, then the DD Committee will get the final version at the November meeting.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS/CONFERENCES**

- Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, October 2 – 4 at the Embassy Suites in Anchorage

- AADD face-to-face meeting, October 28 and 29

### **OTHER INFORMATION FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus expressed her interest in what is going on with the FASD Ad Hoc Committee, but no one had any information. Jeanne and Art Delaune both stated that they would like to be part of that committee. Patrick Reinhart said that he would talk to Teresa Holt about adding this topic to the Executive Committee meeting agenda and the agenda for the October Council meeting.

### **TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next DD Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, from 1 to 3 p.m.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.